Greetings from District Governor Jane Little
April is Magazine Month

April is Magazine Month in the Rotary world. It is an excellent way to learn what is happening throughout the Rotary world and even find something new you can do to make your club stronger. Many projects are also easy to duplicate and could benefit your community greatly. This is definitely Building Communities…..Bridging Continents!

March was an exciting month. If you don’t know much about the Iditarod race, I would like to share with you our activities during the world renowned Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Held every year, the race is an action-packed, difficult 1,049 mile journey that not that many athletes have participated in since the beginning of the race in 1973. The race commemorates bringing diphtheria serum in 1925 across Alaska from Seward to Nome to save the children of Nome from certain death if the serum had not been delivered. The only way to deliver the serum was by a relay of 20 mushers and 150 dog sled dogs carrying the precious serum over rugged terrain in the dead of winter in a record-breaking five and a half days. The serum arrived in time and not one child in Nome or surrounding communities perished.

For three years now, District 5010 has sponsored four time Iditarod Champion, Martin Buser, who is our spokesperson for the End Polio Now campaign. If you visit our district website at www.rotary5010.org, you will see the copy of the full page ad that is on page 159 of the March issue of the Alaska Airlines Magazine. You can also download and use the Public Relation videos with Martin Buser talking about eradicating polio.

On March 5, at the ceremonial start in Anchorage, Rotarians held up End Polio Now posters to give Martin a fitting send-off, with many Rotarians in attendance to give him support. There was also a contingent of Rotarians holding up the signs at the restart in Willow the next day. Rotarians Kim and Trygve Erickson, of the Rotary Club of Anchorage International have a home on Long Lake where all the mushers pass by about 20 minutes after the restart of the race. About 50 Rotarians gathered at their home by the edge of the trail, waving signs and cheering loudly for Martin as he passed by on his way to Nome.
News from District Governor Jane Little

Russian Translation

Апрель — это месчечник ротарианской периодики. Мне бы очень хотелось, чтобы все
клубы Зауралия разместили в журнале Ротаринец статьи. Благодаря этому все смогут
знать, что происходит в округе, кто-то откроет для себя что-то новое, и будет клуб
сильно. Это прекрасная возможность рассказать окружающим о своих проектах.
Помогая городам — сближаем континенты.

Март был полон событий. Я бы хотела рассказать вам о вторых по своей мировой
известности гонках на собачьих упряжках. Они проходили ежегодно на Аляске. Гонки
dостаточно сложные, протяженностью 1049 миль и не так много спортсменов участвовали
в этих гонках. Впервые гонки были проведены в 1973 году. История гонок такова: в 1925
году была вспышка дифтерии. Чтобы спасти детей от верной смерти, необходимо было
dоставить сыворотку из Сиоарда в Ном. Единственный способ доставки сыворотки в Ном
- собачьи упряжки. И вот 20 погонщиков на 150 ездовых собаках сменяли один другого, в
рекордные пять дней в разгар зимы, доставили спасительную сыворотку. Благодаря
всему нам, так как сыворотке были спасены все дети Нома и близлежащих
населенных пунктов.

На протяжении трех последних лет Округ 5010 выступал спонсором Мартина
Бузера, четырехкратного чемпиона по гонкам на собачьих упряжках. Мартин от имени
нашего округа ведет активную кампанию по борьбе с полиомиелитом.
На сайте www.rotary5010.org размещена статья из журнала Аляска Эйрлайнза (Alaska
Airlines Magazine). На сайте также доступен для скачивания видеоролик с речью Мартина
Бузера об искоренении полиомиелита.

Гонка стартовала в Анкоридже. Во время торжественного открытия 5 марта,
Ротарианцы держали в руках плакаты «Покончим с Полиомиелитом Сегодня». Своим
присутствием они поддержали Мартина Бузера. В Виллю, откуда следующий день
стартовал очередной этап также присутствовали Ротарианцы с плакатами. Ким и
Троге Эркисон, Ротарианец из клуба Анкоридж Интернэшнл приветствовали около
своего дома каюров. Около 50 ротарианцев собрались у своих домов в конце
Анкориджа, они размахивали плакатами и встретили Мартина громкими аплодисментами,
дожив ему удачи на пути в Ном.

