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Gallup International End of Year Poll 2002

Kenyans are the most optimistic citizens in the world according to the Gallup International annual End of Year Survey, which interviewed more than 67,500 people in 65 countries during November and December 2002. Kosovo has been the world's most optimistic country for the past 2 years, but this year they are eclipsed by the more than three quarters of Kenyans (77%) who feel 2003 will be a better year than 2002. Not surprising, when a new President and Government have just been elected after the previous regime's 24 year rule.

By contrast, in another African country – Zimbabwe – is the most pessimistic citizens in the world by a long way, with almost three quarters of this country (72%) feeling that the coming year will be worse than 2002.

Elsewhere, in Portugal two thirds (65%) are pessimistic about the coming year and predict that 2003 will be a year of economic difficulty (69%).

Optimists 2003 will be better than 2002		Pessimists 2003 will be worse than 2002	
Kenya	77	Zimbabwe	72
Kosovo	74	Portugal	65
Nigeria	68	Guatemala	57
Turkey	67	Ecuador	52
USA	64	Greece/Ireland/Dom. Rep.	43

The difficult situation in Iraq is also reflected in the results, with 38 of the 65 countries included in the survey feeling that 2003 will be a troubled year with much international discord, particularly in the USA (60%) and many of its closest allies with 64% of the British and 68% of Germans stating this.

Gloom also prevails in many countries across the world about the general and personal economic situation and employment prospects in the coming year, notably in several European countries such as Germany, Portugal, Ireland and Greece, but also in Korea and Japan.

(Ends)

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For further information on the 2003 results or individual countries, please see website www.gallup-international.com

Editors note:

The Gallup International Association, registered in Zurich was established in 1947 by George H Gallup and his European colleagues. It now has member agencies in 60 countries across the world, conducting market and opinion research in more than 75 countries.