

GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, TRAINING, CIVIC & CONSUMER AFFAIRS 40 Town Range Gibraltar

Minister for Education, Employment, Training, Civic & Consumer Affairs: Dr B Linares

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 83/2007

Date: 17 April 2007

On Tuesday 17 April, the Department of Education and Training, in collaboration with the Bonita Trust, launched a charity initiative called "We Care" aimed at Middle School children. The event, which took place at Bishop Fitzgerald Middle School, was attended by the Minister for Education, the Hon Dr Bernard Linares, the CEO of the Bonita Trust, Mr Moe Cohen, and representatives from the Department of Education and Training, including the Director of Education and Training, Education Advisers and Head Teachers from the Middle Schools in Gibraltar, as well as a representation of teachers and pupils who will be involved in the initiative.

The project is aimed at creating an awareness in young children of the importance of giving and helping others. The Bonita Trust will be donating money to different charities while at the same time encouraging youngsters to perform good deeds in the immediate community. A merit points, system accordingly, devised will ensure that the children's designated charities benefit.

Commenting on the initiative, Dr Bernard Linares, Minister for Education and Training said:

"This is a highly innovative scheme devised by The Bonita Trust and instead of giving direct hand-outs it creates an awareness and participation in our schoolchildren enabling them to identify and show solidarity with charities of their choice. I congratulate and thank The Bonita Trust for their initiative."

Moe Cohen, CEO of Bonita Trust further noted:

"The Bonita Trust is looking to provide benefits to the community and what better way than to wrap these benefits with charity, education and the children who will be our citizens of the future."