Когда Мартин пересек финишную черту, его также приветствовали ротарианцы с
плакатами. Более подробная информация, фотографии о гонках можно найти на

Гонка длилась 9 дней. В этом году победителем гонки стал Джон Бейкер. Он побил
рекорд Мартина Бузера с результатом 6 дней 18 часов 46 минут и 39 секунд, обогнав
Мартина на 3 часа. Мартин прибыл в Ном 16 марта и занял 18 место. Всего стартовало
62 участника, к финишу пришли только 47 каюров. Мартин Бузер был отмечен
специальной наградой как первый каюр из Макграта.

Нам очень повезло, что именно Мартин Бузер выступал от имени Ротари Интернэшнл в
кампании по борьбе с полиомиелитом.
There were End Polio Now posters lining the street and a large group of Rotarians were under the arch waving the signs and cheering for Martin when he crossed the finish line in Nome. Martin’s web site is www.buserdog.com and you can see many photos of the beginning, middle, and end of the race.

It takes approximately 9 days to traverse the trail before reaching the finish line. Alaska Native John Baker, from Kotzebue, won the race this year, beating Martin’s record by about 3 hours, traveling to Nome in 8 days 18 hours, 46 minutes, and 39 seconds. Martin arrived in Nome at 4:03 pm on March 16th taking 18th place out of 62 mushers, with only 47 finishing the race. Martin won the PenAir Spirit of Alaska Award this year for being the first musher into McGrath.

We are very fortunate to have such an excellent representative as Martin Buser to speak for the Rotary International cause to eradicate polio and I invite every club, Rotarian, and your businesses to help the continuation of sponsoring Martin until polio is eradicated. You will be hearing more about this venture in the near future from Nome Rotarian Leo Rasmussen and me.

Chairman Stenhammar, on behalf of the TRF Trustees, decided on Friday, 11 March 2011 to:

- Immediately establish a Rotary Japan and Pacific Islands 2011 Disaster Recovery Fund through TRF to be used in lieu of the regular World Fund match for Matching Grants and Global Grants for disaster recovery projects related to the earthquake and tsunami impacting districts in Japan and other Pacific island nations; this also applies to donations from corporations and non-Rotarians.
- Permit the fund to accept both cash contributions and DDF donations.
- Clarify that TRF will not provide Paul Harris Fellow recognition for donations to the fund.
- Confirm that all Matching Grants and Global Grants related to disaster recovery in Japan and other Pacific island nations must adhere to the policies and guidelines stipulated in the TRF Code of Policies and grant terms and conditions; this includes the restrictions on construction.
- Request the general secretary to provide a recommendation for consideration at the April 2011 Trustees meeting in regards to how the disaster recovery funds will be utilized among the affected districts, e.g. even percentage split, weighted percentage split, first come/first served, etc.
- Extend the 2011-12 Matching Grants application deadline to 30 April 2011 for grants related to these disaster recovery projects.
- Waive the minimum percentage of funding requirement of the international (overseas) sponsors for Matching Grants related to these disaster recovery projects, thereby permitting districts in the affected areas to contribute more than 50% of the total DDF and/or cash designated for the grant project.

For additional information visit www.rotary.org.
Interested in serving Rotary at the district level in the future? Past president or soon to be past president? Just like to learn more about Rotary?

If so, it is an ideal time for you to consider participation in District 5010’s Leadership Academy for the 2011-12 Rotary year. What is the Leadership Academy, you ask? It is an advanced educational program for those interested in learning more about Rotary and looking toward Rotary leadership in the years ahead.

The District 5010 Leadership Academy is a twelve-month series of courses and meetings (in-person and teleconference) designed to increase the knowledge of past club presidents who are thinking about involvement in Rotary at the district level. Other Rotarians may also participate as space is available. The Leadership Academy class of 2011-12 is limited to 20 students.

