



Ms. Rachel Mayanja, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, [addresses the Security Council on 26 October](#) on the subject of women, peace and security. A recording of the meeting is available at <http://webcast.un.org/ramgen/sc/sc061026am.rm>.

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Feature articles

Violence against women, causes and costs of a global curse

Violence against women is not confined to a specific culture, region, or country, or to a particular group of women within a society. Quite the reverse. Violence against women is truly a global phenomenon. Complex, pervasive, persistent, pernicious. It occurs in different settings, takes many different manifestations, and evolves and emerges in new forms. The way that women the world over experience it is influenced by a range of factors, such as age, class, disability, ethnicity, and economic status. On average, at least one in three women is subject to violence at some point in her lifetime.

Any and all violence against women is unacceptable, whether perpetrated by the State and its agents, by family members or strangers, in the public or private sphere, in peacetime or in times of conflict. Violence against women endangers women's lives, violates their rights as citizens and human beings, harms their families and communities, and poses an affront to humanity itself. It tears at the fabric of all societies. And so all societies must take

responsibility to deal and do away with it. And all States have a particular obligation to protect women from violence, to hold perpetrators accountable, and to provide justice and remedies to victims.

The toll taken by violence against women goes beyond the incalculable human costs. Violence undercuts the enormous potential of women to contribute to peace and development—so powerfully recognized at the Fourth World Conference on Women—by restricting their choices and limiting their ability to act. Indeed, it undermines and constrains the achievement of all the internationally agreed development goals, including the objectives on gender equality and the advancement of women set at Beijing, the Millennium Development Goals on poverty, education, child health, maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS, and overall sustainable development. Unless attention to preventing and redressing violence against women is incorporated in programmes targeting the development goals, the health, social, and economic consequences of that violence will continue to limit progress.

The Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth study on all forms of violence against women, a recent study undertaken by DESA, highlights the persistence, and unacceptability, of

all forms of violence against women, in all parts of the world. It seeks to strengthen the political commitment and enhance joint efforts of all stakeholders to prevent and eliminate such violence. And it aims to identify ways to ensure more sustained and effective implementation of State obligations to address all forms of violence against women, and to strengthen accountability.

The study synthesizes issues and concerns within the parameters set by Member States in 2003, when the General Assembly called on the Secretary-General to initiate it. Preparation of the study was undertaken by the Division for the Advancement of Women, and involved an extensive process of consultations and inputs by Member States, non-governmental organizations, UN entities, experts, and other stakeholders. It thus draws from existing research, knowledge, and experience at the national, regional, and global levels.

The study begins by setting out the broad context within which violence against women occurs. It synthesizes the knowledge regarding the extent and prevalence of different forms, in the main settings: that is, within the family, the community, and perpetrated or condoned by the State, including in conflict settings. The study reviews the causes and consequences of violence against women, including its costs. It discusses the gaps and challenges in the availability of data, including in methodologies for assessing the prevalence of different forms of violence. It then highlights the particular responsibilities of States to address and prevent violence against women. And the study puts forward a blueprint for action by all stakeholders—by States, at the national level, and by intergovernmental bodies and UN entities—to make measurable progress in preventing and eliminating violence against women.

Violence against women is both a cause and a consequence of discrimination against women. In many countries, discriminatory customs and traditions that perpetuate or condone violence against women are allowed to persist, sometimes despite legislation outlawing such practices. And discriminatory attitudes and stereotypes that view violence against women, particularly domestic violence, as a private matter that is acceptable, remain common.

Efforts to prevent and ultimately end violence against women must therefore be systematically

grounded in the work of all States and other actors to eliminate discrimination against women and promote women's enjoyment of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms. Let me stress here the particularly important role of local communities—and families—in awareness-raising and education. Men have a role, especially in preventing violence, and this role needs to be further explored and strengthened. And our youth need to learn from their elders—from what we say and especially from what we do; from men as well as women; at home, at school, through our communications networks, and in the wider public domain—that women and men are equal and that violence against women is fundamentally wrong.

