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## Feature Articles and Webcast

### Targeting efforts to meet MDG expectations

*With three years remaining until 2015, the 2012 progress report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) released today highlights progress in many important areas including poverty reduction, access to safe drinking water and reduced levels of child mortality. "There is now an expectation around the world that sooner, rather than later, the Goals can and must be achieved," stated Sha Zukang, UN DESA's Under-Secretary-General.*

A decade has now passed since the historic Millennium Declaration was adopted on 8 September 2000. The Millennium Declaration embodied an unprecedented willingness on the part of governments, the private sector and civil society to help lift millions of people out of poverty. The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) helped to define the United Nations in the 21st Century and built the roadmap upon which we have been traveling towards the alleviation of poverty ever since.

The 2012 report is the eighth of a series launched in 2005 and provides both comprehensive statistics and clear analysis in order to assess achievements and remaining challenges. With just three

years to go until the 2015 deadline, expectations are building and the world is watching.



#### Achievements made ahead of 2015 deadline

Progress towards the achievement of the MDGs has been made ahead of the deadline in many important areas. The 2012 progress report outlines gains in poverty reduction and access to safe drinking water, and an improvement in the lives of slum dwellers in urban areas. The report also highlights important gains towards gender parity in primary education, a decline in levels of child mortality, a downward trend of tuberculosis and global malaria deaths and an expansion of treatment for HIV sufferers.

For the first time since records on poverty began, the number of people living in extreme poverty has fallen in every developing

region, including sub-Saharan Africa. Preliminary estimates indicate that the proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 per day fell in 2010 to less than half the 1990 rate and during the same period over two billion people gained access to improved drinking water sources. The share of slum dwellers in urban areas declined from 39 per cent in 2000 to 33 per cent in 2012, improving the lives of at least 100 million people.

The ratio between the enrolment rate of girls and boys grew in 2010 for all developing regions and many more of the world's children are enrolled in primary level education than ever before. In terms of child mortality, despite population growth, the number of under-five deaths worldwide fell from more than 12 million in 1990 to 7.6 million in 2010.

The target of halting, and beginning to reverse, the spread of tuberculosis is on track and projections suggest that the 1990 death rate from the disease will be halved by 2015. For malaria, estimated incidence of malaria has decreased globally by 17 per cent since 2000. Finally, progress has been witnessed by those living with HIV. At the end of 2010, 6.5 million people were receiving antiretroviral therapy for HIV or AIDS in developing regions. This total constitutes an increase of over 1.4 million people from December 2009.

#### Remaining challenges and areas for renewed focus

A lot has been achieved and significant strides have been made, however some impediments to reaching all the MDGs by 2015 remain. The 2012 report spells out what we intuitively knew, that recent natural disasters and the global financial crisis has slowed progress and that inequality remains. A particular area of concern includes the slow decrease in levels of vulnerable employment, defined as the share of unpaid family workers and own-account workers in total employment.

Women and youth are more likely to find themselves in this type of insecure and poorly remunerated positions than the rest of the employed population and this category of work accounted for an estimated 58 per cent of all employment in developing regions in 2011. Another area of lacklustre improvement is maternal health. Although improvements in maternal health and a reduction in maternal deaths and adolescent childbearing can be seen, decreases are far from the 2015 target.

The urban/rural divide has been a consideration regarding levels of progress towards the MDGs with urban areas often faring better. For instance, use of improved sources of water remains lower in rural areas and despite a reduction in the share of urban populations living in slums, the absolute number has continued to grow from a 1990 baseline of 650 million. An estimated 863 million people now live in slum conditions.

Lastly, and perhaps most concerning is the fact that hunger remains a global challenge. The most recent FAO estimate of undernourishment set the mark at 850 million living in hunger in the world in the 2006/08 period, 15.5 per cent of the world

population. Additionally, progress has also been slow in reducing child under-nutrition, with close to a third of children in Southern Asia deemed underweight in 2010.

The 2012 report presents an assessment of where actions and interventions have delivered successful outcomes to Millennium Development Goals and highlights the areas where progress needs to be accelerated if the targets are to be met by the 2015 deadline.

#### Development after 2015

The Millennium Development Goals have guided governments, private industry and civil society for over a decade, they have given purpose and a benchmark with which to assess progress. It is clear the way forward is to again summon the collective will witnessed in the 2000 Millennium Declaration and continue to boldly pave the way beyond 2015.

Emerging challenges will need to be tackled such as ensuring food security, gender equality, maternal health, rural development, infrastructure and environmental sustainability, and a global response to climate change.

As the deadline nears, it's not just about expecting governments to push for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals or hold leaders to this high standard, it's about understanding, and remaining committed, to the fundamental value of global goals and a shared purpose for the betterment of all.

For more information:

[Millennium Development Goals Indicators](#)

## Seeking new ways to finance development

*The financial needs of developing countries have long outstripped the willingness and ability of donors to provide aid. In 2011, aid flows declined in real terms for the first time in many years. With a focus on new and innovative ways to finance development and address this challenge, the "World Economic and Social Survey 2012", will be launched on 5 July at 11 am EST.*

This year's edition of the World Economic and Social Survey (WESS), titled "In Search of New Development Finance", analyses current and proposed mechanisms for innovative development finance and highlights mechanisms that can 1) increase the scale of development financing available and 2) provide stable and predictable financing to enhance sustainable development.



Such innovative sources should be complements to, not substitutes for, traditional forms of development aid. The report finds that new sources of financing are technically feasible and could raise significant resources for development. To realize the potential of these new development financing mechanisms, however, greater political will and an international agreement are needed. The report also stresses that how the money is allocated is as important as how it is raised.

#### Innovations in financing for health

The report searches for new sources as a complement to aid and also notes that a number of innovative initiatives have been launched during the past decade, most of which have been used to fund global health programmes aimed at providing immunizations and AIDS and tuberculosis treatments to millions of people in the developing world.

