UN WOMEN Pakistan,
16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011
MILLION NAMES - MILLION VOICES

25 November to 10 December 2011 - Islamabad, Pakistan

“I am part of ONE MILLION and can make a difference to End Violence against Women and Girls!!

A journey that begins on 25 November...... will continue over the next 365 days!”

Campaign Supporter
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REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.....

PROGRESS REPORT

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SECTION ONE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UN WOMEN in Pakistan is commemorating 16 days of activism which will continue for the next 365 days, in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights, EVAWG Alliance, and UN partners by launching an unprecedented “One Million Signature Campaign” in the form of MILLION NAMES MILLION VOICES: BREAK THE SILENCE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS. The campaign added to the efforts undertaken by the Government of Pakistan, civil society organizations, UN partners and donors who are working to address violence against women and girls by giving voice to one million people to demand and say no to violence. The campaign is not only highlighting the issue at national and international level, but the resolutions that will be compiled through collection of signatures made by people and will be presented by the representative of EVAW Alliance, UN agencies and parliamentarians to the Prime Minister and the President with a clear charter of demands in February 2012. The Campaign is also adding value to the international UNite campaign. The implementation of our strategic interventions under this campaign is starting to reap rewards, with a number of testimonials, and case studies emerging from this work. Drawing up a collective action plan is proving to be more successful than expected. During these days, EVAWG Alliance provincial chapter has also been launched in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa keeping in mind the post devolution scenario. Finally, UN WOMEN in collaboration with EVAWG Alliance are coordinating with a number of partners including Ministry of Human Rights, National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities, Home Department KP, Dar-ul-Aman, media, lawyers, advocates, bar associations, universities, Thematic Group on Gender and GBV Sub- Thematic Group and people from different walk of life, during this period for collective actions and avoidance of duplications. 10th December, International Human Rights Day, was commemorated jointly with Dar-ul- Aman Rawalpindi where it was well attended by Senate members, EVAWG Alliance and media.
SECTOR TWO: BACKGROUND/ CONTEXT

Women and children are among some of the most marginalized populations in Pakistan today living on the intersection of multiple exclusions, disadvantages and disposessions. With multidimensional threats to the human security of its inhabitants, the situation, rights and expectations of women and children continue to be undermined in Pakistan. Girls and women’s exclusion is rooted both in structural and governance patterns in the country. This reality is chillingly manifest from the recent Human Development Report. Overall, Pakistan’s HDI value for 2011 is 0.504—in the low human development category — positioning the country 145 out of 187 countries and territories. In the Gender Inequality Index (GII), while South Asian women are shown to lag alarmingly behind men in education and labour force participation – Pakistan presents an increasingly hazardous trend, despite some positive figures. For example while women’s parliamentary participation has improved with 21% of parliamentary seats held by women – the GII reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment and economic activity. Pakistan has a GII value of 0.573, ranking it 115 out of 146 countries in the 2011 index.

For many years, the women’s movement and concerned organizations devoted energies to ‘breaking the silence’ on violence against women. This has enabled a shift away from universal acceptance of gender-based violence as a private matter and as a normalized aspect of relations between the sexes, to its positioning as a matter of public policy. Violence against women is a human rights and health emergency in Pakistan. Most women in Pakistan live in a world structured around strict family and traditional customs that essentially force them to live in submission and overall fear of trespassing family expectation of them as the custodians and carriers of the collective ‘izzat,’ – ‘dignity and honour.’ While Islamic law dictates traditional family values in Pakistan and is enmeshed in the legal system – gender discrimination and gender based violence in its myriad forms – remains a red alert area anchored both implicitly and explicitly in values, societal practices, attitudes and the parallel legal system.

Though Pakistan ratified the United Nation’s Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in 1996, herein referred to as the Women’s Convention, it has yet to remove discriminatory laws against women. It has however, in the past three years progressed in introducing legislative measures to address discrimination and violence against women. Implementation however remains sporadic, erratic and ad hoc. Pakistan has yet to integrate many of the Women’s Convention’s provisions into domestic law and educate the Pakistani population of its responsibilities under international law to promote women’s rights. In Pakistan, violence has many facets; some of them are common across the country while others are specific to a region. Rape, gang-rape, honour-killing, trafficking of women, burning, acid attacks, denial of inheritance rights, giving of girls as compensation and social and economic discrimination are some of the commonly known forms of VAW in Pakistan. The biggest hurdle, still to be overcome, is the pending legislation and in 2012 the focus will be on the Domestic Violence Bill and the Acid Crime and Prevention Bill. Given the current humanitarian crisis, it will also focus on women and girls in crisis. According to the statistics collected, the total number of the reported VAW offences in Pakistan was 8,000 in 2010, coming down somewhat from the 2009 figure of 8,548 reported incidents, showing a surprising decline of 6.85% in the total number of VAW cases. However, with the 2010 unprecedented floods affecting all the provinces of Pakistan, which caught the administration and people unprepared has resulted in reported cases and mechanisms to report cases of violence being lost. (Source: Aurat Foundation 2010 Report).