The most common of the forms of violence against women is intimate partner violence, sometimes leading to death. Certain harmful traditional practices are also widespread, including early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Gender-based murder of women, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and trafficking in women are receiving increasing attention. Violence perpetrated by States, through their agents, through omission or through the implications of public policies, spans physical, sexual, and psychological violence. And the high incidence of violence against women in armed conflict, particularly sexual violence including rape, has been clearly documented in several cases.

It is one of the great successes of grass-roots women's organizations and movements around the world that the challenge of violence against women was drawn out of the private domain into public attention and the arena of State accountability. And these advocates continue to push for more "visibility" of the effects of policies and socio-economic practices on women.

The study shows that international attention to violence against women has grown significantly in the last twenty years—and particularly since 1995, when the Beijing Platform for Action called for improved research and data collection on different forms of violence against women. In some areas, notable progress has been made in this regard. Intimate partner violence is an example. There are now 71 countries in which at least one survey has been conducted on the subject. And a national survey has been conducted in at least 41 countries. These are

complemented by research studies on specific issues or aspects that provide evidence on the scope of particular forms of violence, as well as its consequences and costs, for women, their families, communities, and countries. In general, occurrences of acts of violence against women are well documented, including by advocacy organizations and service providers.

Nonetheless, the available evidence remains uneven and, in many cases, non-existent. As also underscored by another DESA report, *The World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics*, there continue to exist serious research and data gaps, particularly on forms other than intimate partner violence, including trafficking in women and girls and violence against women by agents of the State. As the *Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth study on all forms of violence against women* shows, information to assess and evaluate what policies and practices are most effective in addressing violence against women is particularly scarce. The study presents a range of information on specific countries, but this is not to suggest that countries going unmentioned are free from violence against women. It simply means that the information is not available, which should itself be seen as a major cause for concern. Ensuring adequate data collection is part of every State's obligation to address violence against women, yet inadequate data does not diminish that responsibility.

Now is the time to strengthen the knowledge base about the scope and extent of violence against women, as well as the impact of policies and practices that are in place so that resources to address this scourge can be used most effectively. This must include efforts to collect data systematically on the most common forms of violence. We also need to strengthen data collection and knowledge on forms that affect relatively few women overall but have a devastating effect on those concerned, or on new or emerging forms of violence, including economic violence and abuse, stalking, and violence through use of the Internet or cell phones.

The study makes a number of recommendations for action in this area, including developing a set of international indicators for assessing the prevalence of violence against women and the impact of different interventions. As in many other areas of work, this will not be possible unless the international community seriously

steps up its support—technical, material, and financial—for strengthening national statistical systems in developing countries, as part of their broader capacity to monitor and evaluate progress in meeting their development goals.

The global attention to violence against women has also resulted in a comprehensive international legal and policy framework for addressing violence against women. Yet, States are failing in their responsibility to implement this framework fully at the national level. An example is the field of legislation. Only about half of Member States have some legislative provisions that specifically address domestic violence. Fewer than half have legislation on sexual harassment or on trafficking. And even where such legislation exists, there are often inadequacies in scope and coverage, such as definitions of domestic violence limited to physical violence or penal laws that discriminate against women. Or there are serious gaps in implementation, shown, for example, in the lack of regulations to implement legislation, the lack of clear procedures for law enforcement and health-care professionals, or the lack of legal aid, especially for indigent women.

Human rights treaty bodies, and in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, have regularly voiced their concerns about gaps in legislation and its implementation, in the provision of services to victims, and the lack of systematic data collection on all forms of violence against women. The study thus puts a high priority on the need fully to implement the international legal and policy framework so as to close the gap between international commitments and national laws, policies, and practices. This framework establishes a standard for action by all States to meet their commitments. Strong multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder strategies are needed so that we move beyond the important, but single-issue or ad hoc measures to prevent and address violence against women, to a comprehensive, systematic, and sustained approach.

The study identifies an array of promising practices for tackling this challenge. Innovative work has been done by women's NGOs in many countries, often in collaboration with States. These cover critical sectors, such as the law, the provision of services, and prevention. Advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns are now a regular feature in many countries. Still,

successful interventions need to be scaled up, they need to be part of a comprehensive strategy, and they need to be targeted and specific so as to address the forms of violence that particular women and groups of women experience.