Course topics are:
- Rotary’s Electronic Communications (September)
- Membership (October)
- Club, District and RI Organization (November)
- Public Relations for Effective Rotary Clubs (January)
- The Rotary Foundation (February)
- Service Projects (March)

Applications are now being sought for the 2011-2012 Leadership Academy. Your help is needed in identifying and nominating potential candidates in your club or letting us know if you are interested in participation.

Nomination/Application forms are being accepted now. Registration will continue until June 16 as space permits. Forms and a description of the process are at www.rotary5010.org, Download tab. You may also wish to browse the Academy website www.district5010leadershipacademy.org for more detailed information about the topics, lists of past graduates and other participant information.

Questions? Completed applications? Contact PDG Gayle Knepper at rotary5010@ak.net.

The Rotary clubs in our district have many outstanding past presidents, dedicated to providing service to Rotary and who bring life and leadership to our clubs. Serving as district governor is an opportunity for these committed Rotarians to bring the same leadership and service to our Rotary district. Now is the time for you to ask an outstanding past president in your club to consider this leadership opportunity for the future. **Your club’s nomination of candidates is due no later than April 30, 2011.**

As the district moves toward a new structure in the 2012-13 Rotary year, these are nominations for Rotarians to serve as governors for the North American (Alaska-Yukon) district in the 2012-13 and in the 2013-14 Rotary years. **Each club may nominate up to two qualified Rotarians: one as a candidate for governor in the 2012-13 year and one for the 2013-14 year.**

Details about responsibilities and qualifications, FAQs, the nomination process and a club resolution form can be found at www.rotary5010.org (Download tab).

If you have questions or would like more information, contact Gayle Knepper, Nominating Committee Chair, at rotary5010@ak.net or any of the Nominating Committee members shown on the website.

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Call Joni Gerharz with Travel Services, identify yourself as being with Rotary, and she’ll get you started. 907-745-2148 or 800-478-2148
Alaska Rotarians travel to India for NID, FEx, and tour

By Jon Deisher

An Alaska team of Rotarians, family members, and guests went to India Feb. 17 to March 4, to participate in the Polio National Immunization Day (NID,) a tour of the “golden triangle” (including elephant rides and visit to a tiger preserve,) and a Friendship Exchange with the Chandigarh Rotary Club (home club of Past R.I. President Saboo, 1991).

Rotarians from Anchorage included President Cheryl Myers and her daughter Mylise, Jon Deisher and his daughters Rebecca and Linnea, Ron and Jackie Ohlson, John and Lynn Eng, Chris and Margie Jay, Sue and Ben Linford, Deborah Smith, Rene Stewart and Gabrielle Ladoux. Representing the Fairbanks Sunrisers R/C were Gary Sawdy and Margery Wagner.

The map at right outlines the course of the trip. We visited the Taj Mahal, the Agra Fort, Fatepur and Amber Castles and slept in the Kesroli Castle. We spent two days at the Ranthambhor Tiger preserve where we stayed at a hidden away resort in private bungalows next to a very rural village with small industries and shops. We participated in the NID in the “Mewat Region,” where we were part of a Polio Rally in the village of Punhana and then conducted immunizations in the village of Bisru: places that seldom see Westerners. The NID was hosted by the R/C of Megapolis Delhi and we were joined by an international group of Rotarians. Known as the “Alaska Polio Team,” we were identified by our yellow t-shirts (others had blue t-shirts.)

Following the NID, some of us returned home and the rest took the train north to Chandigarh where we were hosted by the Chandigarh R/C. We participated in additional immunizations during the “mop-up” phase in a local “shanty town” and then were individually hosted at various sites and events around the city. We stayed in the homes of Rotarians, attended a Rotary meeting and were given a party by local Rotarians.

