

**PRODUCER QUINCY JONES AND SINGER/SONGWRITER LIONEL RICHIE
JOIN FORCES WITH WYCLEF JEAN AND SUPERSTAR ARTISTS TO MARK
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ICONIC “WE ARE THE WORLD”
RECORDING
TO BENEFIT HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS**

Academy Award Winning Writer-Director To Film The Historic Recording Session

Los Angeles, CA (February 1, 2010) – Producer Quincy Jones and singer/songwriter Lionel Richie, the producer and co-writer of the iconic 1985 philanthropic anthem *We Are The World*, have confirmed that they have teamed with producer / musician Wyclef Jean and Grammy-winning producer RedOne and producer / musical director Ricky Minor in association with Randy Phillips, President & CEO, AEG Live to record a contemporary version of the song to benefit the Haitian earthquake relief efforts on Monday, February 1, 2010. The world premiere of *We Are The World - 25 For Haiti* will air during NBC’s coverage of the Opening Ceremony of the Vancouver Winter Olympics on Friday, February 12. Following the world premiere on NBC, it will air on other networks throughout the world. This project was made possible through a contribution from Visa.

Twenty five years after the original recording at Henson Recording Studios (formerly A&M Recording Studios) in Hollywood, Jones, Richie, Jean, RedOne, Minor and Phillips will bring together a diverse group of contemporary superstar artists in the very same recording studio to record the world renowned song originally written by Richie and Michael Jackson.

In addition to recording the landmark song, Academy Award-winning writer-director Paul Haggis (*Crash*, *Million Dollar Baby*) whose own personal efforts as well as those of Artists for Peace and Justice have already saved countless lives in Haiti, will film the session to create an accompanying video. Both the contemporary version of *We Are The World* and the accompanying video will be available for purchase through a consortium of on-line and retail partners with all proceeds going directly to the earthquake relief efforts in the country of Haiti through the We Are The World Foundation, a newly created not-for-profit organization made up of board members

Quincy Jones, Lionel Richie, Wyclef Jean, Paul Haggis, Randy Phillips and Ambassador Louis Moreno of the Inter-American Development Bank.

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Commented Jones, “25 years ago, the entertainment industry showed the power of community to help our fellow man when we recorded ‘We Are The World’ to bring relief to those suffering from famine in Ethiopia. And while the need to assist Africa continues, today the country of Haiti is suffering immeasurably from the destruction due to the recent earthquake and is in immediate need of relief that will last long after the television cameras have left. As artists, we have joined together on this 25th anniversary and in the spirit of ‘We Are The World’ to help meet that need.”

“What an unbelievable group of people who have come together to give their voices, for a cause to start the healing of a people who have experienced a devastation of such magnitude,” said Richie. “We believe ‘We Are The World – 25 for Haiti’ can be the start of the healing process.”

“On January 12th, the people of Haiti were faced with a tragedy unlike anything the country has ever experienced,” said Wyclef Jean, songwriter and cofounder of the We Are The World Foundation. “Today, I am proud to be joined by so many members of the artistic community that want to support the region and have donated their time and talents to providing an effective way for the global community to get involved with helping the Haitian population.”

“I’m thrilled Quincy, Lionel and Randy invited me to be a part of something so wonderful in which we are standing side by side with Haitian artists and community to help them rebuild their broken nation,” commented Paul Haggis.

Upon its original release, *We Are the World* quickly became the fastest selling single in history and in the years that have followed, USA for Africa has raised and distributed more than \$63 million in revenue from the sales of more than 7 million units of the album, single and cassettes, plus nearly 2 million digital sales and related

merchandise. Just over half the total was spent on emergency relief (food, medicine, and refugee services) and the balance was used to support more than 500 different relief, rehabilitation and development projects in 18 different countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

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“When first approached about re-recording ‘We Are The World’, it didn’t seem like a great idea since the original version was so iconic,” said Randy Phillips, President & CEO, AEG Live. “Then Haiti happened and that changed everything. Quincy and Lionel decided that ‘We Are the World’ was created just for emergencies like this. This recording will have a life of its own and keep Haiti in the public eye at the same time raising much needed funds to continue the healing, reconstruction and rebirth of this country,” Phillips added.

“In the 25 years that have passed since ‘We Are The World’ was first released, technology has provided the means to make it a movement,” said Peter Tortorici, CEO, GroupM Entertainment WW who will oversee all distribution and broadcast opportunities while also serving as an executive producer on the project. “We are honored to provide our support to make ‘We Are the World – 25 For Haiti’ a powerful global platform that show what the power of community can accomplish.”

