

Unicef sub-regional representative bids farewell to São Tomé and Príncipe with a positive balance

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São Tomé, Aug 14, 2023 (STP-Press) – The UNICEF representative for São Tomé and Príncipe and Gabon, Mr Noel Marie Zagre, was on an official and working visit to the country for a week, with the main objective of offer farewell greetings to national authorities and government partners in the context of the termination of their duties as subregional representative of this United Nations organization for Education and Children.

Zagre, who arrived in São Tomé on Saturday (12), had a busy schedule with several meetings in which the President of the Republic, the President of the National Assembly and the Prime Minister, as well as several members of the government and other national officials stand out. .

At the meeting with the Minister of Youth, Sports and Entrepreneurship, Eurídice Medeiros, replacing the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Isabel Abreu, important points in the field of digital learning and teaching quality were under analysis. In terms of digital learning, the focus was on finding out how this project is being implemented in 5 pilot schools in São Tomé and Príncipe, through the Akelius and Learning Passport platforms, with the Unicef representative guaranteeing that the organization will continue to support digital interventions and teacher training.



Within the scope of the partnership between UNICEF and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, after the meeting, the two responsible

inaugurated the Digital Education Laboratory, installed in the building of the former School of Arts and Crafts.

On the 10th, Thursday, the Unicef representative met with the Minister of Women's Rights, Maria Milagre Pina Delgado, with the Attorney General of the Republic, Kelve Nobre de Carvalho and with the Minister of Planning, Finance and Blue Economy , Ginésio da Mata.

On Friday, Noel Marie Zagre was received by the Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Public Administration, Iza Amado Vaz, by the President of the National Assembly, Celmira Sacramento, and by the President of the Republic, Carlos Manuel Vila Nova.

In the meeting with the Minister of Women's Rights, a series of issues were addressed, with emphasis on the country's commitment to the implementation of the CEDAW and CDC conventions and the co-leadership of the holders of the Women's portfolio and the Ministry of Justice in both conventions .

The UNICEF representative also assured that the organization will continue to support São Tomé and Príncipe to develop a monitoring mechanism and an action plan to implement the recommendations of these conventions, emphasizing the strengthening of the social protection system and the provision of services. social, particularly those related to community and family interventions to prevent and respond to violence against children, provision of immediate assistance, support to court cases and convictions, support to capacity building of the social sector workforce and human resource development.



Zagre also made reference to the Parental Education Program, training of social workers (more than 200 technicians trained in PEP and social protection, and more than 30 social workers in the approach to social and behavioral change, SBC), which contributed significantly to the follow-up and follow-up of the 2,600 families involved in the PEP program.

At the meeting with the Attorney General of the Republic, the subject was the revision of the Multisectoral Protocol for the Management of Child Protection Cases, which includes different institutions that make up the child protection network, and the measure that Unicef can help to improve the access to social and justice services for children at risk or victims of violence and also the intervention that must be done to improve the physical spaces for the care of child victims at the Central Hospital and the equipping of a space in the court that is child-friendly for hearings specialized.

With the Minister of Planning, Finance and Blue Economy, the "fruitful" collaboration with the National Institute of Statistics in the production of statistical information was underlined, with emphasis on MODA and the Budget Summary on the sectors of Health, Education and Social Protection and also the fact that the Government is honoring its commitments regarding the co-financing of vaccines, to eliminate cases of zero doses, including the payment of obligations for 2021 and 2022.

On the eve of departure, the Unicef sub-regional representative for São Tomé and Príncipe and Gabon participated on Saturday, together with the organization's staff and other representations, in the celebrations of the International Youth Day that took place in the Diogo Vaz roça.

Also noteworthy during Zagre's presence in the country was the workshop for the revision of the Protocol for the Care and Follow-up of Child Victims of all types of violence.

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