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SECTION THREE: OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CAMPAIGN

This campaign focuses primarily on generating an increased awareness of the negative impact of violence on women and children and collective efforts to amplify voices for better advocacy on pending legislations of Domestic Violence and Acid Crime & prevention and women and girls in crisis situation.

I- Objective

_To build and transform the public opinion including government officials, service providers, police, media, lawyers and universities youth in Pakistan through the ne million signature campaign in order to condemn and END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS_

II- Outputs

_Increased awareness and political commitment to end violence against women and girls_

III- Indicators

a. Increased awareness among government officials, service providers, police officials, media, lawyers and university students on ending violence against women and girls

b. Public resolutions from provinces developed through one action committed by each signatory (at least 50% of the signatories) of the campaign and signed/presented by the parliamentarians and presented to Prime Minister and President on concluding ceremony of 16 days of activism

c. Charter of demands from 56 districts, will be presented to Prime Minister and President in Jan/Feb 2012

It is also envisaged that campaign will be extended to 365 days of the year. As a result of this, the 16 Days of Activism campaign will spread its activities over a period of 365 days in order to enhance the campaigns effectiveness.

The aim of the campaign is to;

I. Raise awareness and call for individual commitment to break the silence and end VAW.

II. It is an opportunity for key stakeholders like government officials, parliamentarians, police officials, service providers, media, lawyers and university youth to know about the action that people can take at the grass root level to end violence against women and girls and that they should no longer ignore this public opinion

III. The campaign will aim at collecting signature from individuals belonging to different walks of life such as government officials, parliamentarians, civil society/media, police officials, service providers (doctors/nurses), students/teachers, etc.

_The National Convener for the Campaign is Advisor to the Prime Minster on Human Rights._

The vision of the campaign is to be taken to the people at grass roots level and beyond the borders of Pakistan. UN partners worked closely with the Ministry of Human Rights, as the lead Ministry, as well as other government departments like the National/ Provincial Disaster Management Authority, and gender groups such as the Thematic Group on Gender and GBV Sub-thematic working group amongst others. The consultants selected to manage and design the campaign were Shazia Abbasi Consulting Firm. In addition, strategic partnerships between government, civil society and business, has been established to broaden the potential impact of the campaign. As a result of this the 16 Days of Activism campaign will spread its activities over a period of 365 days in order to enhance the campaigns effectiveness.
SECTION FOUR: ACTIVITIES/ PROGRESS/ DELIVERABLES

The combination of Government, business and civil society activities and interventions, the envisaged saturation of media coverage via advertising, public service announcements, interviews and editorial pronouncements in conjunction with the extensive education campaign undoubtedly contributed to a heightened national awareness of the issues related to violence especially pending legislations on DVB and Acid Crime and the importance of integrated solutions to the problem. The drive to take the Campaign to grass roots level ensures that the campaign reaches those rural areas that are often left out. One major highlight from this campaign is that through the endless efforts of the working group on Acid Crime and Prevention under the umbrella of EVAWG Alliance has resulted in passing of proposed amendment in Pakistan Penal Code to criminalize heinous crime of acid throwing (after been passed from National Assembly) by Senate during the 16 days of activism, which not only shows the commitment from Government but also joint efforts of civil society and UN partners. This year’s 16 days of activism to end violence against women has just come to a close. This time allowed us to reflect on the progress which has been made in Pakistan and throw a spotlight on what remains to be done. Change is happening. Reserved seats for women in national and provincial governments have been a real success, putting more and more women in positions of power, who are championing women’s rights and pushing for more legislation. The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Act and Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Bill were unanimously passed in the Senate, promising punishments for those who force women into marriage, deny women their inheritance, or harm them with acid. Legislation is already in place to protect women from harassment at work. Important legislation on domestic violence is pending. Passing legislation is a critical first step, now we must all continue to push for it to be effectively implemented and to change some entrenched mindsets and One Million Signatures Campaign is one step towards it.

