We are very pleased to draw your attention to the 2005 Volunteer Course, which UNIC Rio has been carrying out successfully for the past three weeks.

We accepted only 45 students from eight local Universities to our “YOUTH FOR PEACE” volunteer project.

This project started up in 2000, when UNIC adjusted its communication resources in order to train these students carefully and engage them not only with volunteer work but also with UN objectives and principles. This year, due to the importance given by local authorities, we will concentrate our efforts in disseminating the International Year of Microcredit.

After four years, the “YOUTH FOR PEACE” project is highly appreciated, not only by teachers from universities and primary or secondary schools but also by the Education and Human Rights Secretaries of the State of Rio de Janeiro.

Last week the Centre started negotiating with the State Government, with a view to implement this project in the entire State of Rio de Janeiro, with a population reaching almost 10 million people. Starting in May, we will have the first group of lectures, comprising ten schools from poor and middle-class areas.