It finds that while these initiatives have successfully used new methods to channel development financing to combat diseases, they have hardly yielded any additional funding on top of traditional development assistance. The report also warns that in some cases these global funds have bypassed broader national health priorities in developing countries and contributed to the fragmentation of international support to health systems in low-income countries.

In the area of health, the report concludes that instead of an array of disease-specific funds, it would be better to focus on finding new resources for more general budget support for health systems in developing countries in need and to consolidate the existing disease-specific disbursement mechanisms into a single “global fund for health”.

#### Climate change generates new mechanisms

According to the report, the potential for innovative development finance is particularly high in the area of fighting climate change.

Innovative development finance mechanisms have raised about \$1 billion for climate change, and has the potential to increase substantially in the coming years. For example, the European Union will be shifting to auctioning emissions allocations, potentially generating some \$20-35 billion in annual revenues. However, with the exception of Germany, European Union members have so far been unwilling to commit to allocating a specified proportion of these revenues to international programmes, in part due to domestic financial pressures. \$3-5 billion per year could be raised if other countries were to match Germany’s commitment. Other mechanisms with the potential to raise more substantial resources are discussed below.

Increasing finance for climate change-related issues in recent years has given rise to a proliferation of separate climate funds, with limited coordination among them. The WESS stresses that it is important to avoid further fragmentation as traditional and innovative financing increase.

As in the case of health, a more effective approach would be to consolidate disbursement mechanisms. The report concludes that the international agreement to establish the Green Climate Fund could serve as the starting point for such a consolidation.

#### New funding options identified

The report also highlights a number of technically feasible and economically sensible options to obtain considerable new funding, all which will be revealed at the launch of the report on 5 July at 11 am EST.

Without disclosing any of the details, Rob Vos, Director of UN DESA’s Division for Development Policy and Analysis and the lead author of the report, says, “Realizing the potential of these mechanisms will require international agreement and corresponding political will, both to tap sources as well as to ensure allocation of revenues for development.”

The WESS sums up that the design of appropriate governance and allocation mechanisms is crucial for innovative financing to ultimately meet development needs and contribute to financing the post-2015 development agenda. It also concludes that realizing this potential requires strong political will to follow through on available proposals as well as transparency in the allocation and management of those resources.

The WESS 2012 will be featured in a panel discussion arranged as one of the side events of the Development Cooperation Forum on 5 July.

For more information:

[Live webcast from official launch of the WESS 2012 on 5 July at 11 am EST](#)

[World Economic and Social Survey 2012: In Search of New Development Finance](#)

[Development Cooperation Forum](#)

[Outcome Document “The Future We Want” in all six UN languages](#)

[UN Webcast Special Coverage on Rio+20](#)

## Achievements for the future we want

*“Rio+20 has been a great success,” said Rio+20’s Secretary-General, Sha Zukang, as the UN Conference on Sustainable Development concluded on 22 June in Rio de Janeiro with \$513 billion pledged in funding to achieve a sustainable future. In his closing remarks, Mr. Sha listed major outcomes of the conference which gathered some 40,000 participants including more than 100 Heads of State.*



“I have not the slightest doubt that the outcome document you have adopted will provide an enduring legacy for this historic Rio+20 Conference: The Future We Want,” said Mr. Sha, referring to one of the key elements of the Conference – the outcome document entitled “The Future We Want” – which Member States agreed upon ahead of the high-level meeting.

In addition, nearly 700 concrete commitments have been registered at the Conference from governments, business, industry, financial institutions and civil society groups, amongst others.

“Sustainable development is the only option for humanity, for our shared planet, and for our common future. Let the spirit, partnership, and commitment of Rio be with us all as we continue our shared journey to a sustainable future,” concluded Mr. Sha.

For more information:

[UN Conference on Sustainable Development](#)

[Concluding remarks by Sha Zukang, Secretary-General of Rio+20](#)

# Global Dialogue on Development

## ECOSOC opens with focus on global labour market

*The Substantive Session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) will take place in New York on 2-27 July*

Addressing the world's economic, social and environmental challenges, ECOSOC will hold its annual, month-long substantive session in July. The session is divided into five segments ? High-level; Coordination; Operational Activities; Humanitarian Affairs; and General. With its focus on pressing development challenges, the High-level segment regularly attracts policy-makers from the top ranks of government. The Segment also features the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) and the biennial Development Cooperation Forum (DCF).

### High-level Segment

*This year's high-level segment which takes place on 2-9 July, opens with the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) on 2-3 July, spotlighting the theme of "promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty"*

This focus is particularly timely, as the global economic and financial crisis has exacerbated pre-existing challenges to the achievement of full employment and decent work in both developing and developed countries. While unemployment and labour market inequity remain high in developed countries, workers in developing countries must contend with high rates of under-employment, vulnerable employment and informal work.

The 2012 AMR will examine global labour market trends and assess progress toward meeting employment and decent work-related goals. It will result in a ministerial declaration, to be adopted on 9 July that reflects the international commitment to prioritise job creation in the development agenda.

On 2 and 3 July, nine countries – Algeria, Brazil, Ecuador, Kenya, Mauritius, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal and Ukraine – will make National Voluntary Presentations (NVPs). They will share experience in terms of the progress that has been accomplished and the remaining obstacles with respect to productive capacity and employment.

On 3 July, representatives from the international financial and trade institutions will convene for a high-level policy dialogue on recent developments in the world economy, followed by a thematic roundtable on 9 July, which will highlight "macro-economic

policies for productive capacity, employment creation, sustainable development and the achievement of the MDGs".