Decisive progress in ending impunity for violence against women and strengthening prevention will require a number of other essential ingredients. Violence against women will not be eradicated without political will and commitment at the highest levels to make this a priority locally, nationally, regionally and internationally. Such political will can be expressed in a variety of ways, including legislation, national action plans, adequate resource allocation, visible condemnation of violence, and sustained support by political leaders and opinion makers for action to address it. While much can be achieved with political will, a pressing need also exists for considerable investment of resources. Systematic and sustained support from the international community should enhance national and local efforts.

The provision of both of these in turn requires leadership. As the study sets out, leadership is critical at all levels, from the local to the global, in public and in private arenas.

This article is based on a statement of Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, to the General Assembly on 9 October.



A milestone in the protection of human rights of indigenous peoples

The world's indigenous people, who number more than 370 million and live in some 70 countries, are also the most likely group to

be poor. In Mexico, 80% of the indigenous population is poor versus the 18% of the non-indigenous groups, and 87% of indigenous peoples in Guatemala are poor compared to 54% of the non-indigenous population, reflecting a

trend which is similar in other countries in the region, as Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues highlighted recently.

Despite this gloomy picture, there is reason for optimism. The adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the first-ever session of the Human Rights Council in June, represents a landmark achievement in fulfilling the long-standing demands of indigenous people. Provided that it receives final endorsement by the General Assembly this fall, the Declaration will become an important tool for indigenous peoples in claiming their rights. Moreover, although it is not legally binding, the Declaration provides the international community with a comprehensive international standard that we should all strive together to achieve.

Recent developments have, in fact, revitalized the UN agenda on indigenous issues. The 2005 World Summit underlined the importance of indigenous peoples in development as well as the urgency of promoting their human rights, while setting out a bold vision of inclusive and equitable societies, where all people participate fully in economic, social, political, and cultural life.

As the UN system and governments work together towards the Millennium Development Goals and broader UN development agenda, they should cooperate and build partnerships with indigenous peoples, paying attention to their visions, for those ideas stem, fundamentally, from an approach that integrates economic, social, environmental, and human rights aspects.

Whether through the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Human Rights Council, or the International Decade, indigenous peoples continue their efforts to be full participants in development debates, human rights debates, and all other significant debates that concern their lives.

In 2004, the General Assembly adopted resolution 57/174, launching the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People on 1 January 2005 with the goal to "...further strengthen the international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as culture, education, health, human rights, the environment and social and economic development".

Yet the report submitted at the end of the first Decade by its Coordinator, The High Commissioner for Human Rights, depicted a situation in which indigenous peoples in many countries remain among the poorest and most marginalized. Too often one sees indigenous people experiencing violations of their basic human rights. Too often one learns that indigenous peoples have been excluded from national development processes—or their benefits. These harsh realities oblige the United Nations to continue to promote respect for the human rights of indigenous peoples and to advocate strongly and systematically for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in development processes at all levels.

There have certainly been some positive developments in this regard. The most decisive one has been the aforementioned adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which the UN had been unable to adopt during the first International Decade of the World's Indigenous People in a deep disappointment to indigenous peoples. At the same time, in some parts of the world, democratic participation of indigenous peoples has led indigenous leaders to important positions in government. Elsewhere, after long armed conflicts, reconciliation and support for indigenous peoples are emerging. The UN has continued to show leadership through the establishment of institutions in this area, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

In May, the Forum's fifth session hosted the launch of the Decade's Programme of Action in a special event in the General Assembly Hall. The session enjoyed rich participation, with some 1,200 representatives from indigenous peoples' organizations, NGOs, and academia, more than 30 UN-system and other intergovernmental organizations, and more than 60 Member States. Indeed, participation in the Forum has grown each year, indicating increased engagement of states, indigenous organizations, the UN system, and civil society in the multi-stakeholder effort to construct concrete solutions to the problems faced by indigenous peoples and their communities.

The participation for the first time of the African Union, the Asian Development Bank, and the

Organization of American States, which, along with the other regional organizations present—the European Union and the Inter-American Development Bank—demonstrated the increasing focus on indigenous issues closer to the ground.