4.1 LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

The proposed initiative of One Million Signature Campaign is being used for advocacy and action to engage large numbers of people from all walks of life to condemn and address violence against women. It contributes towards the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s campaign, UNiTE to End Violence against Women. While this campaign was launched all over Pakistan, UN WOMEN, Ministry of Human Rights and EVAWG Alliance hosted an event at the Islamabad Convention Centre with the launch of a media campaign and a music video of a specially recorded song entitled “Socha Kabhi na...” sung by Nouman Javaid and Khawar Jawad. The lyrics call out to men around the country to listen to the voices of women, engages them to reflect on the atrocities being committed against women and evokes their conscience on the issue of gender based violence in all forms, (physical, emotional and verbal). This song was aired on 17 channels reaching hundreds of thousands of people nationwide and more importantly, reaching this message to the younger generation who can bring about change for the future in their homes, in their communities and in their workplace. This song is played throughout 16 days on different channels http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbwRet2j92Q.

On November 25th, UN WOMEN in collaboration with EVAWG Alliance, also had a specially branded coach, painted in purple which has come to be associated with symbolic journey to end violence against women and girls. This purple bus started its journey from the convention centre and was driven by a female bus driver! It carried media and some public figures on a symbolic start of the journey where people from all walks of life boarded to show their solidarity towards this cause in Pakistan.
This successful launch was undertaken to commemorate and join hands together to mark 16 Days of Activism on 25th November 2011. First time in Pakistan, matrix of activities was collated which highlighted all the activities that were undertaken in Pakistan throughout the provinces by different national and international partners. Through media hype, people from all walk of life specifically government officials, service providers, police, lawyers, media and youth from universities are now signing this campaign and will result in public provincial resolutions from all provinces to be presented to the Prime Minister and President and high level parliamentarians early next year.

As the campaign is still on, and people are still signing and becoming part, so keeping in mind the interest and the magnitude of signatures to be collected, it is envisaged that by end of January, all the signatures will be collected and data will be analyzed and then resolutions will be drafted and presented probably in February 2012. Given the importance of collecting these signatures, the timeline has been extended. The signatories of this campaign are not only signing the signatures cards but also indicating actions that they will take in order to end violence against women and girls. Other actions undertaken include out-reach to students, volunteering at local shelters, advocating for legislation and donating funds towards programmes that protect women and girls from violence, and more. Every action is counted to symbolize the groundswell of engagement that exists on the issue.

4.2 LAUNCH OF KHYBER PAKTHUNKHWA (KP) EVAWG ALLIANCE: 28TH TO 29TH NOVEMBER, 2011

The KP chapter of EVAWG Alliance was launched after conducting two days extensive consultation with partners from Governments including Social Welfare Department, Provincial Commission on Status of Women, Home Department, CSOs organizations and UN partners. The visit to Peshawar, KP office was made to lay foundation of EVAWG alliance at provincial level and provide orientation on human rights issues and objectives of this alliance help participants better understand cohesive and holistic picture to end and prevent this social menace at provincial level. Participants were provided with detailed orientation on work related to national EVAWG Alliance. UN WOMEN, in Pakistan, leveraged on this opportunity to facilitate national alliance on Eliminating Violence against Women & Girls known as the EVAWG Alliance. This alliance aims to lead and catalyse ending all forms of violence against girls and women in Pakistan, through: i) strengthening coordination between stakeholders working on violence against women and ii) identification of common areas of intervention.

This alliance comprises of more than 150 members including representative from governmental (former Ministry of Women Development, Women Parliamentary Caucus and now Ministry of Human Rights, National Commission on Women) and as well as the non-governmental, and bilateral actors (including donors and UN agencies) working in Pakistan on EVAWG. The Alliance aims at coordinating and strengthening collaborative interventions to combat and end violence against girls and women in Pakistan. The focus of the alliance is women empowerment through legal and policy perspective where their rights need to integrated in general and in particular, women facing multiple discrimination e.g. refugees, sex workers, minority women, women with disabilities, women in conflict situations, migrant and internally displaced women etc). Keeping in line with its objective to reduce violence against women, involvement of men is an embraced strategy. Currently the EVAWG alliance is supported by the secretariat by UN Women and chaired by Sungi, ASF and Sister’s Trust (CSOs) and housed in NCSW. There is also two provincial chapters of EVAWG Alliance i.e., Punjab MUMKIN EVAWG Alliance and recently launched KP EVAWG Alliance. UN WOMEN together with CSOs, Government bodies, and UN agencies have agreed to develop common framework of action in KP to end violence against women and girls. This chapter has been launched during 16 days of activism. Follow up consultation will be held sooner so that work plan can be developed. UN WOMEN KP office will be coordinating with them. Home Department, Human Right Department and Social Welfare department appreciated the efforts and went to the extent that Chief Commission Police Office Peshawar offered its office space to host meetings of KP EVAWG Alliance to ensure quick access to justice for survivor and victims of violence.
4.3 COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AT DAR-UL-AMAN, RAWALPINDI

Civil society and grassroots organisations around the country have been enlisted to start collecting the one million signatures that will be the start of a massive awareness building exercise. People are being asked to sign up to a series of actions to make an actual commitment towards stopping the violence. Pop buttons have been made for all signatories so that they may all sport these buttons throughout these 16 days until 10th December International Human Rights Day.