On 5-6 July, the High-level Segment will continue with the third biennial Development Cooperation Forum (DCF). As a true multi-stakeholder global platform for interactive debate on the effective and coherent use of development cooperation, the 2012 DCF will bring together a large number of diverse participants.

The DCF has an ever more important role to play and the growing number and diversity of actors in international development cooperation can benefit from such an inclusive global platform. Innovative development partnerships are gaining traction. They increasingly coordinate and regroup around common goals. Yet, to release their full potential, efforts need to be more coherent and better coordinated.

A continued focus on turning pledges into implementation is urgently needed to scale up development efforts led and owned by programme countries. With limited resources and competing demands, any type of development assistance must show tangible results.

These challenges are aggravated by political uncertainty and economic hardship that continue to dominate development prospects. Such deep changes call for practical solutions that are built around sustainable development and designed to work in the long run for the benefit of all people. The post-2015 UN development agenda needs to build on this premise.

The 2012 DCF aims to promote solutions to enhance development cooperation, improve its quality and maximize its impact to accomplish national and international development priorities in the context of sustainable development. It will explore emerging drivers of change that will shape the future of development cooperation.

In the spirit of global accountability, the frank and interactive discussions are expected to encourage all actors to live up to promises made on aid issues. Special emphasis will also be placed on South-South Cooperation and the evolving role of private philanthropic organizations and decentralised cooperation.

In view of the evolving post 2015 UN development agenda, the 2012 DCF will also provide a unique opportunity for the universal membership of the UN and other stakeholders to discuss international efforts to promote development cooperation and to further promote the role of the DCF as a multi-stakeholder and inclusive forum for addressing emerging challenges and acting as global apex for accountability on development cooperation.

A series of side events will also be held at the margins of the DCF, organized by representatives of different stakeholder groups.

The High-level Segment will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Milos Koterec of Slovakia, President of ECOSOC.

### **Coordination Segment**

*Organized on 10-12 July, this segment will focus on following up to the 2011 Ministerial Declaration on “implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education” and to the International Conference on Financing for Development*

There will be a dialogue with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions on the theme of “Regional perspectives on youth and development”, during which the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields will be presented to the Council. In addition, the annual overview report of the UN system Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB) will be presented to the Council.

The coordination segment provides an opportunity to identify areas where the UN system should promote more comprehensive and effective approaches and to recommend ways in which support by the UN system can be strengthened against the backdrop of current challenges.

The Secretary-General’s report on “the role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education” will provide the background analysis for the debate. The discussion will focus on the work of the UN system in the field of education through the angle of coordinated and/or joint initiatives, as well as partnerships with other stakeholders aimed at accelerating progress towards MDG2, Education for All and related goals. The report also provides food for thought on emerging trends in education development and their potential consequences on the international education agenda.

Under the financing for development agenda item, the Council will have before it the Summary by the President of the Council of the special high-level meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the UN Conference on Trade and Development, held in March 2012.

The work of the Coordination Segment will be complemented by the following panels:

- Mobilizing partnerships for development, including in the field of education
- Addressing the challenges of the education/skills and job mismatch
- Innovative mechanisms of financing for development

The Segment will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Mootaz Ahmadein Khalil of Egypt, Vice President of ECOSOC.

### **Operational Activities Segment**

*Taking place on 13-17 July, this segment will be guided by the two reports of the Secretary-General for the 2012 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) and the report of the independent evaluation of the Delivering as One programme*

The QCPR is the mechanism by which the General Assembly assesses the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact of the UN system’s development work. Through the QCPR, the General Assembly also establishes system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the UN system in response to the evolving development landscape.

The two Secretary-General reports on the 2012 QCPR are the result of extensive and substantive preparations for the 2012 QCPR process. These analytical preparations comprise 9 in-depth issue studies, four global surveys of stakeholder perspectives and a comprehensive funding analysis of UN operational activities for development, touching upon key features and challenges posed by emerging issues in international development cooperation.

The Segment will bring the perspectives of national policy makers on all these critical QCPR issues, complemented by the operational experience of senior UN officials. It will feature a dialogue with the Executive Heads of UN funds and programmes, as well as with the Chairs of the Executive Boards of UN funds and programmes.

There will also be panel discussions on the functioning of the UN development system, with the participation of senior government officials. Findings of the Delivering as One independent evaluation will be presented as will the achievements and remaining challenges of this UN pilot initiative.

Prior to the Segment, a half-day workshop will bring together national focal points for operational activities to discuss key development topics emerging from the 2012 QCPR process, which will be shared with the Council and used to enrich Segment deliberations.

Chaired by H.E. Mr. Desra Percaya, of Indonesia, Vice President of ECOSOC, the Segment will not result in any outcome resolution, as 2012 involves a QCPR process. However, the debates will serve to complement the negotiations of the General Assembly in its 67th session in the adoption of a QCPR resolution which will provide policy directives on UN operational activities for development for the 2012-2016 cycle.

### **Humanitarian Affairs Segment**

Providing an opportunity to discuss opportunities and challenges related to strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance, this segment will take place on 18–20 July

The Segment is arranged under the theme “Working in partnership to strengthen coordination of humanitarian assistance in a changing world”, and it will feature two panel events on the following topics:

- Improving capacities for evidence-based humanitarian decision-making;
- Partnerships for effective humanitarian assistance in support, of national, regional and international efforts.

Each panel will feature high-level representation from Member States, Regional Organisations, UN and NGOs and will be moderated by the Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos.

The panel on Improving capacities for evidence-based humanitarian decision-making will feature prominent speakers from the academic and practitioner world, in addition to a Minister from an affected country. Speakers will include Professor Hans Rosling, Chairman of the Gapminder foundation and noted TED Speaker. It will focus on how to strengthen the evidence-base for humanitarian decision-making and it will also highlight the role of new technologies in strengthening the link between affected people and humanitarian response decisions; and will recommend measures to strengthen information and data platforms for humanitarian decision-making.

