

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4 December 2008

Excellency,

With regard to the informal interactive panel discussions to be held as part of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, please find attached a revised letter containing the updated list of representatives of pertinent non-governmental organizations to be invited as well as information on the “no-objection procedure”.

Please note that this letter supersedes the one sent earlier today to all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norman Miranda'.

Norman Miranda
Ambassador
Chef de Cabinet

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations

4 December 2008

Excellency,

As you are aware, and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/25 of 24 November 2008, as part of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 2008, two consecutive informal interactive panel discussions will be organized. At each of the informal panel discussions, two representatives of pertinent non-governmental organizations will be invited to speak on behalf of civil society before the conclusion of the panel.

This resolution also establishes that the list of invitees should be considered by Member States on a no-objection basis.

For this purpose, I have the honour to propose the following invitees:

Panel 1 - Sixty years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: lessons-learned

1. Mr. Arthur Chaskalson from the International Commission of Jurists;
2. Mr. Kenneth Roth from Human Rights Watch;

Alternate (in case one of the above is unavailable):

3. Ms. Yvonne Terlingen from Amnesty International

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Panel 2 - The full implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: challenges ahead and way forward

1. Ms. Shanthi Dairiam from the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net);
- 2.
3. Mrs. Hannah Forster from the African Center for Democracy and Human Rights Studies;

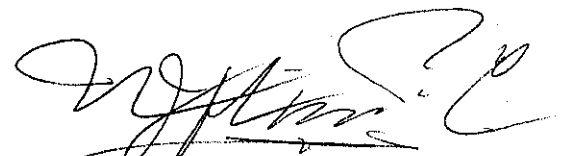
Alternate (in case one of the above is unavailable):

4. Mr. Mohammed Fayed from the Arab Organization for Human Rights;

I would therefore like to seek your views on the proposed invitees.

As the "no-objection" mechanism is being applied, the proposed invitees will be considered acceptable unless there are views to the contrary from a Member State for any of the proposed invitees. Views from Member States may be addressed to the Office of the President of the General Assembly by 5 December 2008.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest considerations.



Norman Miranda
Ambassador
Chief of Cabinet