

Programme for World Refugee Day – 20 June 2010

Each year the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) celebrates World Refugee Day on the 20th of June. The global theme for World Refugee Day in 2010 is “Home.” Through the simple statement, “They took my home but they can’t take my future,” UNHCR will be highlighting the plight of refugees worldwide, recognizing their courage and resilience.

Refugees are persons who do not have another choice than to flee their countries. This can be for different reasons, because they hold a different political opinion, have another religion or belong to a different ethnic or social group. They can only have a future if the host country, community and the people living in that country provide them with an opportunity.

Papua New Guinea has been generous in hosting West Papuans. Today, there are some 9,700 West Papuan refugees and a handful of non-Melanesian refugees and asylum-seekers living in PNG. While the majority of them have been treated with respect and dignity, unfortunately we do receive reports of them being attacked, treated inhumanely, harassed or verbally abused.

UNHCR is inviting the general public to celebrate with us World Refugee Day.

Amphitheatre (Ela Beach) - If weather conditions allow

When	What
1.00 pm	“Creative Art Students”: <i>Our Right is Our Future</i> - Drama on refugee experiences

Ulli Beier Theatre, University of Papua New Guinea, Main Campus

Activities will be organised from 1 to 5 pm

When	What
1.00-5.00	Exhibition
	Film on refugee situations worldwide
2.30-3.30	Dances performed by West Papuan Refugee Groups
3.30-4.15	“Creative Art Students”: <i>Our Right is Our Future</i> - Drama on refugee experiences

More information on UNHCR, refugee issues, and events celebrating World Refugee Day in Australia and Papua New Guinea can be found at www.unhcr.org.au.

Alternatively, visit us at the UNHCR Country Office in Papua New Guinea

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UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