Scheduled for 20 July at 10:00 am, the panel on Partnerships for effective humanitarian response will highlight examples of innovative partnerships in humanitarian response. It will also explore how such partnerships can strengthen local resilience and national level capacities to respond to new emergencies. The panel will recommend steps that stakeholders can jointly take to strengthen preparedness, resilience and response. Participants include representatives of regional organisations, affected member states and civil society.

As in previous years, the ECOSOC Vice Presidents for Operational and Humanitarian Affairs will co-host an informal ECOSOC event on “Humanitarian needs in the Sahel and the importance of building resilience”, shedding light on the food and nutrition crises in the Sahel region, including efforts by national governments, civil society and international humanitarian actors to address the mounting humanitarian needs and building resilience of local communities to these recurrent crises.

On the margins, Member States, UN organisations, Red Cross/Red Crescent and NGOS will host fifteen side events on a number of different issues. The Global Humanitarian Assistance report 2012, which is an independent attempt to capture the international humanitarian financing, will also be launched.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator will host the launch of the Mid-Year Review of the Consolidated Appeals Process for 2012 on 19 July at 13:15-14:30 pm. The event is significant as it will

raise the profile of key emergencies and will encourage member states and partners to support humanitarian multilateral efforts.

As the substantive Secretariat supporting the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, OCHA will present a booth featuring humanitarian publications, enabling ECOSOC guests and visitors to collect additional information. Additionally, this year the panels will be more publicised and interactive, allowing social media users on Facebook and Twitter to participate in the discussion and pose questions to the panelists.

The Segment will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Fernando Arias of Spain, Vice-President of ECOSOC.

### **General Segment**

*During this segment to be held on 23-27 July, the Council will review reports of its subsidiary bodies and of other UN entities working in the economic and social fields*

The subsidiary bodies include the Council’s functional commissions, regional commissions, expert and ad hoc bodies. The Segment will also consider the report of its Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti.

The Council will also review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDC) and consider the recommendations made by the Committee on Development Policy on the inclusion in and graduation from the LDC category. It is also expected to take action on the follow-up to the IV UN Conference on the LDCs.

A number of system-wide thematic issues will be reviewed, among them, the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the UN system. The work of the UN inter-agency task force on tobacco control and the follow-up to the World Summit on Information Society will also be reviewed.

A series of events will be held including a briefing by the Members of the Committee for Development Policy; a briefing by the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission; and a panel event on “Integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan” on 24 July, as part of the Council’s discussion on “African countries emerging from conflict”. The event will provide an opportunity to examine some of the key elements of the first Secretary-General’s report on “Implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system”, in particular in the areas of capacity-building and core governance functions.

The economic and social situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the occupied Syrian Golan and the support to colonial countries and peoples will also be considered.

The Segment will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Luis Alfonso de Alba of Mexico, Vice-President of ECOSOC.

For more information:

[United Nations Economic and Social Council](#)

## Celebrating cooperatives worldwide

*The International Day of Cooperatives will be commemorated on 7 July under the theme “Cooperative enterprises build a better world”*



This year’s theme links to the observance of the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (IYC). It seeks to encourage the growth and establishment of cooperatives all over the world, and to recognize the actions of cooperatives in helping to

achieve internationally agreed upon development goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals.

As part of the Year, a short film festival will take place on 19 November at UN Headquarters during the closing ceremony of the IYC. Filmmakers around the world are invited to submit their contributions by 30 September 2012. The films should raise awareness about cooperatives – what they are, and what they do – and encourage support and development of cooperative enterprises by individuals and their communities. The films should also highlight at least one of the 10 key messages of the International Year of Cooperatives. Please see the links below for more details.

For more information:

[International Day of Cooperatives](#)

[International Year of Cooperatives 2012](#)

[International Year of Cooperatives Short Film Festival](#)

## UN awarded 44 organizations for public service excellence

*On 25 June, 44 public organizations from 29 countries received international recognition for excellence in public service, in acknowledgement of the UN Public Service Day*



The UN Public Service Awards, celebrating its 10th Anniversary in 2012, was held in the General Assembly Hall in New York. Commemorated each year on 23 June, the UN Public Service Day was established to “celebrate the value and virtue of service to the community.”

A total of 471 nominations from more than 80 UN Member States were received in 2012, with 16 Member States participating for the first time. This represents an increase of 58 per cent compared to the number of initiatives submitted in 2011.

The winners of the UN Public Service Awards (UNPSA) are as follows: 1st place – Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Dominican Republic, India, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and United States; 2nd place – Australia, Canada, Egypt, Georgia, Grenada, India, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey.

The UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration selects winners according to category and region. The five UNPSA categories are: i) prevention of corruption; ii) improving service delivery; iii) promoting innovative mechanisms for citizen participation in policy-making; iv) advancing knowledge management in government; and v) promoting gender responsive service delivery.

### United Nations E-Government Survey 2012 Special Awards

As part of the UNPSA Ceremony, countries that performed well in the 2012 UN E-Government Survey rankings were also recognized. A UN E-Government Survey Special Award was given to the top winners. The award is based on findings from the 2012 United Nations e-Government Survey, and acknowledges recipients for: establishing robust telecommunications infrastructure; investing in the development of human capital the usage of e-government facilities; providing exceptional e-services; and making e-content available on a continuous basis.

### Innovation and Citizen Engagement for Effective Governance

Over 400 participants from across the globe were expected to attend the event, which also included the United Nations Public Service Forum, taking place from 26 to 27 June and focusing on “Innovation and Citizen Engagement for Effective Governance”.

As part of the UN Public Service Day and Awards celebration, DESA’s Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) also presented the Sound of Harmony Cultural Performance, showcasing Chinese traditional and contemporary dance and music, on 25 June in the General Assembly Hall.

