

<u>Press Release</u> <u>Skopje, 25 November 2011</u>

<u>"WALK OF LIGHT"</u>

Marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

25 November 2011, Friday, 18:30 – starting point the **Museum of Holocaust**

"Violence against women and girls takes many forms and is widespread throughout the globe. On this International Day, I urge governments and partners around the world to harness the energy, ideas and leadership of young people to help us to end this pandemic of violence. Only then will we have a more just, peaceful and equitable world."

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 25 November 2011

By resolution <u>54/134</u> of 17 December 1999, the United Nations General Assembly designated 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and invited governments, international organizations and NGOs to organize activities designed to raise public awareness of the problem on that day.

United Nations in partnership with the Ministry for Labor and Social Policy organize a <u>"Walk of Light"</u>, to mark 25 November. This event is part of the public awareness campaign "Together, let's step out together of the darkness of violence", implemented within the Joint UN Programme "Strengthening National Capacities to Prevent Domestic Violence".

The programme for the "Walk of Light":

| 18:30 - 18:40 | GET TOGETHER (in front of the Museum) all participants will receive |
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| | a purple ribbon and a small candle |
| 18:40 - 18:50 | WALK ACROSS THE STONE BRIDGE |
| | (live broadcast on a video-billboard) |
| 19:00 - 19:10 | Arriving at the main square. |
| | Media statements by the Minister of Labor and Social Policy Mr. |
| | Spiro Ristovski, UN RC a.i Mr. Sheldon Yett and Mr. Gert Kampman, |
| | deputy ambassador of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the |
| | Netherlands |

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19:10 - 19:20 MODERATOR short speech, and music program

Join the "Walk of Light" and raise your voice against domestic violence!

For additional information, please contact: Mile Boshnjakovski, UNFPA Advocacy and Communications Specialist, UNFPA, (389 2) 3249 588 or bosnjakovski@unfpa.org

With the National Campaign against Domestic Violence we become part of the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's UNITE to End Violence against Women campaign, global initiative calling for ending violence against women and girls.

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