



DPI/NGO LINK

NGO Section, United Nations Department of Public Information 17 November 2005

This week's NGO Briefing:

Thursday, 17 November
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

A Briefing Survey will be distributed and collected at the end of the Briefing. There will also be follow-up information on the Town Hall Meeting and a Communication Workshop, both to be held in December.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Panel discussion:

United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children

Informed speakers will discuss a Study commissioned by the Secretary-General to raise awareness on all forms of violence against children, better understand the causes, evaluate mechanisms already in place to report violence and make recommendations for the prevention of such abuses.

Speakers:

H.E. Roman Kirn, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations

Amaya Gillespie, Director, Secretariat, United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children

Mali Nilsson, Member, the International Save the Children Task Group on Violence Against Children

A live webcast of this event may be available at www.un.org/dpi/ngosection and/or www.un.org/webcast

UN Highlights

Resulting from Resolution 57/190 adopted in December 2002, the Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children seeks to understand the global context of the situation and conditions in which children live and how it affects their susceptibility to violence. The study examines violence in the home and family, schools and educational settings, other institutional settings, in the community and on the streets and work situations. In addition to examining types of violence, the study also looks at the causes, assesses current reporting mechanisms and offers recommendations to prevent such violence.

Resolution 57/190 reaffirmed the provisions of the Convention of the Rights of the Child. It stated that children should be protected to ensure their rights, urged States to ratify or agree to the provisions and called for a Study to examine violence against children. In February 2003, the Secretary-General appointed Prof. Sergio Pinheiro as the Independent Expert to lead the study.

The Study is a collaboration of information from existing research by human rights experts, UN agencies, NGOs and civil society. Public submissions and field visits by the Independent Expert also contributed to the Study. There were nine Regional Consultations held with more than 260 children participants, which was made possible by the Save the Children Alliance. To date, 120 governments have submitted responses to the questionnaires about the status of violence and information about programmes and policies in place in their countries. Expert thematic meetings have been held on such topics as violence against children in the home and family and violence against children with disabilities.

Periodically, Prof. Pinheiro submits a progress report to the General Assembly. In October 2004, he gave an oral report of his objectives for the Study. In October 2005, he presented his first written report of his findings based on field visits and talking with children. Prof. Pinheiro reported a huge government response resulting from Regional Consultations. This study has inspired research and an examination of current policies at national levels in order to better address the issue. In his final statements, he stressed the need for adequate resources, systematic data in all countries, and a strong commitment of states. He encouraged a broad involvement of all stakeholders. The Final Report of the Study is expected to be submitted to the General Assembly in 2006.

For more information about the study please visit, www.violencestudy.org and to access Resolution 57/190, please visit http://www.violencestudy.org/IMG/pdf/General_Assembly_Resolution_57_1_190.pdf

Preview of the Town Hall Meeting

The annual Town Hall Meeting with DPI-associated NGOs will be held on 1 December 2005. NGO representatives will gather to discuss their suggestions for possible themes for the 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference. The Chair of the Conference will also be discussed.

Briefings are held in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. UN videos relevant to the briefing theme are usually screened at 10:00 a.m. on the morning of the Briefing

For Briefing information, updates to the Briefing calendar and to obtain a copy of a Briefing on audiocassette, please call the DPI/NGO Information Line: (212) 963-7232 or visit the DPI/NGO website: www.un.org/dpi/ngosection

To receive our monthly *Calendar* and the weekly *DPI/NGO Link* newsletter electronically, please e-mail dpingo@un.org.

For information regarding the 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, visit www.undpingoconference.org

Recent UN Information Materials

As of 17 November, 2005

As of January 2002, the NGO Resource Centre no longer displays official UN documents (resolutions of General Assembly, ECOSOC documents, etc.) in hard copy. All official documents are now available upon request from NGO Resource Centre staff. To eliminate waste and improve availability of all UN documents, we have converted to the mostly paperless, electronic data retrieval system called ODS (Official Documents System). All staff members of the Resource Centre have received appropriate training and are able to assist NGO representatives in retrieving documents. Instructions on the use of ODS (including printing the documents in question) are also available. Requests for specific UN documents in hard copy may be submitted to the NGO Resource Centre staff. Daily Highlights and select press releases will continue to be available in hard copy at the NGO Resource Centre.

DOCUMENTS

General Assembly

35-Power draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster — (A/60/L.19 Item 73(c))

93-Power draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance — (A/60/L.20 Item 73)

Identical letters dated 28 October 2005 from the Permanent Representatives of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly
Oceans and the law of the sea
(A/60/529 Item 75)

93-Power draft resolution

Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster-Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (A/60/L.20 Item 73)

Second Committee

One-Power draft resolution

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction — Natural disasters and vulnerability (A/C.2/60/L.27 Item 52 (c))

One-Power draft resolution

Sustainable development: promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 —Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 2006-2015
(A/C.2/60/L.28 Item 52 (f))

Third Committee

One-Power draft resolution

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination
Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
(A/C.3/60/L.63 Item 69)

Security Council Documents

Letter dated 3 November 2005

Measures to eliminate international terrorism — from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/538-S/2005/700 Item 108)