



Press release

TOP PERFORMERS LINE UP FOR A UNIQUE CONCERT IN SWITZERLAND: YOUSSEU N'DOUR & FRIENDS, *UNITED AGAINST MALARIA*

Geneva, September 26, 2005: The Senegalese singer, Youssou N'Dour, and more than 10 other musical celebrities from five continents are performing a unique show in the Geneva Arena from 20:30 on Saturday, October 8, 2005.

Representing Africa are Rokia Traoré and Tiken Jah Fakoly; from Europe come Stephan Eicher, Axelle Red and Neneh Cherry. Gilberto Gil and Anggun bring the voices of Latin America and Asia respectively. Guest stars such as Kassav or Patti Austin will join them in duets to create rare blends of voices and cultures.

“This concert is to tell the peoples of the world that malaria kills more than 3000 children every day and at least a million people every year. Together, we can stop this calamity.” Youssou N’Dour.

For the 60th anniversary of the United Nations, the UN office in Geneva and the *Fondation pour Genève* are organising the *United against Malaria* concert to mobilise public support for this cause.

The concert would not be possible without the financial support of Pictet & Cie. The Geneva private bank has chosen to celebrate its bicentenary this year by contributing to the campaign against malaria.

Committed artists

Youssou N'Dour, African singer known for his efforts for children, is both a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and a special representative of the Roll Back Malaria partnership. He has agreed to devote his activities in 2005 to the fight against malaria. At the request of the United Nations, Youssou N'Dour decided to recruit celebrity musicians from the different continents to the campaign.

A number of artists responded: Rokia Traoré and Tiken Jah Fakoly were chosen from Africa; Stephan Eicher, Axelle Red and Neneh Cherry, from Europe; Gilberto Gil and Kassav represent South America; Anggun comes from Asia and Patti Austin from North America.

Geneva joins the fight against malaria, one of the Millennium Development Goals

The *Fondation pour Genève*, the Global Fund for the fight against Aids, tuberculosis and malaria, and the Roll Back Malaria partnership — all based in Geneva — are joining the UN to involve the local, Swiss and international public in the campaign against the scourge of malaria.

Malaria control is one of the Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 by the UN member states. One specific target is to halve malaria deaths by 2010.

Malaria threatens more than 40% of the world's population

With between 350 million and 500 million cases recorded annually, malaria is a serious public health problem in many of the world's countries.

Children, pregnant women, those caught in emergencies or suffering from HIV-Aids are particularly vulnerable to this devastating disease.

Malaria is a parasitical disease transmitted by the bite of infected mosquitoes. In many cases, death follows the first symptoms.

Malaria kills 3000 children every day and more than two million people worldwide every year, 90% of them in Africa.

Malaria can be beaten

The campaign against malaria must be waged on several fronts: the protection of those at risk and the care of the sick. An effective prevention is to sleep under an insecticide-treated bed net, which kills mosquitoes or stops them from biting. Another is to spray home interiors with insecticides that remain active on the walls. Mothers-to-be can also be protected and lives saved with anti-malarial drugs administered on presumption of infection.

In partnership with Roll Back Malaria and the Global Fund

The Roll Back Malaria partnership was launched in 1998 by the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank to co-ordinate the campaign against malaria.

The Global Fund for the fight against Aids, tuberculosis and malaria is the world's largest source of funds for anti-malaria programmes, with more than a billion dollars to finance operations in 70 countries.

The Concert – useful information

Date: Saturday, October 8, 2005
Place: Arena, Geneva
Time: 20:30 – doors and box office open at 18:30

Ticket prices:

Standing: CHF 50
Numbered seats CHF 65 & CHF 85
Golden square numbered seats CHF 100

Ticket sales:

TicketCorner: 0900 800 800 or www.ticketcorner.com
TicketCorner sales offices at: Manor, Globus Geneva, Balxert, La Praille
FNAC at: Genève Rive, Balxert, Lausanne, Fribourg or www.fnac.ch
For France: www.fnac.ch

Press releases, texts and pictures can be downloaded from: www.unitedagainstmalaria.org

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