

File Sub: CF/EXD/SP/1991-0023

Message from Mr. James P. Grant  
Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
for the Children's Art Exhibit  
"Children and the Living Environment"

United Nations – New York  
March 1991



UNICEF Alternate Inventory Label



Rcf0006HTX

**Item # CF/RAD/USAA/DB01/1998-02237**

**ExR/Code: CF/EXD/SP/1991-0023**

Children's Art Exhibit. Children and the Living Environmer

Date Label Printed 20-Aug-2002

cover + 1 p + Øb



United Nations Children's Fund Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia  
Детский Фонд Организации Объединенных Наций 联合国儿童基金会 منظمة الأمم المتحدة للطفولة

File Sub: CF/EXD/SP/1991-0023

Message from Mr. James P. Grant  
Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
for the Children's Art Exhibit  
"Children and the Living Environment"

United Nations — New York  
March 1991

Consciousness of the many-sided threat to the world's environment is higher today than it has ever been and, as these remarkable drawings indicate, children are among the most concerned, the most aware. The winners of this year's Asahi Shimbun Children's Drawing Contest, whose work was chosen from among some 45,000 entries by young people from more than 40 industrialized and developing countries, symbolize the universality of concern over environmental problems and the special stake children have in their resolution.

When the world's leaders met in this building on September 30, 1990 -- at the historic World Summit for Children -- and adopted a holistic strategy for ensuring a better future for all children, they emphasized that children "have the greatest stake in the preservation of the environment and its judicious management for sustainable development". They recognized that combating the preventable disease and malnutrition that slaughter 40,000 children each day, and promoting their education, constitute an essential part of efforts to improve the environment. They noted, too, that parents tend to have fewer children once they are confident their first-born children will survive -- a key linkage to the issue of overpopulation highlighting the fact that what is good for children, what makes them healthy and helps them realize their full potential, is also good for the environment.

Children will inherit the earth we leave them -- in whatever shape we choose to leave it in. If the adult world does not curb the current assault on the biosphere -- on the land, air and sea which sustain us -- our children will inherit an unhealthy planet with depleted resources, and will live in increasingly unstable societies unable to meet the needs of their citizens. It is evident from these drawings that fear of precisely such a future is, sadly, part of the psychology of children today.

These young artists -- and the socially-conscious sponsors of this contest, Asahi Shimbun, with the support of Mitsui Real Estate Sales Co., Ltd. -- are helping to keep the promise of the World Summit for Children. We invite everyone who visits this exhibit to join with them -- with UNICEF -- in a Grand Alliance...a grassroots movement...for Children, for the environment.