This project was made possible through a contribution from Visa. The 25th Anniversary recording will help further the spirit of activism around the 25th Anniversary of *We Are the World* that was at the heart of the original song and movement.

ABOUT AEG LIVE

AEG Live, the live-entertainment division of Los Angeles-based AEG, is dedicated to all aspects of live contemporary music performance. AEG Live is comprised of touring, festival, exhibition, broadcast, merchandise and special event divisions, fifteen regional offices, and thirty state-of-the-art venues. The company is currently producing tours and productions including Bette Midler “The Showgirl Must Go On” and Cher at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, and The Color Purple. Recently promoted concert tours have included artists such as Taylor Swift, Leonard Cohen, Kelly Clarkson, Wisin & Yandel, Bon Jovi, Celine Dion, Miley Cyrus, Britney Spears, Kenny Chesney, Paul McCartney and American Idols Live. AEG Live is the largest producer of music festivals in North America from the critically acclaimed Coachella Music &

Arts Festival to Stagecoach and New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. For more information, go to www.aeglive.com.

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**“We Are The World – 25th Anniversary Recording
For Haitian Earthquake Relief
Artists Roster**

QUINCY JONES – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
PRODUCER

WYCLEF JEAN – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CARLOS SANTANA

JENNIFER HUDSON

SUGARLAND

JASON MRAZ

NATALIE COLE

T PAIN

JUSTIN BIEBER

INDIA.ARIE

MARY MARY

BEBE WINANS

TYRESE GIBSON

RAPHAEL SAADIQ

KERI HILSON

HEART

PINK

MILEY CYRUS

JORDIN SPARKS

ROB THOMAS

JEFF BRIDGES

PATTI AUSTIN

USHER

KANYE WEST

ISSAC SLADE (AKA THE FRAY)

NICOLE RICHIE

ETHAN BORTNICK

TAJ JACKSON

VINCE VAUGHN

FREDA PAYNE

ROBIN THICKE

BARBRA STEISAND

ENRIQUE IGLESIAS

LIL WAYNE

JOSH GROBAN

HARRY CONNICK, JR.

BONE THUGS AND HARMONY (BIZZY BONES)

LIONEL RICHIE – EXECUTIVE

PRODUCER

RICKEY MINOR - PRODUCER

ORIANTHI

JAMIE FOXX

ADAM LEVINE

EARTH WIND & FIRE

THE JONAS BROTHERS

BRIAN WILSON

NICOLE SCHERZINGER

JULIANNE HOUGH

MELANIE FIONA

MYA

ANTHONY HAMILTON

GLADYS KNIGHT

JOEL & BENJI MADDEN

BRANDY

MUSIQ SOULCHILD

AKON

CELINE DION

KATHARINE MCPHEE

RANDY JACKSON

KID CUDI

WILL.I.AM

LL COOL J

SNOOP DOGG

TREY SONGZ

TARYLL JACKSON

TJ JACKSON

DRAKE

FAITH EVANS

RASHIDA JONES

JIMMY JEAN LOUIS

ZAC BROWN

TONY BENNETT

SEAN GARRETT

AL JARDINE

AR RAHMEN



The Jim Henson Company has remained an established leader in family entertainment for over 50 years and is recognized worldwide as an innovator in puppetry, animatronics and digital animation. Best known as creators of the world famous Muppets, Henson has received over 50 Emmy Awards and nine Grammy Awards. Recent credits include the Emmy® nominated "Sid the Science Kid," "Dinosaur Train," "Wilson & Ditch: Digging America" and "Pajanimals." Features include "The Dark Crystal," "Labyrinth," "MirrorMask," and "Unstable Fables" and television productions include "Fraggle Rock" and the sci-fi cult series "Farscape."

With additional locations in New York and London, The Jim Henson Company is headquartered in Los Angeles on the historic Charlie Chaplin lot, complete with soundstage and postproduction facilities. Independently owned and operated by the five adult children of founder Jim Henson, the Company is also home to Jim Henson's Creature Shop™, a pre-eminent character-building and visual effects group with international film, television and advertising clients, as well as Henson Recording Studios, one of the music industry's top recording facilities known for its world-class blend of state-of-the-art and vintage equipment. The Company's Henson Alternative brand has recently announced the national tour of "Stuffed and Unstrung," a live puppet improvisational show named one of the top 10 "Best Stage Shows of 2010" by *Entertainment Weekly*.

<http://www.henson.com>

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