This summer the Chandigarh R/C will send a return Friendship Exchange group to Alaska. Their itinerary has not been solidified yet, but we are looking forward to sharing our state with them during their visit. For more info on sharing Rotary and our state with visiting Indian Rotarians please contact Jon Deisher (deisher@me.com) or Cheryl Myers (cheryl.k.myers@gmail.com.) Photos and club presentations on the India trip and NID are available.
District 5010 Rotary Youth Leadership Award 2011

Welcome! District 5010 is proud to host the 17th annual Rotary Youth Leadership Awards in gorgeous Kodiak, Alaska, April 26 - 30, 2011.

RYLA is a program for teens who are high school grade-level sophomores and juniors. RYLA Alumni and Rebound Rotary Exchange students (on a space available basis) are also welcome to apply. There is no cost to youth who are selected, as the local Rotary Club pays for the RYLA awardees.

RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship and personal growth, as participants learn about their own qualities/skills as a leader and the qualities of effective leaders and effective teams. The RYLA program consists of a combination of icebreaker, team building, and experiential problem-solving activities, as well as group discussions and personal reflection. Participants are introduced to pertinent leadership topics and issues, hear presentations from Rotary and community leaders, and have opportunities to apply their emerging leadership skills in a variety of challenging activities. Other activities intended to make their RYLA experience a memorable one include a barbecue, recreational activities and a dance.

The event is co-planned by both RYLA Alumni and Rotarians. RYLA Alumni make sure that the program is fun and relevant to their peers. They have innovative ideas that make sure adults do not talk for too long and that the days are as interactive as possible. They serve as Alumni Leaders and Facilitators at the event, an opportunity some of the 2011 RYLA participants will have in 2012. We believe that the large number of teens that want to return as RYLA Alumni is an excellent indicator that the program holds the right balance of fun and skill building.

Additional details are available at the RYLA5010 website http://www.ryla5010.org/programs.html
For information about RYLA, contact a Rotary club in your community, read our Frequently Asked Questions FAQ’s page or contact us at RYLA5010info@gmail.com or 907-481-6215.

Collin Young — Whitehorse District 5010 RYLA Chair, 867-456-7570, RYLA5010info@gmail.com

Scott Williams — Kodiak RYLA 2011 Chair and Registrar, 907-481-6215, RYLA5010info@gmail.com

RYLA Alumnus lauds program

I would like to submit the following extracts of an email I received late last night from a RYLA 2010 (Juneau) student who is still excited about his experience at RYLA in Juneau. I have asked for and received permission from the student to share extracts of his email, in part to say “Thank you” to Rotary District 5010 for the Clubs ongoing support of RYLA, in part to help answer the question “Why Rotary supports RYLA”. The student lives in Watson Lake Yukon – a 5 or 6 hour drive south of Whitehorse and was one of the Yukon’s “Rural” RYLA members. Currently, Rotary is considering establishing a Rotary Club in Watson Lake - the community is supportive, in part because of RYLA’s impact on the student.

... RYLA was an amazing experience for me, I learned a lot about myself. ... I just think I got all I can out of the RYLA experience and that there are opportunities to apply myself elsewhere. I greatly appreciate the experiences that Rotary have given me, thank you. I hope to stay in touch and eventually come back to contribute what I can to Rotary later in life. There is some good news though, hopefully there will be at least two new applicants for RYLA from the Watson Lake area, a fellow student and friend, has applied to RYLA. I hope she gets in because she seems just as unsure as I was when I applied. I think she will learn as I have and hopefully bring some of her experiences back to our small town. As far as the other applicant, I am not entirely sure, but I will continue to be a positive advocate for Rotary and RYLA. Yet again, thanks for the email. We’ll keep in touch.”  

Tyson Cole

So, to Chris Letterman RYLA 2010 Host Chair and your RYLA 2010 Juneau planning team; the members of the RYLA 2010 District Committee, and to the Rotary District 5010: Thank you for your efforts in planning and hosting RYLA. To the Clubs: Thank you for supporting RYLA by sending/sponsoring students. Your efforts have made a huge positive impact on this student’s life – the fruit of which will continue for many years.

For more information about RYLA in District 5010 check out our web site at www.ryla5010.org
Not for Sale: Kenai Rotarians talk business ethics with high school students

“Show me the money “might be a catchy movie line, but it isn’t always the best way to operate in the business world. That was one of the messages the Kenai Rotary Club delivered to three classes of senior students at Kenai Central High School (KCHS) recently.

