

File Sub: CF/EXD/SP/1993-0009

Message from Mr. James P. Grant
Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
to Governor Ciro Gomes
on the occasion of the
Decision of the UNICEF Executive Board
To Grant the People and State of Ceara, Brazil
the 1993 Maurice Pate Award



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It is my honour to inform you that the UNICEF Executive Board has decided to grant the 1993 Maurice Pate Award to the people and State of Ceara, Brazil, in recognition of your far-sighted policies and consistent actions benefiting Ceara's children. Ceara has demonstrated what can be accomplished when a State government with limited resources -- but deeply committed to children's well being -- joins with civil society to work for improvements in children's lives. You have made impressive advances, especially during the period 1986-1989: a one third reduction in the infant mortality rate, among other dramatic improvements in the field of child survival and development.

These accomplishments that have been attained under your leadership indicate that the goals set during the 1990 World Summit for Children -- which were endorsed by the Governors of Brazil in May 1992 -- can indeed be achieved. The example that Ceara is setting should not only be followed by other regions of Brazil, but deserves international recognition and emulation.

I trust that you will be present in New York, Mr. Governor, on 26 April 1993, to receive -- in the name of the people and State of Ceara -- the 1993 Maurice Pate Award, annually granted by the UNICEF Executive Board to individuals or institutions showing outstanding leadership in the cause of children's rights and well-being. Please accept my heartfelt congratulations and my admiration for the exemplary work that you, your colleagues and the people of Ceara are carrying out to improve the present and the future for the children of the State of Ceara.

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