The public activities around the nation comprise of young and old, men and women, students, workers of all levels in organisations in urban and rural areas are being covered by the media as they make their commitments on the cards by signing up to the campaign. These cards are being collected centrally back in Islamabad and will be used to announce the first one million when completed. This is the first ever campaign on such a massive scale to create such a huge degree of awareness in Pakistan and it is hoped that it will pay off with changing mind sets and eventually seeing a decline in violence against women and girls in the country.

On December 10th members of EVAW Alliance together with represented from UN WOMEN visited Dar ul Aman in Rawalpindi and participated in the activities which included, play on gender based violence, skits and an over view on 16 Days of Activism. This activity provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to interact with each other, engage in experience sharing and sign on to the Million Signature campaign and become ONE in a million and join the Million Names....Million Voices Campaign. The campaign in a real meaning touched the hearts of violence victims and survivors. Throughout the 16 days, each day there was some activity planned for them and the girls and women were found full of life and confidence that despite the low budget of Dar-ul-Aman, they creatively decorated the entire Dar-ul-Aman through their scarves to mark these days.

SECTION FIVE: LESSONS LEARNED

- It is always good to have collective and joint agreed frameworks rather than working in isolation
- Regular follow ups and participatory approach with targeted stakeholders
- CSOs should strategize and concretize actions to end violence against women and girls
- Involving non-traditional sectors to drive further the ripple effect
- Such organizations should be involved who have capacity to implement and support such campaigns

SECTION SIX: COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT

- First time collaborations and support between EVAW Alliance, UN agencies, Ministry of Human Rights and other media partners.
- First time Ministry of Human Rights has taken the lead and issued invitations letters to all the stakeholders on behalf of EVAW Alliance.
- National CSOs extended their full support in joint commemoration throughout the 16 days of activism

SECTION SEVEN: FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Budget: USD 179,864/
(of which DFID Contributed USD 98,400/-) Special thanks to Donors for their contribution
SECTION EIGHT: NEXT STEPS

a. Follow up on collection of signatures from government, CSOs, UN agencies, media, lawyers, service providers, and university youth.
b. Demographic data analysis of one million signatures campaign
c. Public provincial resolutions will be drafted based upon signatures collected in Feb 2012
d. Draft Charter of demands from 56 districts in Feb 2012

ANNEXES:

01. Print and electronic media supplements
02. Pictures
03. Concept paper on overall agreed framework of 16 days in Pakistan
04. Concept note on One Million Signatures Campaign
05. Video link of Making of One Million Signatures Campaign
06. Link of song that was launched on 25th November, 2011 to EVAWG
07. Letters from Ministry of Human Rights
PRINT MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS & SUPPLEMENTS
ENGLISH AND REGIONAL DAILIES

November 25, 2011
Metro politian page # 17
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Daily Times

November 25, 2011
Page # A-12

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

Pakistan, UK pledge to fight terror jointly

Khar likely to enter into another political marriage

Terror bid failed in Kurram

Afghan war success may not be known until 2023: UK

PPP, PML-N trade barbs on memogate

Lahore: Pakistan will never allow India to deploy nuclear weapons in the region, declared Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday. Mr. Khan said Pakistan will never allow India to deploy nuclear weapons within the country. Pakistan has always been committed to the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been committed to the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been committed to the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been committed to the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been committed to the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Mr. Khan said Pakistan has always been committed to the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
President requests CJP to restart ZA Bhutto’s reference

I want to save my friend Asif Zardari from dying disgracefully: President is completely surrounded by racketeers and pimps who are acting like his eyes and ears. I have my wife first and then death second.

I foresee people lynching the PPP leadership: Dr Mirza

Naeem’s Major among 24 injured in NATO strike to be laid to rest today

Pakistan asks US to vacate Shamsi Airbase within 15 days, closes NATO supply line after killing of 24 soldiers

Zulfiqar Mirza remains unshakable in Manchester attack

Imran asks rulers to end alliance in ‘war on terror’
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES....