Members of the Kenai Rotary spent two weeks at KCHS presenting the Not For Sale business ethics program to the soon-to-be graduates. The Club has been providing the Not For Sale program to KCHS students for 19 years and continues to receive enthusiastic feedback from students and faculty.

Not for Sale uses a video that features a fictitious business where employees encounter ethical dilemmas that are not uncommon in the real day work world. After the students view the video segment, Kenai Rotarians engage the students in a discussion about the particular topic and how they would respond in a similar situation.

Topics covered include theft, sexual harassment, community support, sales techniques, and many other relevant situations students may encounter once they enter the workforce.

In addition to focusing on the topics in the video segment, the Kenai Rotarians share their business experiences with the students, bringing to the classroom valuable insights into a wide variety of professional occupations.

Kenai Central High School Principal Alan Fields is a strong supporter of the program.

“The Kenai Rotarians are leaders in our community and our students benefit greatly from the Not for Sale program. Not only do they get a valuable lesson in ethics, but they also get a chance to interact with representatives from the business world. It’s a great way to prepare them for life after high school and I commend the Kenai Rotary Club for its longtime support of the Not for Sale program”, said Fields.

For more information about the Not for Sale program, please contact Kenai Rotary Club President Barry Eldridge.

Anchorage East Rotary puts $$ to good use

If one project is good, then three must be better, right? The Anchorage East Rotary Club is putting its money to very good use.

It’s Rose-sale fund-raiser, going on now, is aimed at providing money for four nonprofit organizations: Blood Bank of Alaska, Food Bank of Alaska, Covenant House, and AWAIC.

But that’s not all. It also has also dedicated $19,550 to the 5K Run for Good.

Then, responding to a proposal by Immediate Past President Mayor Rick Mystrom, Anchorage East Rotary has committed $10 thousand dollars to be used by the Anchorage Park Foundation to help improve and upgrade the Martin Luther King Park Strip Memorial. Mystrom is assisting the Living Memorial Committee of Anchorage, Alaska with the project. For more information go to: http://www.shiloh2000.com/Subsites/MLK/index.html

POLIO FACTS & FIGURES (as of March 2011)

• There have been 34 cases globally* in 2011 (all wild poliovirus type 1 – WPV1), compared with 34 cases at the same time in 2010 (7 type 1 and 27 type 3).

• To date there have been 975 cases reported globally* for 2010 (888 type 1 and 87 type 3), compared with 1606 cases at the end of 2009 (479 type 1 and 1,124 type 3, and 3 mixtures).

The endemic states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in India have not reported cases in more than six months. The most recent case had onset of paralysis on 1 September 2010.

Help us END POLIO NOW:
www.rotary.org/endpolio
International Polio Plus Committee’s protocol for Polio Plus statements
(continues to end of Newsletter)

For the sake of clarity and consistency in all Rotary publications and information, the International PolioPlus Committee has adopted the following set of frequently reported statements, statistics, and terms concerning the PolioPlus Program and the global polio eradication effort, and encourages all members in the global partnership for polio eradication to adopt similarly consistent statements and figures. The Committee has also requested a wide dissemination within Rotary for these statements. The Committee reviews these statements at each meeting, to ensure that they remain current and appropriate.

1. **A statement on the goal of the PolioPlus program:**
   “The goal of the PolioPlus program is the global certification of polio eradication. By eradication, WHO, the Global Commission on Certification, and Rotary mean the interruption of the transmission of the wild poliovirus.”

2. **A statement on Rotary International’s contribution to the polio eradication effort:**
   “By the time the world is certified polio-free, Rotary’s contributions to the global polio eradication effort will exceed US$1.2 billion. In addition, millions of dollars of ‘in-kind’ and personal contributions have been made by and through local Rotary clubs and districts for polio eradication activities. Of even greater significance has been the huge volunteer army mobilized by Rotary International. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers at the local level are providing support at clinics or mobilizing their communities for immunization or polio eradication activities. More than one million Rotarians worldwide have contributed toward the success of the polio eradication effort to date.”