With its special theme—the Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples—the session made valuable recommendations on how to interpret and apply the MDGs so that, in all countries, indigenous peoples, as others, can be included and benefit from MDG processes. The Forum also made strategic recommendations on how to improve indigenous peoples' inclusion in MDG country reports, poverty reduction strategy papers, and the UN Common Country Assessment and Development Assistance Framework prepared by UN Country Teams. This dovetailed nicely with the session's emphasis throughout on indigenous traditional knowledge and the need to promote and protect its contribution to development.

The Forum also focused on specific MDGs, recommending special, culturally-sensitive measures and targeted action for preventing maternal and infant mortality in indigenous communities; increased ODA, along with special measures to help free indigenous peoples out of marginalization; and urgent measures to confront the extraordinary threat posed by HIV/AIDS to indigenous communities. The Forum urged a commitment to gender equality in the implementation of the MDGs for indigenous peoples. And on all these fronts, the Forum again stressed the crucial role of data collection and disaggregation, with a special emphasis on involving indigenous peoples in reaching understandings of what poverty and well-being is for indigenous peoples and in setting benchmarks for progress.

The session also included a half-day discussion on Africa spotlighting the situation and contributions of indigenous peoples in Africa and stimulating constructive dialogue on how to tackle the challenges, with African governments, the UN system, and indigenous organizations working together.

All this shows how the Permanent Forum has been providing fertile ground for the growth of a tripartite partnership among indigenous peoples, states, and the UN and other intergovernmental organizations. This partnership has a vitality that

extends beyond the Forum's sessions into ongoing follow-up by all partners. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, now bringing together 30 UN and other intergovernmental agencies has played an important role in this regard.

DESA has produced its own Plan of Action for the Second Decade which seeks to mainstream the Decades' objectives in the Department's work across multiple areas: statistics and population censuses, public administration, youth, women, sustainable development, and sustainable forest management.

The Second Decade has also catalyzed collective action by UN organizations through the United Nations Development Group. This past summer, the UNDG responded positively to a proposal to transmit the Decade's Programme of Action to UN Country Teams so that they can integrate it in their work. And the Group has decided to launch a comprehensive effort for the systematic integration of indigenous issues in UN operational activities for development. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, as a Task Force for UN Country Teams, is exploring how to enhance the Teams' understanding of indigenous issues through the development of training tools and materials and other activities. In line with the Permanent Forum's recent recommendations, the Group is also investigating how to empower indigenous peoples to participate fully and effectively in the various development monitoring processes at the country level.

One of the main concerns ahead is limited resources, both human and financial. Along with sustained political commitment, adequate financial support will be critical. And it is clear that more Member States and international organizations, and more indigenous organizations and civil society actors should be engaged in pursuing the goal and the objectives of the Second Decade. This can only be brought about by taking leadership in planning awareness-raising activities at the national level, by adopting specific policies on indigenous issues, by organizing capacity-building activities, and by carrying out other important work outlined in the Programme of Action.

To bridge the huge equity gap that now exists, and to make a significant, positive, and enduring difference in indigenous peoples' lives over the

course of this Second Decade, we need to act now to include indigenous issues among policy and budgetary priorities at the national and international levels.

This article is based on a statement of Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, to the General Assembly on 16 October. Mr. Ocampo is Coordinator of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, 2005-2015. The article also builds in part on a statement of Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, delivered at the opening of the Forum's fifth session on 15 May.

Global dialogue on development

“Keep The Promise: Make It Happen”

General Assembly Second Committee
New York, 2 October-1 December
<http://www.un.org/ga/61/second/second.shtml>

The Second Committee will continue discussions in November on a range of critical issues on the UN’s development agenda, among them the overarching goal of poverty eradication, and the convening of an international forum on the eradication of poverty whose motto is “Keep the promise: Make it happen”. The Committee has also been looking into the related issue of micro-credit and, will devote continuing attention to sustainable development issues.

