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## Welcome by James P. Grant Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to the Memorial Tribute to Audrey Hepburn

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This -- the tangible progress being made -- is what kept her active helping the children of Somalia and the former Yugoslavia even after she fell ill. I remember her today, and will remember her always, with a face radiant with joy, on 8 October 1991, in this very building, when she joined the Secretary-General and the international community to certify and celebrate achievement of universal child immunization (UCI), the miracle that has saved the lives of millions of children. Audrey was part of that largest global peacetime collaboration -- she herself was a vaccinator of children and helped immunize the industrial world against the indifference that kills the soul.

Thank you, Audrey, for all this and for the beautiful human being you were... you are. And heartfelt thanks, on behalf of the UNICEF family and the children of the world, are due her companion Robert Wolders who was always tireless in supporting her work, coordinating her missions, and helping with public appearances; and also to her sons Sean and Luca. Sean in accepting the Humanitarian Oscar on her behalf a few weeks ago, dedicated the award to the children of the world. In this same spirit, in her memory, UNICEF has established the Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund to support desperately needed educational programmes for children in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan, scene of her last goodwill visits. We urge you to contribute to this fund generously and to help make it known far and wide. Thank you for joining us today for this celebration of Audrey Hepburn!