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FOR INFORMATION

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
1995 Annual Session

Remarks by Ms. Carol Bellamy
Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
at the
Presentation of the 1995 Maurice Pate Award
to
Dr. Ihsan Dogramaci

New York - 22 May 1995

I want to warmly congratulate Dr. Dogramaci on receiving the 1995 Maurice Pate award. Although I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Dogramaci only last week, I had heard a great deal about him from friends and colleagues inside and outside UNICEF for some time. It honours UNICEF to pay homage to a man of his stature.

I know that our President, Ambassador Makkawi, is planning to summarize Dr. Dogramaci's many achievements when he bestows upon him the Maurice Pate award on behalf of UNICEF. I would just like to make a few very brief points:

* first, we know that Jim Grant worked very closely with Dr. Dogramaci and had a special place in his heart for him. He regarded him as a peer, a loyal friend and trusted advisor. They were veterans together of many highly successful campaigns on behalf of the world's children. Dr. Dogramaci organized the conference of the world's pediatricians in Manila in 1982 at which Jim Grant launched the Child Survival Revolution. Thanks in great part to Dr. Dogramaci, Turkey led the way as the first successful example of social mobilization for nationwide immunization in the mid-1980s. Turkey demonstrated how the entire social fabric of a nation -- from President to local community -- could be enlisted in the service of children and social development. Then, in 1992, Jim Grant and Dr. Dogramaci donned flak jackets and helmets and travelled together to

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former Yugoslavia, braving sniper fire and exploding shells to lead a convoy of trucks with supplies to help children on all sides of the conflict endure the approaching winter.

* Dr. Dogramaci has been one of the principal architects of what UNICEF calls the Grand Alliance for Children. He has used his influence and prestige to involve many individuals and organizations in the cause of children. In particular, he presided over the expansion and strengthening of the International Pediatrics Association, always stressing that pediatricians must reach out beyond their private practices to help the millions of children too poor to ever see the inside of a doctor's office. Today, the International Pediatrics Association is one of UNICEF's most important and active partners.

* Dr. Dogramaci is an example of the "jack-of-all-trades": physician who is also educator, scholar who is also a "doer", Turkish patriot who is also internationalist, senior citizen who is also youthful activist. This man who is personal friend to prime ministers and kings, and whose 80th birthday was recently celebrated in several countries, is also friend and mentor to thousands of students and professionals the world over whom he has taught, worked with and assisted.

UNICEF takes its collective hat off to this man who has been President of our Board, President of the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF, leader of his country's delegation to the UNICEF Executive Board, and impassioned advocate for children everywhere. Congratulations, Dr. Dogramaci, and by extension, congratulations to Turkey and to the IPA for sharing him so generously with us over several decades!