The Committee will also decide on the Government of Qatar’s offer to host a follow-up international conference on financing for development, bearing in mind related events also being scheduled. The Monterrey Consensus has defined a new approach to development cooperation as a partnership between developing and developed countries and accelerated actions in many areas, from the decisions on increasing ODA and debt relief adopted last year to the recent discussions on increasing voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision making. Operational activities for development, and the Least Developed Countries are also expected to feature prominently in the Committee’s deliberations.

Energy security and its implications

Panel discussion, New York, 1 November

As part of a series of side events in October and November, the Second Committee will hold a *panel discussion* on energy security and its implications for the future on 1 November. Speakers are: Professor Zhou Dadi, Director-General, Energy Research Institute, National Development and Reform Commission of China; Dr. Daniel Yergin, Chairman and Co-Founder Cambridge Energy Research Associates and Mr. Masanori Kobayashi, Senior Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.

Contact: Ms. Madhu Chatterjee, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, +1 212/ 963 4791

E-Government, a tool for participation and inclusion

Panel discussion, New York, 3 November
http://www.unpan.org/directory/conference/guest/browseoneconference.asp?conference_id=2006

In this *final panel* of the 61st session, the Second Committee will address the opportunities and challenges of e-government, including its potential for citizen engagement and inclusive governance. In addition, the meeting will highlight major trends in e-government readiness and e-participation by reviewing existing approaches worldwide and analyzing the structural and process changes associated with the concept, including its technological aspects.

The panel will provide General Assembly delegates with an opportunity to expand and deepen the discussions of agenda item 50 of the 61st session on information and communication technologies for development. The event will be chaired by H.E. Ms. Tiina Intelmann, Chair of the Second Committee, and will include presentations by:

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 1984 Nobel Peace Prize Winner (to be confirmed);
- Professor Ann McIntosh, Director, International Teledemocracy Centre, Napier University, UK;
- Mr. Nam-Seok Kim, Assistant Minister for the e-Government Headquarters, Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs, Republic of Korea;
- Dr. Abraham Sotelo Nava, Head of the E-government and Technology Policy Unit, Ministry of Public Function, Mexico; and,
- Mr. Ivar Tallo, Director, e-Governance Academy, Estonia.

Contact: Ms Haiyan Qian, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, + 1 212/963-3393

International Human Solidarity Day, with Nobel Prize winner Lech Walesa

New York, 10 November

Mr. Lech Walesa, founder of the Solidarity movement in Poland and Nobel Peace Prize winner will be the keynote speaker at the launch of this remarkable day, which is intended to raise awareness of the importance of solidarity for the advancement of the United Nations development agenda.

The International Human Solidarity Day was proclaimed by the General Assembly resolution 60/209 as an initiative in the fight against poverty. Indeed the Millennium Declaration identified solidarity as one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century.

The Division for Social Policy and Development is organizing this event in collaboration with the Second Committee.

Contact: Ms. Renata Kaczmarek, Division for Social Policy and Development, +1 212/963-4596

Racism and humanitarian concerns at the Third Committee

General Assembly, New York, 2 October-22 November

<http://www.un.org/ga/61/third/third.shtml>

In November, the Third Committee of the General Assembly will conclude its deliberations of human rights questions, and take up elimination of racism and racial discrimination, the rights of peoples to self-determination, and refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons, and other humanitarian questions.

Background

The United Nations has been taking decisive steps to revitalize its work towards the bold and inclusive vision set out by the 2005 World Summit and the Millennium Declaration. In this process, this Committee bears a crucial responsibility to raise the profile of issues that matter most in the lives of ordinary citizens and their families: opportunities for decent work, the chance to enjoy basic rights and services, and to

participate fully in the economic, social, political, and cultural life of their countries. The orientation of the Third Committee points up one of the UN's great strengths as an advocate and actor for development.

At United Nations Headquarters, and throughout the UN's extensive global network, development refers to the progress of developing countries, but also to the development of all societies, rich or poor, through sustainable development in its three dimensions—economic, social, and environmental—and through the realization of economic and social rights. In the UN development agenda, crystallized in the Millennium Development Goals, there is not only a vision, but also a roadmap to a better future for all.

To realize this vision fully requires a fundamental shift to ensure a more far-reaching, sustainable, and effective implementation. The success of this effort depends greatly on forging meaningful links between social and economic policies that are at the heart of the Third Committee's programme of work.

