
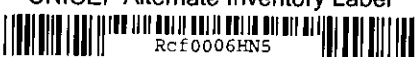


File Sub: CF/EXD/SP/1986-0060

Statement by Mr. James P. Grant  
Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
on the  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Foster Parents Plan International

New York  
10 December 1986

	UNICEF Alternate Inventory Label
	
	Rcf0006HNS
<b>Item # CF/RAD/USAA/DB01/1998-01993</b>	
<b>ExR/Code: CF/EXD/SP/1986-0060</b>	
50th Anniversary Foster Parents Plan International. State	
Date Label Printed 17-Jan-2002	

cover + 1p + 06

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Statement by James P. Grant, Executive Director,  
United Nations Children's Fund  
on the 50th Anniversary of  
Foster Parents Plan International  
**[10 December 1986]**

UNICEF is pleased to pay tribute to Foster Parents Plan International on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Through its work in over 20 countries, PLAN has provided needy families with the materials and skills to improve their own lives. Parents have learned to undertake simple health, nutritional and sanitary measures to improve the well-being of their children; neighbours have started income-generating projects and cooperatives and communities have increased their food production.

UNICEF shares PLAN's philosophy that families and communities must themselves be the major actors in their development, rather than becoming passive recipients of foreign assistance. It is in that spirit that UNICEF promotes simple self-help measures such as growth-monitoring, oral rehydration therapy and breast-feeding, and preventive measures such as child immunization. Combined, these four measures have the potential to prevent as many as half of the infant deaths in the developing world and amount to a revolution in child survival and development. In several countries where both agencies have programmes, UNICEF and PLAN have developed a close working relationship.

In 1986, UNICEF has been commemorating its own 40th anniversary. Rather than celebrating our past achievements, UNICEF has used this occasion to alert the world to the continued suffering of children and has asked world leaders and citizens to renew their commitment to creating a better future for the world's children. In particular, we have urged them to work towards achieving universal child immunization by 1990. On the eve of your 50th anniversary, may I invite Foster Parents Plan International and all your supporters to join with UNICEF and many other public and private institutions and individuals in a strengthened international effort to prevent needless child deaths and offer every child the opportunity to grow and develop his/her full human potential.

With our best wishes for your excellent work and for the continued fruitful collaboration between Foster Parents Plan International and UNICEF.

  
James P. Grant

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