3. **A statement on the approximate dollar amount spent on the global polio eradication effort each year:**
   “From 2010 through 2012, an estimated US$850 million per year from all sources is needed in donor contributions to fund the final eradication phase. This level of expense is expected to decrease as wild polio virus transmission is interrupted in the four remaining polio endemic countries and outbreaks in previously polio-free countries are reduced in number. By the time that transmission is interrupted in all countries, Rotary will have contributed over US$1 billion to a program that is expected to total approximately US$10 billion in donor funds.”

4. **A statement on how the budget for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is prepared:**
   “The budget for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is prepared by the WHO and UNICEF in consultation with their country offices and ministries of health. It is reviewed and revised semiannually to reflect changing epidemiology as well as new contributions and financial commitments made by Rotary and other donors to the program. Complete information about the global polio eradication budget is available to the public on the website: www.polioeradication.org/fundingbackground.asp.”

5. **A statement on Rotary’s contribution to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative:**
   “Rotary International’s contribution to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since 1988 accounts for nearly 14% of all contributions to the global budget through 2010 and represents approximately 66% of private sector contributions to the Initiative. In addition, Rotary plays a leading role in soliciting financial support from donor nation governments, an effort which since 1988 has achieved more than US$8.2 billion in contributions.”

6. **A statement on what Rotary’s contribution pays for:**
   “In the initial stages of PolioPlus, Rotary paid for oral polio vaccine and supported start-up costs for Rotarians’ social mobilization efforts in endemic countries. Since the mid-1990s, Rotary has conferred continuously with its spearheading partners (WHO, UNICEF and CDC) to determine how to deploy PolioPlus funds to achieve the greatest impact on global program needs. Currently, Rotary is funding the following areas: salaries for technical advisers, operational support, surveillance, social mobilization and stipends for the millions of volunteers who conduct NIDs and perform house-to-house follow-up visits.”

7. **A statement on the number of nations benefiting from PolioPlus grants:**
   “To date, 122 nations around the world have benefited from PolioPlus grants for polio immunization and eradication efforts.”

8. **A statement on the number of polio cases prevented annually through immunization:**
   “From the launch of the global initiative in 1988, 5 million people, mainly in the developing world, who would
otherwise have been paralyzed, will be walking because they have been immunized against polio. More than 500,000 cases of polio are now prevented each year by the efforts of governments and the partnership of the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the overseas development agencies of donor nations.”

9. Statements on the number of children immunized against polio:
   a. Since 1985, when Rotary implemented the PolioPlus program:
      “As a result of the efforts of Rotary International and its Foundation and those of our partners, more than two billion children have received oral polio vaccine.”
   b. Immunizations in 2009:
      “As part of the global polio eradication effort in 2009, more than 360 million children were vaccinated in 40 countries using more than 2.2 billion doses of oral polio vaccine.”

10. A statement on the percentage of the world’s children that live in polio-free countries:
    “In 1988, 10% of the world’s children lived in polio-free countries; as of 1 January 2010, over 70% are living in polio-free countries.”

11. A statement on the reduction of cases of polio:
    “The number of cases of polio has declined by 99% since Rotary launched the PolioPlus program.”

12. A statement on the cost of vaccine per child:
    “A child can be protected against polio for as little as US$ .60 worth of vaccine.”

13. A statement on the number of polio endemic countries:
    “Since Rotary began its PolioPlus Program, the number of countries which continue to be polio endemic has declined from over 125 countries in 1985 to 4 countries in 2010. The number of polio cases has declined by more than 99% since 1985.”

14. A statement on the number of countries that are polio-free and the number of people who live in countries, territories, and areas that have been certified polio-free by independent commissions:
    “Two hundred and ten (210) countries, territories and areas are now free of indigenous polio, and 134 of these have been certified polio-free by independent commissions. In June 2002, the WHO European Region was certified polio-free, joining the WHO Regions of the Americas and the Western Pacific. More than three billion people, half the world’s population lives in the 134 countries, territories and areas that are now certified polio-free.”

