



PRESS RELEASE



UN OFFICE OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES,
LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

UNITED NATIONS UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL
PROMOTES CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

United Nations, 24 March 2005: Addressing the students of Cambridge High School from Cambridge, Massachusetts, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Anwarul K. Chowdhury called the United Nations “A House of Peace” for its work towards developing a culture of peace over a 60-year period. “The United Nations promotes peace and dialogue amongst countries going through conflict or coming out of conflict,” he said.

Calling the visiting students “Citizens of the World”, he advocated tolerance and exhorted the students to work together and love each other. “I want you to grow up understanding diversity of cultures,” he added.

Mr. Chowdhury said that peace in the world was linked with development and every effort must be made to eradicate poverty and malnutrition. “We cannot live in islands of prosperity we need to make the world prosper.”

He said that out of 191 member countries in the United Nations, 50 are Least Developed Countries, “all with tremendous human resources”. Out of 31 landlocked countries, 15 are in Africa and 37 countries are in the category of Small Island Developing States. “There are 90 countries that are vulnerable and they need our urgent attention.”

For further information, please contact: **Nosh Nalavala**, Media Officer, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (917) 367-2471, e-mail: nalavala@un.org. Website: <http://www.un.org/ohrlls/>