Celebrations of 3rd International Day of Yoga in Kenya

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The Third International Day of Yoga was celebrated on 18th June, 2017 in Nairobi with great enthusiasm. Around 1,500 people including students and yoga enthusiasts participated in the grand event which was held at the Premier Club Grounds in Nairobi organized by the High Commission of India and Kenyan organizations promoting Yoga. Director General of United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON) Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

2. High Commissioner Ms. Suchitra Durai, in her opening remarks, emphasized the importance of Yoga in daily life. Common Yoga Protocol was performed by the participants. A Yoga teacher from the Indian Ministry of AYUSH, Shri Arjun Kamireddi demonstrated advanced Yogic postures. He was interviewed by KBC TV channel. Local institutions held camps related to health, wellness and traditional medicines at the occasion. High Commissioner and Chairman of Comcraft Group and Pravasi Bharatiya Awardee Dr. Manu Chandaria released the revised edition of a book titled, ‘Yoga for Health’ written by Kisumu based Yoga expert Kalpana Karia. High Commissioner and
Deputy Governor of Isiolo Country Mr. Mohamed Guleid distributed prize to the winner of Yoga and Naturopathy Quiz, which was conducted in association with Sound Asia FM channel. Artists from Navrang Fine Arts Foundation played a live instrumental music.

3. In her remarks, Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde mentioned that no other UN International Day is celebrated with such a huge participation of common people. Members of the Diplomatic Corps; Dr. Mark Leleruk, Commissioner of Police; former Miss World & Indian actress Diana Hayden; Mr. Asif Karim, former captain of Kenyan Cricket team; members of business community, representatives of Indian diaspora and media attended the event. Various prominent local organizations promoting Yoga as well as Indian majors such as Tata Motors Ltd, Godrej Consumer Products Limited were the main partners in the event.

4. The event was also celebrated simultaneously at several venues in major counties of Kenya such as Kisumu, Eldoret, Mombasa, Meru and Embu. Several local organizations are organizing events promoting Yoga throughout June 2017 to celebrate the International Day of Yoga.