

蓋茲與來自小兒麻痺疫區國的地區總監會面

Gates meets with district governors from endemic countries

阿諾·葛拉赫報導

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3520 地區 2007-2008 年度文化大使獎學生陳珮馨 Betty 譯



比爾·蓋茲在1月21日於2009國際講習會與來自小兒麻痺疫區國家的四位地區總監私下會面。

Bill Gates met privately with incoming district governors from the four polio-endemic countries on 21 January at the 2009 International Assembly. *Rotary Images/Monika Lozinska-Lee*

週三早上，比爾·蓋茲和來自四個國家下屆地區總監會面，當地的小兒麻痺病毒仍舊肆虐，包括了阿富汗、印度、奈及利亞與巴基斯坦，並鼓勵他們持續根除小兒麻痺的努力。

就在蓋茲參加國際講習會第五次全會，上台宣布比爾與林達蓋茲基金會捐贈國際扶輪2億5500萬美元作為根除小兒麻痺之用後，安排了這場出乎四位總監當選人意料的會面。扶輪在未來三年將募集一億美元的配合資金款項。

3131 地區（印度）的迪帕·普洛赫說：「（蓋茲）提到他十一月時造訪印度，對於扶輪社友在印度和政府根除小兒麻痺所付出的努力，留下深刻的印象。」「他說我們的努力對於接近現存的阻礙極為重要，他也確信我們定會根除小兒麻痺。」

國際扶輪的國際根除小兒麻痺等疾病委員會主委羅伯特·司

Bill Gates met Wednesday morning with incoming district governors from the four countries where the wild poliovirus still exists -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- to encourage them to continue in their efforts to end polio.

The meeting, which was unexpected for the district governors-elect, occurred a short time before Gates took the stage during the fifth plenary session of the International Assembly to announce a new award of US\$255 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to Rotary International for polio eradication. Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds over the next three years.

"[Gates] talked about how he had just been to India in November and how impressed he was with all that Rotarians in India and the government were doing in the effort to eradicate polio," said Deepak Purohit of District 3131 (part of Maharashtra, India). "He said our really hard work will be instrumental in approaching the remaining stumbling blocks, and that he is sure we will end polio."

Robert S. Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee, updated the district governors-elect on the

考特向地區總監當選人們報告世界上小兒麻痺的現況，提到雖然有好消息，但未來還有嚴峻的挑戰。他說透過全球根除小兒麻痺運動，第二型小兒麻痺已於 1999 年完全根除。但是在北奈及利亞流行的第一型小兒麻痺，可說是這幾年來的壞消息。

普洛赫是位整型外科醫生，提到他的診所為六國的小兒麻痺患者進行矯正手術，他說與蓋茲會面，使他重新充電，堅定自己的動力，讓他能在身為地區總監任內的年度來提倡扶輪現在終止小兒麻痺活動。

他說：「這實在是太棒了，這是整個講習會最保密到家的部分。」

來自 6690 地區（美國俄亥俄州）的阿特瑪拉·關德說到蓋茲這種個人的承諾承諾付出，包括前往印度和參加講習會，都會增加全世界眼中對於扶輪的信賴。

關德說在他看來，「這是講習會有史以來最重要的宣布。」

status of polio in the world, noting that while there is good news, there are also tough challenges ahead. He noted that through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, type 2 polio was eradicated in 1999. But an epidemic of type 1 polio in northern Nigeria has been among some of the year's bad news.

Purohit, an orthopedic surgeon, said his clinic performs corrective surgery for polio victims in six countries. He said meeting Gates has recharged his personal drive to promote Rotary's End Polio Now campaign in his year as district governor.

"This is fantastic. It is the best kept secret of this assembly," he said.

Atmaram Gawande, governor-elect from District 6690 (Ohio, USA), said such a personal commitment by Gates, including his trip to India and his appearance at the assembly, increases Rotary's credibility in the eyes of the world.

In his opinion, said Gawande, "This is the first time that such a major announcement has been made at an assembly."



Governor-elect Lalit Shrimal of District 3040 (India) talks with Bill Gates during a private meeting held at the 2009 International Assembly. Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Discussing polio eradication at a private meeting are Governor-elect Kazeem Mustapha of District 9125 (Nigeria), Governor-elect Sushil Sharma of District 3060 (India), Bill Gates, and Governor-elect Uduak Inyang of District 9140 (Nigeria). Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