For more information:

[UN Public Service Awards](#)

[UN Public Service Day](#)



DESA's Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)

## Wrapping up Rio: Commitments for a sustainable future

*The UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, took place in Rio de Janeiro on 20-22 June*



The Conference gathered more than 40,000 people, including UN officials, chief executive officers and civil society leaders and over 100 Heads of State and government. The

event followed on from the Earth Summit in 1992, also held in Rio de Janeiro, during which countries adopted Agenda 21 – a blueprint to rethink economic growth, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection.

Many months of preparation went into Rio+20 and on 19 June, 91 countries reached agreement on the Conference's outcome document for adoption by Heads of State on the closing day. Rio+20's outcome document, entitled "The Future We Want," calls for a wide range of actions including beginning the process to establish sustainable development goals; utilizing the green economy; strengthening the UN Environment Programme (UNEP); promoting corporate sustainability; developing a strategy for sustainable development financing; and, adopting a framework for tackling sustainable consumption and production.

\$513 billion in funding was committed during Rio+20 for energy, food security, access to drinking water and management of the oceans. Additionally, a wide range of actions have also been pledged, such as planting 100 million trees, empowering 5,000 women entrepreneurs in green economy businesses in Africa, and recycling 800,000 tons of polyvinyl chloride (commonly known as PVC) per year.

There have been nearly 500 voluntary commitments on sustainable development activities by civil society groups, businesses, governments and universities and the UN's Global Compact initiative announced more than 200 commitments to sustainable development by businesses. At the closing ceremony of the three-day summit UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said, "The speeches are over. Now the work begins."

[UN Conference on Sustainable Development](#)

[Outcome Document "The Future We Want" in all six UN languages](#)

[UN News Special Coverage on Rio+20](#)

[UN Webcast Special Coverage on Rio+20](#)

## Celebration of first UN World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

*After being officially recognized by the UN General Assembly in December 2011, the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was commemorated on 15 June*

"I call upon Governments and all concerned actors to design and carry out more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address all aspects of elder abuse. Let us work together to optimize living conditions for older persons and enable them to make the greatest possible contribution to our world," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated.

The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) happens each year on 15 June. It was officially recognized by the General Assembly in December 2011, following a request by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA), who first established the commemoration in June 2006.

It represents the one day in the year when the whole world voices its opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted to some of our older generations. Elder Abuse is a global social issue which affects the Health and Human Rights of millions of older persons around the world, and an issue which deserves the attention of the international community.

Individuals, communities, municipalities and organizations come together and hold events to raise awareness of elder abuse. As in previous years, many activities were held, hoping to bring greater recognition of the mistreatment of older adults wherever they live throughout the world and to highlight the need for appropriate action.

The Government of Argentina, UNDESA-DSPD Focal Point on Ageing and the NGO Committee on Ageing/NY organized a meeting on 14 June at the United Nations in New York to celebrate the event.

For more information:

[Download the full programme](#)

Message of the Secretary General

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Russian](#)

|  
More information on Elder Abuse available at:

[DSPD Focal Point on Ageing](#)

[United Nations Department of Public Information website  
on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#)

[World Health Organisation](#)

[European Reference framework Online for the Prevention of Elder  
Abuse and Neglect](#)

[NGO Committee on Ageing/AARP](#)

## Trends and Analysis

### Encouraging standardization of geographical names

*The Tenth UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN) will be held at UN Headquarters in New York on 31 July-9 August*

In conjunction with the 10th UNCSGN, the 27th Session of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) will be held on 30 July-10 August, one day prior and one day after the Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.

The UNCSGN is held every five years, and UNGEGN meets between the Conferences to follow up the implementation of resolutions adopted and to ensure continuity of activities between Conferences.

The primary objective of the Conference is to encourage national and international geographical names standardization, to promote the international dissemination of nationally standardized geographical names information, and to adopt single Romanization systems for the conversion of each non-Roman writing system to the Roman alphabet.

For more information:  
[UN DESA's Statistics Division](#)

### Connecting co-ops: the importance of ICTs

*A panel discussion entitled "Cooperatives and the Role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)" was arranged on 6 June*

The event was hosted by DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), as part of the 2012 UN International Year of Cooperatives, highlighting the contribution cooperatives make to poverty reduction, employment generation and social integration.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are defined as technologies that facilitate communication and the processing of information by electronic means, and include everything from: radio, satellite, television to telephones, computers and the Internet.

The panel discussion examined the role of ICTs in improving efficiency in the cooperative movement and themes surrounding the impact ICTs have on cooperatives and the challenges associated with ICT implementation.

Ms. Felice Llamas, from DSPD moderated the discussions and said, "ICT's are transforming co-operatives by expanding the scope of potential networks and deepening existing networks through more consistent communication."

For more information:

[Cooperatives and the Role of Information and Communication Technologies \(ICTs\)](#)

[News story on the website of DSPD](#)

[2012 UN International Year of Cooperatives](#)

### Facilitating information sharing

*The 8th working level meeting of the UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) took place on 15 May in Geneva*

The meeting was chaired by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) with attendance of representatives from International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UN Development Programme (UNDP), DESA, UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), UN regional economic and social development commission in Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), UNWOMEN, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the World Bank.

The participants reviewed the implementation of the work plan for 2011-2012 and discussed coordination mechanisms to improve the efficiency of UNGIS. The full report and presentation is available on the UNGIS website.

The work plan 2012-2013 was adopted with the focus on coordination, monitoring and facilitation of information sharing and promotion the UN role in building the Information Society.

The next high-level UNGIS meeting will be organized by UNESCO in Paris on 25-27 February 2013. DPADM through DESA was elected the Vice-chair of UNGIS for a second term until December 2013.

