

**Twenty-Sixth
Planning Committee Meeting
59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference (6-8 September 2006)
Thursday, 27 July 2006-07-27 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room B**

Minutes

1. Pre-meeting comments
 - a. The Chairwoman directed the meeting. She announced that some videos would be shown at the meeting.
2. Adoption of agenda
 - a. The agenda was adopted.
3. Adoption of the minutes
 - a. It was noted that the minutes from two weeks ago had been adopted at the previous week's meeting pending changes and corrections. Both the minutes from two weeks ago and the previous week's minutes were approved.
4. Discussion of Plenary and Roundtable themes
 - a. It was noted that a description of purpose and strategy for these events would be sent out with the minutes or next week's meeting.
 - i. The Chairwoman requested that any comments regarding this be sent or submitted before the next meeting.
5. Subcommittee Reports:
 - a. The Chairwoman reminded the committee to send a brief description of the purpose and strategy of each subcommittee, before the close of the Conference.
 - b. Networking
 - i. The committee reported that their webpage was up, and they had received some proposals via their webpage. They discussed briefly these proposals. They had also completed their paper on networking advancing, and implementation of the MDGs via networking. They had requested equipment, so they could show some selected films relating to the MDGs. They also contact NGLS for brochures concerning the UN and its work. They also noted that they were contacting other UN agencies for support and resources. The committee had also sent a description of their workshop to the Midday Workshop committee.
 - c. Multigenerational
 - i. The committee reported that they had been reviewing their workshops, and had been brainstorming more ways to get their survey out and how to best utilize the responses from it.
 - ii. There was a suggestion to get the survey out to the young press corps.
 - d. Trouble Shooting

- i. The committee had nothing to report. The Chairwoman noted that this was good news.
- e. Midday Workshops
 - i. The committee reported that they would have more trainings for interns, and that the current intern training had been going well. There was some confusion regarding information on midday workshops that the committee interns were supposed to receive, but did not.
 - ii. There was a comment that the turn around time from when midday workshops were selected and when the workshops had to provide information to the committee was very short.
- f. Events and Fund raising
 - i. The committee brought a branded tote-bag in, and presented it to the committee. They had placed an order for 500 bags. It was noted that the bags had been made in India, and certified to have been made without child labor. The committee said that leftover bags would be sold through the bookstore.
 - ii. There was a comment regarding the film screening to close the conference, which would be on child labor and abuse and would be followed by a reception.
 - iii. There was a comment regarding music at the Conference. The committee briefly described a diversity music group that would be willing to play at the Conference pro-bono.
 - 1. The Chairman had a concern that another group was under the impression that they would play. There was a suggestion to have both groups play; there was a proposal that because the later group (from Lehigh) had played last year, the former should be given the gig.
 - a. A vote resulted in favor of the diversity group, named "I-C Express".
 - 2. There was a comment that Roberta Flack was also an option, perhaps as a fundraiser.
 - 3. There was a comment that Japanese music was also an option.
 - 4. There were some concerns regarding lack of space in the tent, although it was noted that the lobby would be large enough.
 - iv. The committee reported that there was a travel company interested in reducing airfare. Information on the offer was made available.
 - v. There was some discussion regarding a moment of silence before the Conference in the General Assembly.
 - 1. There was some brief discussion regarding the ringing of a peace bell.
 - vi. The committee discussed an initiative regarding a certain type of food source, in connection with the FAO and the hip-hop world, that could lead to some funds.

1. The Chairman advised the committee not to go through with this, for some possible legal concerns.
- vii. There was a comment regarding the closing film event, and including this in the Conference program. It remained unclear who would be on the panel and who would underwrite it. It was noted that, in the interest of time, the event could be printed in a program insert; however the event could be included in the printed booklet if information on it were made available by the date of the printing.
- viii. There was a comment regarding travel expenses and the budget for defraying those costs. Thus far, it was noted that the Executive Committee had roughly 1/3 of the funds that it had last year. The Executive Committee proposed that developing world and overseas travel expenses would be funded before US travel, and that US travel might not even be funded.
 1. The Chairwoman agreed.
 2. It was noted that private funding for speakers travel expenses was being sought.
 3. There was a motion that, when speakers living outside the US request financial support, who otherwise could not afford the expense, the request be granted to the extent it could, with priorities for speakers from developing economies. US travel would be subordinated, although covered as much as possible. The motion was seconded and approved by the Committee.
 4. There was some discussion regarding housing and other help for speakers. There was further discussion on historical rates per diem for speakers' expenses.
 5. It was noted that speakers had been requesting modest funds, and that the DPI had been in correspondence with them and recommending that they seek alternative sources, although the Executive Committee would do what it could with the funding it had.
 6. The Chairwoman reported that in general, foundations had recently adopted a policy not to fund individuals going to Conferences.

g. Media

- i. The committee reported that they had a productive meeting with the DPI.
- ii. There was some discussion regarding a technical failure at last year's Conference.
- iii. The Committee said they would show a film at the beginning of the Conference.
- iv. The committee reported on the UNCA club and presentation, and that they had been working on this.
- v. The finalists for the youth press corps would be chosen, for UN accreditation.

- vi. The committee had engaged an intern to help with correspondence and setting up press coverage of the workshops.
 - vii. The committee showed a video that should have been played at last year's Conference, but did not air due to technical difficulties.
 - h. Internet
 - i. The committee was not present.
 - i. Resource Centre Support
 - i. There was a new report, breaking down regional participants. There are approx. 1700-1800 registrants and 1100 are new participants. They represent 60 countries, 443 organizations, and 362 with youth.
- 6. Recommendation of speakers
 - a. The Chairwoman asked the committee to contact those speakers that they had individually recommended that were not selected to speak, to request their help for the Conference.
 - b. There was a question concerning whether or not spouses of speakers could come. It was noted that they could, although they would have to register through the tent, and provide their names at least two weeks ahead of time. It was further noted that Luis or Mona in the Resource Centre could help with this.
- 7. Other business
 - a. The Chairman had brought several "Stand Up" pamphlets, and discussed other MDG related public service announcements that the DPI had put together. There would be efforts to provide as much MDG related media and literature as possible prior to and during the Conference. The MDG website also has this material available.
 - b. The Chairwoman suggested that lists of Planning Committee members and sub-committee rosters be standardized and consistent, insofar as font and committee order, etc.
- 8. Next meeting
 - a. Thursday, 3 August 2006 (Open meeting)