



Press Release

15 April 2006 – For Immediate Release

“We want to be alive!”

Members of the public are invited for a FREE showing of **Ali Zaoua** on **19 April in French with English subtitles** and on the **26 April in Lao at 7:00pm** as part of the *MDG Movie Nights*.

One of the key goals that need to be met for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is to “Reduce Child Mortality.” To achieve the MDG on reducing child mortality, Lao PDR must ensure that deaths of children under five diminish from 106 per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 55 child deaths per 1,000 live births by 2015.

Lao PDR has made substantial progress in reducing child deaths in recent years. Within one decade, the number of deaths of children under five dropped from 170 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 106 per 1,000 in 2000. Yet despite this progress, the rate of child mortality is still high, as one in ten Lao children still dies before the age of five. Communicable and preventable diseases such as acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, malaria, measles, dengue fever and meningitis cause the majority of child deaths. Many of these killer diseases can be prevented through immunization.

The movie *Ali Zaoua, prince de la rue* (2000) will be shown to demonstrate the hardships disadvantaged children face. In this movie, one street child tries to escape from reality by remembering a magical story his mother used to tell. But soon matters get very serious.

MDG Movie Nights are being held to focus attention on the Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000. After this movie, UNICEF will lead the discussion focusing on steps that can be taken to reverse the trend of mortality among children.

Sponsored by the United Nations Country Team, these movie nights promise to be an entertaining way to spend an evening.

“MDG movie nights” film schedule for 2006 is as follows:

19 April: *Ali Zaoua* (FR) – French with English subtitles

26 April: *Ali Zaoua* (FR) – Lao dubbing

17 May: *Junior* (USA) – English with French subtitles

24th May: *Junior* (USA) – Lao dubbing

21st June: Yesterday (South Africa) – Zulu – English subtitles

28th June: Yesterday (South Africa) – Zulu – Lao dubbing with French subtitles

19th July: Day after Tomorrow (USA) – English with French subtitles

26th July: Day after Tomorrow (USA) - Lao dubbing

No movies in August

16 Sept: Traffic (USA) – English with French subtitles

23 Sept: Traffic (USA) – Lao dubbing

All showings will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. The movies will be shown at the CCCL, Avenue Lane Xang, Vientiane. Tél: (856 21) 215 764.

For more information: please contact Ms. Yasmin Forbes or Ms. Soukphaphone Thongsavanh at the Public Information Office

+ (856 21) 213390-5 ext. 187 or 210, yasmin.forbes@undp.org , soukphaphone.thongsavanh@undp.org