For more information:  
[United Nations Group on the Information Society](#)

[DESA's Statistics Division](#)

## Capacity development

### Monitoring the MDGs to 2015 and beyond

*A workshop on "MDG Monitoring: to 2015 and beyond" will be arranged in Bangkok, Thailand, on 9-13 July*

DESA's Statistics Division is organizing the workshop in collaboration with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The event will bring together representatives from national statistical offices, line ministries and international agencies to review recommendations for calculating MDG indicators, reporting MDG data and establishing strategies for dealing with data discrepancies between national and international MDG figures, particularly for hunger, child, maternal and reproductive health indicators.

The workshop will also be an opportunity to review lessons learnt from monitoring the MDGs in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda and the related new monitoring framework.

For more information:  
[DESA's Statistics Division](#)

### With an aim to improving data sharing

*An IT training workshop for key participants from the Morocco National Statistics Office (NSO) will take place in New York on 11-18 July*

The workshop is organized by DESA's Statistics Division (UNSD) as part of the UNSD-DFID Project on Improving the Availability, Collation and Dissemination of National Development Indicators.

The training will cover eXtensible Markup Language (XML), eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformations (XSLT) and Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX), a cutting edge technology to facilitate data exchange and dissemination. The tools will help the Morocco NSO in automating their processes for producing statistical publications and in sharing data in a more automated, standardized way.

For more information:

## Open government data and citizen engagement

*An international capacity building workshop entitled "Future Government: A Global Perspective in Connection to Open Government Data and Citizen Engagement" was arranged in Geneva, Switzerland, on 16-17 May*

The workshop was arranged by DESA's Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM), in cooperation with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), during the 2012 annual follow-up meetings of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS).

The workshop had around 55 participants including high-level officials including the Acting Minister of the Ministry of State for Administration Development from Egypt, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Information Communication Technologies from Iran and Commissioner of the Regulation and Communication Body of the Republic of Colombia as well as academia, NGOs, private sector and international organizations including UNDP, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and regional UN commissions of UN-ESCWA and UN-ECLAC.

Key outcomes of the Workshop are: (i) formation of a voluntary taskforce to contribute to the implementation of the Toolkit for Open Government Data and Citizen Engagement; (ii) detailed recommendations to the DPADM on methodology to benchmark Open Data and Citizen Engagement in the UN E-Government Survey which will be detailed in the Workshop Report; (iii) identification of e-participation in the era of new media as the theme for 2013; (iv) detailed feedback on the Toolkit especially inclusion of Civil Society before opening any government data.

For more information:  
[DESA's Division for Public Administration and Development Management \(DPADM\)](#)

## Publications and Websites

### Launch of two major publications

Two major publications will be released starting with the Millennium Development Goals Report 2012 on 2 July, followed by the World Economic and Social Survey 2012 on 5 July. A wealth of additional publications and reports are also available online.

#### Launch of the Millennium Development Goals Report 2012 on 2 July



The Millennium Development Goals agreed to by world leaders over a decade ago have achieved important results. Working together, governments, the United Nations family, the private sector and civil society have succeeded in saving many lives and improving conditions for many more.

The world has met some important targets — ahead of the deadline, including the ones presented below:

- Extreme poverty is falling in every region
- The poverty reduction target was met
- The world has met the target of halving the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water
- Improvements in the lives of slum dwellers in urban areas
- The world has achieved parity in primary education between girls and boys
- Many countries facing the greatest challenges have made significant progress towards universal primary education
- Child survival progress is gaining momentum
- Access to treatment for people living with HIV increased in all regions
- The world is on track to achieve the target of halting and beginning to reverse the spread of tuberculosis
- Global malaria deaths have declined

For more information: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>

#### Launch of the World Economic and Social Survey 2012 on 5 July



The World Economic and Social Survey (WESS) to be launched on 5 July provides objective analysis of pressing long-term social and economic development issues, and discusses the positive and negative impact of corresponding policies.

The report analyses current and proposed mechanisms for innovative development finance and highlights mechanisms that can 1) increase the scale of development financing available and 2) provide stable and predictable financing to enhance sustainable development.

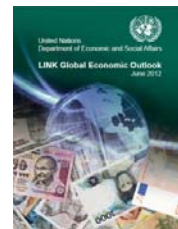
The Survey confirms the potential of innovative development financing to mobilize substantial resources for international priorities, but concludes that realizing this potential requires strong political will to follow through on available proposals as well as transparency in the allocation and management of those resources.

To download:

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wess/index.shtml>  
Live webcast from official launch of the WESS 2012 on 5 July at 11 am EST

### Other technical reports

#### Global Economic Outlook (GEO) Report



This report presents short-term prospects for the global economy in 2012-2013, highlighting major risks and uncertainties. The report draws on inputs from the experts of Project LINK, and analysis of staff in the Global Economic Monitoring Unit (GEMU) of the Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD) of UN DESA.

To download:

[http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/proj\\_link/documents/geo201206.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/proj_link/documents/geo201206.pdf)

### Statistical compilations

#### Monthly Bulletin of Statistics and MBS Online



The Monthly Bulletin of Statistics presents current economic and social statistics for more than 200 countries and territories of the world. It contains over 50 tables of monthly and/or bimonthly, quarterly and annual data on a variety of subjects illustrating important economic trends and developments, including population, prices, employment and earnings, energy, manufacturing, transport, construction, international merchandise trade and finance.

Vol. LXVI – No. 5, May 2012

This month, the following tables, which are featured in the MBS on a quarterly or bimonthly basis, are presented along with the regular recurrent monthly tables: Earnings in manufacturing, by sex and Total exports and imports by regions: volume and unit value indices and terms of trade.

For more information: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mbs>

### Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010)



The Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010) addresses the needs of a variety of producers and users of such statistics. While it is primarily a guide for statistical compilers, it is also a useful tool for governments and international organizations that use statistical information in connection with international negotiations on trade in services.