15. Statements on polio in Nigeria, India, Afghanistan and Pakistan and polio in outbreak countries:
    “At the start of 2010, transmission of indigenous poliovirus had been interrupted in all but four countries (India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Afghanistan).
    In May 2008, alarmed that polio remained entrenched in these four countries and that an increasing number of polio-free areas were becoming re-infected, the World Health Assembly called for a new strategy to complete polio eradication.
    In 2009, a one-year Program of Work was launched to help inform a new strategy direction to achieve a polio-free world. Major elements included tactical innovations for endemic areas, clinical trials on a new formulation of oral polio vaccine (bivalent OPV) and an Independent Evaluation of Major Barriers to Interrupting Poliovirus Transmission. In consultation with the major partners, stakeholders, countries and donors, the outcomes of the Program of Work have now informed a new Strategic Plan.
    By the first quarter of 2010, the aggressive application of the operational principles of the new GPEI Strategic Plan was already showing significant results. In Nigeria, polio cases had been slashed by 99% over the previous year. In northern Nigeria, polio cases had been slashed by 99% over the previous year. In northern India, record-low levels of type 1 polio have been reported in the two endemic states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In addition, outbreaks in the Horn of Africa and West Africa are nearly contained.
    There is strong evidence that the approaches in the Strategic Plan work. Additionally, new measures have been put in place to ensure that progress can be monitored against tangible milestones on a quarterly basis to rapidly identify problem areas and immediately activate emergency country-level corrective action plans.
    But challenges remain and confirmation of an outbreak in the early part of 2010 in Tajikistan, in the polio-free region of Europe, as well as a new outbreak affecting children and adults in the Republic of Congo, is a stark reminder of the urgent need to complete the job of polio eradication.

Statements on polio in outbreak countries:
“As long as indigenous wild poliovirus transmission remains anywhere in the world, the risk of international spread of poliovirus will remain. Particularly vulnerable are high-risk countries, i.e. those bordering endemic areas, those with close socio-cultural-economic ties to endemic areas and those with low routine immunization levels.

Experience since 2003 has shown that outbreaks can be rapidly stopped, if internationally-agreed outbreak response guidelines are fully implemented. However, failure to fully implement these guidelines can result in persistent outbreaks, i.e. where transmission of imported poliovirus persists for >12 months. In early 2011, persistent outbreaks are ongoing in Angola, Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Additionally, certain high-risk areas are prone to recurrent importations, notably in a band of countries across west Africa, central Africa and the Horn of Africa; and in Asia, high-risk districts of Nepal bordering India.”

16. A statement on the contribution of Rotary’s advocacy efforts:

“In 1995, Rotary International launched a task force to advocate the cause of polio eradication to donor governments. This task force, later to be part of the Polio Advocacy Group, with additional partners, has resulted to date in more than US$5 billion in polio-specific grants from the public sector. These advocacy efforts are ongoing and will be continued as necessary.”

17. Definitions of the terms Partners, Spearheading Partners, Coalitions and Donors are outlined below:

“When used as generic terms to refer to organizations who are also sharing in work and funds to eradicate polio, either partners or partnerships is preferred. Generally, coalition should be used to describe a specific group. Donor is a term to describe an entity which is providing funds to eradicate polio and should be limited to those whose primary or exclusive role is in providing funds. “Donor” should be avoided in describing Rotary International or its Foundation.

Where partners is used to delineate specific organizations engaged in global eradication of polio spearheading partners refers to the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International (RI), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

Rotary is engaged in one specific coalition; that is the coalition to advocate for increased contributions by the U.S. Government to global polio eradication. The coalition includes The Rotary Foundation of R.I., The United Nations Foundation, The Task Force for Child Survival and Development, the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. Rotary is the leader.

