UN Day welcoming speech by Yirgalem Solomon (WASH Specialist)

H.E Ms. Christine, RC

NUEYS

Students

Colleagues

It gives me the greatest pleasure to warmly welcome you all on behalf of all staff. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to the NUEYS and students who are part of our celebration.

Today is 24 October UN Day and we are happy that we started the day with an important activity of tree planting in Serejeka…

We are all aware that trees are important resource in our natural ecosystem with many benefits. Let me ask you one question? Can you put a price tag on this tree? Yes those who sell timber for paper and other product certainly do. However the worth of living tree is incalculable if you add up all the benefits of trees to mentions some. Trees are referred as the lungs of the planet because of the oxygen they provide to other living things, Trees represent a vast reservoir of genetic resource and biodiversity, provide important habitats for all wildlife, Guarantee supplies of pharmaceuticals products, flood control, conserve soil and water, temperature control since trees can absorb as much as 48 pounds of carbon dioxide per year, mental health many students found that access to nature better cognitive functioning and more self-discipline and greater mental health overall. A study also shows that hospital patients who can see trees out their windows are hospitalized 8% fewer days than their counterparts. Trees also generate big income for instance in 2012 the forest service recreation visitors spending in national forests amounted to nearly $ 11 billion in US this sustains about 190000 full and part time jobs. The list of benefits is long and then the value is incalculable.

Following the tree planting we will have student completion which has been carried out organized by NUEYS and of course we will enjoy our self with cutting cake and refreshments.
Please join me in congratulating and thanking the organizing committee for the great job they did in organizing the day and with these few words it is my pleasure to invite our UN RC Ms. Christine to give the keynote address.