Furthermore, it can aid enterprises and others that need to monitor developments in international services markets.

The revised Manual provides a more detailed classification of services delivered through conventional trade between residents and non-residents than is contained in BPM6. This Extended Balance of Payments Services (EBOPS 2010) classification has been revised in line with existing statistical frameworks.

The most significant change was the introduction of 'Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others' and 'Maintenance and repair services, n.i.e.' as two new components and the removal of 'Merchandising' from 'Other business services'. The Manual includes a treatment of local delivery of services through foreign commercial presence and takes a further step towards linking these two systems.

The Manual provides clarifications on inward and outward FATS, and also describes the links between FATS and the international supply of services. It includes a new chapter discussing "modes of supply" described in GATS through which services can be delivered, and elaborates recommendations for a statistical treatment of these modes.

Correspondence tables will be provided as online documents between EBOPS 2010 and the Central Product Classification version 2.0, (CPC Ver. 2.0); and the GATS Services Sectoral Classification List (W120). The annex presenting the nature and purpose of the Tourism Satellite Account has also been updated. A new analytical annex will be provided online.

For more information:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/manual.htm>

### Statistical Yearbook, Fifty-fifth issue ST/ESA/STAT/SER.S/31, B.12.XVII.1



The Statistical Yearbook is an annual compilation of a wide range of international economic, social and environmental statistics on over 200 countries and areas, compiled from sources including UN agencies and other international, national and specialized organizations.

The 55th edition contains data available to the Statistics Division as of 31 December 2011 and presents them in 60 tables on topics such as: agriculture, forestry and fishing; communication; development assistance; education; energy; environment; finance; gender; international merchandise trade; international tourism; labour force; manufacturing; national accounts; population; prices; and science and technology.

The number of years of data shown in the tables varies from one to ten, with most tables covering the period up to 2009 or 2010. Accompanying the tables are technical notes providing brief descriptions of major statistical concepts, definitions and classifications.

For more information: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/syb/>

### 2010 International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Vol. II IIST/ESA/STAT/SER.G/59, E.12.XVII.3



The 2010 International Trade Statistics Yearbook (2010 ITSY), Volume II – Trade by Commodity, contains detailed tables showing international trade for 258 individual commodities (3-digit SITC groups) and eleven world trade tables covering trade values and indices up to the year 2010.

The information contained in Volume II is based on data provided by 141 countries (areas), representing 97.3% of world trade of 2010. Volume II has been compiled approximately six months after the submission of Volume I (in November 2011) as the preparation of these tables requires and benefits from the additional country data which, normally, become available later in the year.

Volume I – Trade by Country, has been compiled and made available in May 2011 to allow for an advanced release of an overview of international merchandise trade in 2010 and for a much earlier publication of the available 2010 country (area) data. All tables of Volume II are made available electronically shortly after the completion of the manuscript. Volume II contains updated versions of the two world trade tables A and D published in Volume I.

Beginning with the 2008 edition, the International Trade Statistics Yearbook is published in a redesigned format in respect to the presentation of data for individual countries

(Volume I) as well as trade in a particular commodity (Volume II). For more detailed data, users are requested to go directly to UN Comtrade (<http://comtrade.un.org/>) which is the source of the information presented in the yearbook and which is continuously updated.

For more information: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/default.htm>

### **2009 Energy Statistics Yearbook ST/ESA/STAT/SER.J/53, B.12.XVII.10**



The 2009 Energy Statistics Yearbook is the fifty-third issue in a series of annual compilations of internationally comparable statistics summarizing world energy trends. Annual data for 224 countries and areas for the period 2006 to 2009 are presented on production, trade and consumption of energy: solids, liquids, gaseous fuels and electricity.

In addition, per capita consumption series are also provided for all energy products. Graphs are included to illustrate historic trends and/or changes in composition of production and/or consumption of major energy products. Special tables of interest include international trade tables for coal, crude petroleum and natural gas by partner countries – providing information on direction of trade, selected series of statistics on renewables and wastes, refinery distillation capacity and a table on selected energy resources.

For more information:  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=460>

### **Population Facts 2012/3 “Migrants by origin and destination: The role of South-South migration”**

Knowing where international migrants originate from is essential to understanding the international migration and development nexus: in particular, information about the country of birth of international migrants is necessary to assess the impact of international migration on the sending countries. The fact-sheet aims to provide comprehensive evidence on this subject, based on a new set of estimates of the international migrant stock for over 200 countries and territories for the years 1990, 2000 and 2010. These estimates are consistent with the estimates of the global migrant stock, which are regularly updated by the United Nations Population Division.

The fact-sheet highlights the fact that international migration between developing countries (“South-South migration”) constitutes about one-third of global migration, about the same proportion as international migration from developing to developed countries (“South-North migration”). A further finding is that the increase in the migrant stock in the developed countries from 1990 to 2010 was largely fuelled by international migrants from the South.

To download: [www.unpopulation.org](http://www.unpopulation.org)

## **Meeting records**

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its fourteenth session (E/2012/33)  
The report is now available in all six official UN languages. In the report, the Committee addressed the following themes: productive capacity and employment; the international development strategy beyond 2015; the triennial review of the list of least developed countries; and strengthening the process of smooth transition of countries graduating from the category of least developed countries.

For more information:  
[http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp\\_reports\\_ecosoc.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_reports_ecosoc.shtml)

## **Outreach material**

### **Social Development Link Newsletter (SDLN)**

The June issue of the newsletter, published by the Civil Society and Outreach Unit of DESA’s Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), is now available. It aims at providing a sharp and synthetic summary of major activities carried out by DSPD and serve as a link between DSPD and its major partners, from civil society actors to social development practitioners and scholars. This issue highlights the high-level thematic debate that took place in May regarding the state of the world economy; Rio+20; the concluding session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; and the job crisis affecting youth.

