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AROUND AUSTRALIA IN 111 DAYS and it's all for World Harmony

Wednesday, 7 May.

WHO? A team of runners from 16 nations, including Canada, Germany, Russia, Iceland, Ukraine, Ireland, Czech Republic and Italy.

WHAT? They are running more than 15,000 kilometres around Australia, carrying a blazing torch of peace. Over 111 days, they will experience the heights of Mount Kosciusko and the never-ending flatness of the Nullarbor, the sparseness of the Great Sandy Desert and the green beauty of the Kakadu. And they are doing it for world harmony.

WHEN? The team will be in Sydney from today, Wednesday 7 May, to Friday 9 May.

The World Harmony Run is a global relay run to foster the ideals of peace and harmony, running through 100 nations. In Australia, the Run began in Brisbane on April 27, and will return to Brisbane for a final ceremony on August 15.

“The Run will bridge cultural and social barriers, and all the boundaries that separate nation from nation. It shows that athletics can be a powerful force for good,” says running legend (and Mayor of the Gold Coast) Ron Clarke, a National Patron of the World Harmony Run.

During their journey, runners will stop at schools and meet with leaders. Many world leaders have participated in past World Harmony Runs, including Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, South African President Nelson Mandela, East Timorese President Dr José Ramos Horta, Mother Teresa, and four Australian Prime Ministers.

The Run will also partner with community groups along the route, working on innovative and dynamic programs to promote harmony and goodwill at all levels of society.

The event (formerly known as the Peace Run) has been held since 1987, but this is the first time that it has run a continuous route around Australia. This year's event is a tribute to Sri Chinmoy (1931-2007), founder of the World Harmony Run.

Sri Chinmoy was an athlete, philosopher and humanitarian who saw sport as a powerful instrument for promoting global harmony. In recognition of his lifelong efforts to foster friendship between peoples and nations, he received the highest national award from more than 10 countries. Sri Chinmoy envisioned: “May each and every individual each day have a new dream of world harmony.”

For more information and interviews, contact the World Harmony Run on 02 6251 2813.

Additional resources at:
World Harmony Run Media Centre
www.worldharmonyrun.org/au/media