Trends and analysis

The state of the world economy

Expert group meeting, Geneva, 30 October-1 November

<http://www.un.org/esa/policy/link/>

Some 100 experts from approximately 60 countries, several international organizations – including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the regional commissions and UNCTAD – will participate in the *expert group meeting* on the world economy, also known as Project LINK, sponsored by DESA.

The agenda of the meeting covers three broad topics: the global economic outlook; international economic policy issues; and issues relating to global modelling. The Development Policy and Analysis Division will present the LINK Global Economic Outlook; the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank will also present their outlooks. These will be discussed by the country experts and the experts from international agencies.

Employment, inflation, macroeconomic policy and oil prices will be among the issues to be considered at three panel discussions. The global modelling session will include presentations of several different modelling frameworks currently used in various institutions for studying the world the economy. The session will focus on the modelling of global linkages and the study of global imbalances. The results of the meeting will contribute directly to the preparation of the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2007, which is a joint publication of DESA, UNCTAD and the regional commissions to be released in January of 2007. The results of the meeting will also provide guidance to the ongoing reform of the LINK modelling system at DPAD.

Contact: Mr. Rob Vos, Director, Development Policy and Analysis Division, +1 212/ 963-4838

International cooperation in tax matters

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, 2nd session, Geneva, 30 October-3 November

<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/ffdtaxation-second%20session.htm>

Since 2005, a *Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters* meets every year. On this occasion, following agenda items will be discussed at the second session of the Committee: (a) treaty abuses and treaty shopping; (b) mutual assistance in collection of tax debts; (c) definition of permanent establishment; (d) taxation of development projects; (e) exchange of information; (f) revision of the United Nations Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries; and (f) dispute resolution and definition of interest.

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/69 of 11 November 2004, the Committee comprises 25 members nominated by Governments and appointed by the Secretary-General, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution and representation of different tax systems.

Contact: Mr. Masa Ohyama, Financing for Development Office, +1 212/963-4695

Citizen participation in the implementation of the UN development agenda, including the MDGs

Expert group meeting, New York, 1-2 November
http://www.unpan.org/directory/conference/guest/browseoneconference.asp?conference_id=2003

The Division for Public Administration and Development Management is organizing an *expert group meeting* on engaged governance to be held in the DC2 23rd floor conference room. Experts will discuss the concepts of participation and engaged governance and their impact on the implementation of development goals, which include the Millennium Development Goals.

Contact: Mr. Jacinto De Vera, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, +1 212/963-0525

Enhancing CEDAW implementation in Asia-Pacific

Workshop, Bangkok, 6-9 November

The Division for the Advancement of Women will hold a *workshop* in Bangkok on implementation and follow-up to concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination

of Discrimination against Women. The workshop aims at enhancing implementation of the Convention through more effective follow-up to the concluding comments of the Committee; enhancing the effectiveness of the Optional Protocol to the Convention; and encouraging the development of coordinated, comprehensive and multi-sectoral approaches to achieve gender equality.

The workshop will bring together 35 participants from 7 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Government officials, Parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations and members of the United Nations country teams.

Contact: Division for the Advancement of Women

Engaging civil society in public accountability

Dialogue with audit institutions, Manila, 7-8 November

http://www.unpan.org/directory/conference/guest/browseoneconference.asp?conference_id=1999

This *dialogue* will discuss training and advocacy for effective partnerships and collaboration between audit institutions and civil society organizations. The main purpose is to foster better understanding and improved collegiality in public accountability systems.

The meeting is organized by the Division for Public Administration and Development Management, along with the International Budget Project of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities based in Washington D.C., and the Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration.

Contact: Mr. Jacinto De Vera, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, + 1-212/963-0525

African youth as partners for peace in post-conflict countries

Expert group meeting, Windhoek, 14-16 November

The Division for Social Policy and Development is collaborating with the Office of the Special

Adviser on Africa in the organization of an expert group meeting participation of African youth as partners in peace and development in post-conflict countries. The meeting will take place in Windhoek, Namibia from 14 to 16 November.