For more information:  
<http://social.un.org/index/Newsletters/SDLNewsletter/June2012.aspx>

### **Youth Flash Newsletter**

The June issue is now available. The newsletter is a service of the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) Focal Point on Youth to help keep the public informed about the work of the UN on youth issues. It is prepared with input from UN offices, agencies, funds and programmes, and from youth organizations all over the world. This issue features news stories on the participation of around 3,000 young people from around the world at the Youth Blast – Youth Conference for Rio+20 on 7-12 June, as well as other Rio+20 related events.

For more information:  
<http://social.un.org/index/Youth/YouthFlashNewsletter/2012/June.aspx>

## Enable Newsletter

The May issue of the newsletter is now available. It is prepared by the Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of persons with Disabilities (SCRPD) within UN DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development, with input from UN offices, agencies, funds and programmes, and civil society. It presents the status of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (SCRPD), informing about the number of countries which have ratified [115 countries]. It also provides a heads-up prior to the Fifth Session of the Conference of States Parties, which takes place in New York on 12-14 September and for which a provisional agenda is now available.

For more information:

<http://www.un.org/disabilities/latest.asp?id=169>

## Working papers

### Learning from the past: Which of the past/current development strategies are best suited to deal with the 'quadruple crisis'?

During the last decade, the world economy has experienced a worsening in financial stability, food prices, income inequality and environmental conditions. Seven development strategies are evaluated to determine which could help solve 'quadruple crisis'. These strategies are assessed using a common methodology which first documents the economic, social, environmental and food security policies adopted, and then assesses their outcomes using 11 performance indicators. The strategies are then ranked on the basis of their overall success score. While all strategies produced some positive results, the East Asian Miracle and the new Latin American development approach generated the greatest number of favourable outcomes.

To download:

[http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2012/wp116\\_2012.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2012/wp116_2012.pdf)

### Reason, Empathy, and Fair Play: The Climate Policy Gap

To achieve the greatest possible human welfare, the Stockholm Environment Institute's Climate and Regional Economics of Development (CRED) model calls for rapid reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to keep cumulative 21st century carbon dioxide emissions below 2,000 Gt.

It is explained why as some other models claim very slow emission reductions are best. Three changes are made to the basic assumptions of the well-known DICE model to include the most recent estimates of economic damages from climate change, express greater concern about the well-being of future generations, and expect rich countries to invest in emissions and poverty reduction in poorer countries.

To download:

[http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2012/wp113\\_2012.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2012/wp113_2012.pdf)

## Discussion papers

### June issue of the Monthly Briefing on the World Economic Situation and Prospects

This issue presents the highlights of the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2012: Update as of Mid-2012 report. Despite some scattered signs of improvement in recent months, the world economic situation and prospects continue to be challenging. After a marked slowdown in the course of 2011, global economic growth will likely remain tepid in 2012, with most regions expanding at a pace below potential. The WESP Update per Mid-2012 projects that world gross product (WGP) will grow by 2.5 per cent in 2012 and 3.1 per cent in 2013, following growth of 2.7 per cent in 2011. This constitutes a slight downward revision from the forecasts presented in the WESP) 2012 in January. Downside risks for further weakening of global economic conditions remain unabatedly high.

To download:

[http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp\\_mb/wesp\\_mb44.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_mb/wesp_mb44.pdf)

### May issue of the Monthly Briefing on the World Economic Situation and Prospects

This issue covers recent events affecting the world economy such as the effects of major developed countries' quantitative easing policies on the rest of the world, the \$430 billion increase in IMF resources as well as the troubling situation in a number of other countries. The seigniorage effects of the quantitative easing policies of the United States, Europe and Japan have increased greatly over the course of the crisis and are estimated to be around \$3 billion—at the expense of the countries holding dollars, euros and yen as reserves. Unemployment continued its upward drift in Europe, reaching almost 11 per cent.

To download:

[http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp\\_mb/wesp\\_mb43.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_mb/wesp_mb43.pdf)

## Websites



### Redesigned website of DESA's Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC)

The new and improved site includes news, events and exciting features, through which both existing users and new visitors can gain a greater understanding of the Division's activities and achievements.



To browse: <http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/oesc/>

# Comings and Goings

## Comings

The following staff members were promoted in June:

Julian Chow, Statistician, Statistics Division

Yongyi Min, Statistician, Statistics Division

ZuZu Tun, Staff Assistant, Executive Office

## Goings

The following staff members retired in June:

Alexander Tankov, Finance Officer, Capacity Development Office

Andrew Yager, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Sustainable Development

# Calendar

## July

### **Substantive Session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

New York, 2-27

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/>

### **Launch of the Millennium Development Goals Report 2012**

New York, 2 July

<http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>

### **Launch of the World Economic and Social Survey 2012**

New York, 5 July

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wess/index.shtml>

### **International Day of Cooperatives**

7 July

<http://social.un.org/index/Cooperatives/InternationalDayofCooperatives.aspx>

### **Workshop on “MDG Monitoring: to 2015 and beyond”**

Bangkok, Thailand, 9-13 July

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

### **IT training workshop for key participants from the Morocco National Statistics Office (NSO)**

New York, 11-18 July

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

### **The Tenth UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN)**

New York, 31 July-9 August

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

## August

### **International Day of the World’s Indigenous People**

9 August

<http://social.un.org/index/IndigenousPeoples/InternationalDay.aspx>

### **International Youth Day**

12 August

<http://social.un.org/index/Youth/InternationalYouthDay.aspx>

**DESA News is an insider's look at the United Nations in the area of economic and social development policy. The newsletter is produced by the Communications and Information Management Service of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in collaboration with DESA Divisions. DESA News is issued every month. Please click [here](#) to send inquiries.**