Rotary is the leading non-governmental contributor. Whenever possible, most of the polio eradication costs are borne by the polio-endemic countries themselves. However, as the battle against polio is taken to the poorest, least-developed nations on earth, and those in the midst of civil conflict, up to 100 percent of the NID and other polio eradication costs must be met by external donor sources.

Polio-specific contributions have been made by the following governments: Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. It is also important to note that the following countries have all contributed domestic resources for polio eradication in the past year: India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Namibia and Angola.”

18. A statement on global certification:

“Global Certification: An independent commission will consider global certification when no wild polio virus associated cases have occurred for at least three years, in the presence of certification-standard surveillance, and all wild poliomyelitis stocks have been appropriately contained.”

19. A statement on the cessation of polio immunization with Oral Polio Vaccine:

“After interruption of wild poliovirus transmission, appropriate containment of poliovirus stocks, and establishment of sufficient polio vaccine stockpiles, immunization with routine OPV can and should be stopped, resulting in substantial financial savings (note: the magnitude of these savings will depend on national decisions on the introduction of IPV). This stoppage could be as early as three years following the global interruption of wild poliovirus transmission.”

20. A statement on estimated annual global savings after cessation of immunization:

“Once polio has been eradicated, the world will reap
substantial financial, as well as humanitarian, dividends due
to foregone polio treatment and rehabilitation
costs. Depending on national decisions on the future use of polio vaccines, these savings could exceed US$1 billion per year. A study published in November 2010 in the leading medical journal Vaccine estimates the economic benefits of the GPEI at between US$40-50 billion based on activities from 1988 to 2035.1

21. A statement on the annual cost of immunization of U.S. children against polio:
“The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than US$350 million per year is spent on immunizing U.S. children against polio.”

22. A statement on type II wild poliovirus:
“Type II wild poliovirus has not been found since October 1999, suggesting that transmission of one of the three types of wild poliovirus may have been interrupted.”

23. A statement on the importations of the poliovirus:
“Importations will continue to occur until endemic transmission of the poliovirus (from where it originates) is successfully interrupted. The key priority therefore is to rapidly stop the remaining endemic transmission chains. At the same time, however, the new GPEI Strategic Plan puts forth key activities to cement the gains of polio eradication, by protecting polio-free areas. Past experience and mathematical modeling can now largely predict areas at highest risk of importations and outbreaks, and efforts will focus on boosting population immunity levels in those areas to minimize the risk and consequences of potential importations.”

24. A statement on instances of vaccine-derived polio:
“In the past ten years, there have been 18 episodes of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) resulting in 480 polio cases including in the Island of Hispaniola (which includes Haiti and the Dominican Republic), Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nigeria, and China. During that period, over 10 billion doses of OPV have been administered to more than 2 billion children, and as a result more than 3.5 million polio cases were prevented.

Circulating VDPVs occur when high proportions of children are susceptible to poliovirus infection, due to very low vaccination coverage. If routine or supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) are poorly conducted, the population is left susceptible to poliovirus, whether from vaccine-derived or wild poliovirus. Hence, the problem is not

with the vaccine itself, but low vaccination coverage. If a population is fully immunized, they will be protected against both vaccine-derived and wild polioviruses.

In 2010 there were 46 cVDPVs reported, compared with 179 cVDPVs in 2009 – a 75% reduction.”

25. A statement on the Vitamin A distribution during polio National Immunization Days:
“Since 1998, the inclusion of Vitamin A supplements on NIDs has averted an estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths. Vitamin A comes in liquid form in soft gelatin capsules that are opened to give as drops. It is an essential nutrient that is needed for healthy growth and development. Vitamin A deficiency can lead to blindness, increased risk of infection, and a 25 percent greater risk of dying from childhood diseases such as measles, malaria and diarrhea. The administration of Vitamin A during polio National Immunization Days has resulted in fewer childhood deaths from measles, diarrhea and other causes.”

The Committee further requests that the General Secretary, in official and public releases and statements, follow the above expressions. Finally, the Committee requests that all other RI and TRF officials and spokespeople, and all organizations which report to the Committee, adhere to the approved statements and observe the recommended terminology.

(Footnotes)