The expert group meeting aims to critically analyze the complexity and gravity of the challenges youth face in post-conflict situations in Africa, with the core objective of devising specific strategies and mechanisms to include youth as central stakeholders in rehabilitation, reconciliation, and rebuilding of war-torn communities, and contributing to sustainable development in their countries. The meeting will be focusing on three main themes: (i) integration of youth, in particular the reintegration of ex-combatants into societies; (ii) creation of job/work opportunities and income generating activities for youth; and (iii) inclusion of youth in the rebuilding and rehabilitation efforts initiated by local governments and/or other stakeholders in their communities, with a focus on securing access to basic services.

Contact: Ms. Makiko Tagashira, Division for Social Policy and Development, + 1 212/963-4836

How to fight poverty in the next 10 years

International forum, New York, 15-16 November
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/poverty/PovertyForum/index.html>

To mark the end of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), the Division of Social Policy and Development, in collaboration with United Nations agencies and civil society, is organizing an *international forum* on the eradication of poverty. The forum aims to achieve two major objectives. First, it is intended to send a strong message on the importance of a continued and enhanced commitment to poverty eradication in the run-up to 2015. Second, the forum will provide a valuable opportunity for forward-looking dialogue among stakeholders in order to identify the main challenges ahead and concrete and sustainable strategies to combat poverty in its various dimensions over the next ten years.

The forum will consist of a series of high-level panels and dialogues as well as lunch time events on a variety of topics central to poverty eradication, including the root causes of poverty

and effective measures to address them. Panelists include Nicholas Negroponete (founder, One Laptop per Child initiative), Iqbal Quadir (founder, Grameen Phone), Pedro Sanchez (Director, Millennium Villages Project), Peter Townsend (Townsend Centre for International Poverty Research), Jan Peterson (Member, High-Level Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor) and Bharat Wakhlu (President, Tata Inc. USA).

Contact: Mr. Donald Lee, Division for Social Policy and Development, +1 212/963-8762

Integration of older persons in development goals

Consultative meeting, Bangkok, 28 November-1 December

This *meeting* will focus on issues related to the capacity of stakeholders in the sub-regions of West Africa, Central Asia and the Caribbean to integrate ageing issues in national development frameworks through advocacy and competency-based training and training-of-trainers approach.

The Division for Social Policy and Development in collaboration with the Emerging Social Issues Division of ESCAP organizes the event.

Contact: Ms. Rosemary Lane, Division for Social Policy and Development, +1 212/96 3-5090

Measuring international migration: concepts and methods

Expert group meeting, New York, 4-7 December

The Statistics Division seeks through this *expert group meeting* to assess requirements for international migration statistics in response to policy interest and the challenges faced by national statistical systems in measuring international migration flows and stock.

The meeting will review national practices in the compilation of migration statistics and identify difficulties associated with the recommended concepts and definitions. It will explore ways to foster cooperation between policy machineries of governments and their data collection agencies, and develop a plan for the improvement of migration statistics. The outcome will help determine the scope and content of a handbook on statistics of international migration to be prepared by UNSD.

Contact: Ms. Erlinda Go, Statistics Division, +1 212/963 4507

Enhancing the service delivery capacity of the African public service

Roundtable conference, Arusha, 4-8 December

The African Association for Public Administration and Management will hold its 28th *roundtable conference* in Arusha from 4-8 December on the topic of enhancing service delivery capacity. The conclusions and recommendations of the Association are to be presented at the Africa Regional Forum taking place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 11 to 13 December.

Assisting the organization of the event is the Division for Public Administration and Development Management.

Contact: Mr. John-Mary Kauzya, +1-212/963-1973; Mr. Jide Balogun, 1-917/367-5068

Consideration of the content of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

Ad hoc expert group meeting, New York, 11-15 December

<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/adhoc-nlbi.html>

Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/49 on the outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests called for the conclusion and adoption of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests at the seventh session of the UN Forum on Forests to be held 16-27 April 2007.

To assist the Forum in its deliberations, an *open-ended ad hoc expert group* on the consideration of the content of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests is being convened to identify and analyze common elements of the non-legally-binding instrument, and to further elaborate the substantive, working and institutional elements of the instrument.

