

# Israel launches life saving programme for Nigerian children

The Israeli Embassy in Nigeria has launched a charity programme to assist children with cardiac diseases.

Speaking at the launching of the programme in Abuja at the weekend, the Israeli Ambassador to Nigeria, Moshe Rann, said Israel would partner with relevant agencies and stakeholders within the Nigeria health sector to handle few special cases of children cardiac diseases and contribute to the improvement of the health care delivery system in Nigeria.

He said, "The embassy of

By Aisha Umar

Israel in Nigeria, in conjunction with the "Save a child's Heart Foundation" an Israel based NGO and Israel doctors visit to Nigeria, organized the exhibition and the planned international workshop to share experiences and skills in innovative medicine and to further use this event to open new window for more collaborations in medicine and related fields within Nigeria."

He said the programme was initiated as a result of a report in The Guardian newspaper of February 7, 2009,

which " contained a touching article on a dying , three years old Nigerian child, Mide Mamutha Midegebevesho Aiyebelhin who was living with a hole in his heart right from birth."

"I contacted the child's family and established the required measures to get the child thoroughly treated in Israel through the support the support of Save a Child's Heart Foundation in Israel with Lufthansa offering to airlift both the child and his parents to Israel," he said.

He said that as part of the project, there shall be an in-

ternational workshop scheduled for April 21, 2009 at the auditorium of the National Hospital, Abuja. The one day workshop is to be facilitated by two Israeli Medical Experts in Cardiac and Paediatric cases respectively.

"I believe under the administration of the new Secretary General, Mr Kamale Sharnas, President Umaru Yar'Adua and the determination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide citizen's diplomacy, the facilities would be accessed effectively," he said.

DAILY TRUST

20TH APRIL 2008

PAGE 8