

Dear M. Zupa,

It is with pleasure that I took acknowledge of your idea to create a World Handshake Day, on the 26th of December, so as to commemorate the anniversary Of the tsunami tragedy that occurred last December as well as to sensitize the People on natural disasters and the loss of human lives they engender.

As you may know, Algeria, because Of its geographical location at the border of the EurasianAfrican tectonic plates, is regularly exposed to earthquakes. The last important one, that took place on the 21st of May 2003, provoked the death Of more than 7000 citizens.

Thus, this idea Of shaking hands to feu united against disasters and emergency situations, and for which you have my full support, will contribute for a better understanding Of the impacts Of natural dsasters on the People.

So as to answer your query, "World hand shake" in Arabic can be translated as follows:

In wishing you ail the best in fulfilling your initiative, please accept, M. Zupa, the assurances Of my consideration.

L 'Ambassade u r

R Permanent

KHJ

Mr Ivan Zupa

Vienna, 1st September 2005

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