November 28, 2011
Back Page
November 28, 2011
Front Page
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES....

SUPPLEMENTS

December 10, 2011
Page # 19, City News (Full Page)

December 10, 2011
Page # 3 (Full Page)

December 10, 2011
City Page (Full Page)
violent against women in private domain

Speakers decry absence of law to curb crime

COP accused of threatening guy

Australian military chief meets Muhidin Kayani

Oman’s National Day celebrated

Print Media Coverage: English / Urdu Dailies

The Nation
November 26, 2011
Twin Cities Page #14, 3 Column with picture
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.....
BRITISH HOME SECRETARY VISITS WPC

Members of the Women’s Parliamentary Caucus and Theresa May, UK Home Secretary and Minister for Women and Equality, have signed their commitment to ‘Take Action in Breaking the Silence to End the Violence against Women and Girls.’

Theresa May, Secretary of State of the Home Department, and Minister for Women and Equality visited the Women’s Parliamentary Caucus in the Parliament House.

The objective of this meeting was to explore possibilities of mutual cooperation and establishing direct links with the Caucus in order to support the women parliamentarians of the two countries in the implementation of the women empowerment agenda. Main areas of discussion were around provision of health services for women, girl education, and skill building for women’s economic empowerment.

The home secretary was accompanied by the High Commissioner of UK to Pakistan, Adam Thomson. The high commissioner said that the countries like the UK and US believed that they will not be able to flourish, if Pakistan does not flourish, and Pakistan will not flourish unless its women flourish. Joint cooperation was in the areas of information and experience sharing through various means regarding policies and existing and proposed legislations on women and girls.

Theresa May extended an invitation to the members of the Women’s Parliamentary Caucus to visit the UK in order to build closer ties with the women in the British Parliament who were now more or less of same percentage as in Pakistan’s Parliament.

She further suggested the Caucus delegation to interface with the British citizens of Pakistan origin in order to encourage and apprise them about the progress that women in Pakistan have made in various areas of their social and political lives. The discussions with the home minister were interactive and the members of the Caucus apprised her on the various legislative and policy measures being taken towards the women empowerment in Pakistan.

At the end, Dr. Nafisa Shah proposed the distinguished visitors to jointly sign the UN campaign to take action to end violence against women along with the members of the WPC.
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.....
16-day campaign to help empower women concludes

Pindi police busts inter-provincial gangs of dacoits, car lifters

86 plagiarism cases resolved, 18 in process

Forgery accused declared absconder
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES....

December 11, 2011
Front Page, 3 column with Pictures
Fake ‘pirs’, ‘aamils’ doing business at will

Millionate people normally fall prey to this money-minting exercise

In a report, The Nation said that a large number of people fall victim to the fraudulent practices of ‘pirs’ and ‘aamils’ who claim to have magical powers to win人心 or influence outcomes. The report highlighted cases of people who have lost money and valuable assets as a result of these practices.

Encroachments in twin cities trouble residents

A number of residents in twin cities are facing difficulties due to encroachments. The report said that the encroachments have led to loss of property and displacement of residents. The government has launched an operation to clear the encroachments and restore the affected areas.

Mountains precious gift to save earth, say experts

Experts have pointed out the importance of preserving mountains as they play a crucial role in maintaining the earth’s ecosystem. The report said that the mountains provide essential resources such as water, minerals, and biodiversity. The government has initiated efforts to protect the mountains and encourage sustainable use.

‘Million signatures’ drive for women rights

Activists have launched a campaign to collect one million signatures for women’s rights. The campaign aims to raise awareness and support for the rights of women, particularly in matters of education, health, and justice.

Capital police arrest 1,623 criminals in 2011

The capital police have arrested 1,623 criminals in 2011. The report highlighted the efforts of the police in maintaining law and order and apprehending criminals. The government has praised the police for their dedication and achievements.

Dance, drama visualise national intangible heritage

The report said that dance and drama are important forms of national intangible heritage. The government has initiated efforts to preserve and promote these cultural forms, recognizing their value in promoting cultural diversity and fostering national identity.

Quran a rich source of fundamental principles

The report stated that the Quran is a rich source of fundamental principles that guide human behavior. The government has emphasized the importance of educating people about the teachings of the Quran, promoting peaceful coexistence, and upholding the values prescribed in the holy text.
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.....
Promotional Material
Outdoor Media
REPORT: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2011: 25 November – 10 December; AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES....

CLOSING EVENT (DEC 10, 2011)

SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES
SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

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