The ad hoc expert group shall be composed of experts designated by Governments of member States of the Forum. The meeting will be attended by members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, representatives of intergovernmental organizations and major groups.

Contact: Mr. Pekka Patosaari, Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, +1 212/963 3160

Developing gender statistics

Inter-agency and expert group meeting, New York, 12-14 December

The Statistics Division, in collaboration with the World Bank and the United Nations Population Fund, is convening an *inter-agency and expert group meeting* on the development of gender statistics to explore ways of strengthening collaboration and promoting partnerships among stakeholders in the development of gender statistics.

The meeting will review some of the key initiatives and strategies that are considered as being most successful; identify specific programmes and products that have enhanced capacities at national and regional levels in the collection, compilation and dissemination of gender statistics; and plan for launching an initiative to improve the availability, accessibility and use of reliable gender statistics for planning, monitoring and evaluation, at various levels, in particular at the national level.

Contact: Ms. Elisa Munoz-Franco, Statistics Division, +1 212/963 4972

Triennial review of operational activities

Preparatory process including thematic studies, expert group meetings and field missions
<http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/tcpr.htm>

To prepare for the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination is launching system-wide preparation and consultation efforts.

The *preparatory process* will consist of thematic studies, expert group meetings and field missions along with UNDG and other inter-agency coordination bodies.

Drawing from the findings of these activities, a comprehensive analysis of the system-wide implementation of the General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the review of operational activities for development will be submitted to

the General Assembly at its 62nd session. The review will assist Member States in assessing UN efforts in improving effectiveness, efficiency and impact of its support to developing countries.

Contact: Ms. Marion Barthelemy, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, +1 212/963-4005

Technical cooperation

Global Initiatives

Inauguration of the Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament

Rome, 17 November

<http://www.ictparliament.org>

Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, will inaugurate the office of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament in Rome. The Global Centre was launched by DESA and the Inter-Parliamentary Union at the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis in November 2005.

The overall objective of the initiative is to promote the use of ICT to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of parliamentary work at both the institutional and organizational levels and thus strengthen the role of parliaments as institutions that promote democracy and good governance. The Global Centre acts as a clearinghouse for disseminating information and sharing experiences, and provides a global platform for promoting collaboration and linking the broadest possible number of initiatives in this area.

Contact: Division for Public Administration and Development Management: Mr. Guido Bertucci, +1 212/963-5761, or Ms. Daniela Giacomelli, +39 06/6813 6320, ext.104

Africa South of the Sahara

Principles and recommendations for the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

Workshop, Maputo, 30 October-2 November
Bamako, 6-9 November

The Statistics Division is planning two back-to-back *workshops* on the Implementation of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2 for English speaking African countries in Maputo, Mozambique, 30 October-2 November

and for French-speaking African countries in Bamako, Mali, 6-9 November.

These workshops are designed to reach three major goals: (a) Introduce the revised set of principles and recommendations, including the recommended tabulations as a new international standard; (b) Provide an opportunity for participants to discuss these standards and to assess their feasibility and implementation in national census practices, and (c) Through national reports prepared for these workshops, produce a list of the most pressing issues that national authorities are facing in preparing and conducting population and housing censuses.

This list, in turn, will allow UNSD the planning of future inter-regional, regional and sub-regional activities as part of the implementation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses.

Contact: Mr. Srdjan Mrkic, Statistics Division, +1 212/963 4940

Statistical organization and management in the Southern African Development Community region

Training workshop, Luanda, 2-7 December

This *training workshop* is organized within the framework of the project on Strengthening Statistical Capacity in support of progress towards the internationally agreed development goals in the Southern African Development Community region.

The purpose of this workshop is to provide a forum for active sharing of experience and training in the areas of Leadership and Management, Staffing, Statistical Legislation and Positioning of National Statistical Offices in Government, as agreed during the discussions at the first steering committee meeting of the abovementioned project.

Contact: Ms. Fabia Yazaki, Statistics Division, +1 212/963 4823

How can the performance of water utilities in Africa be improved?

Capacity-building workshop, Nairobi, 6-8 December

A total of 100 participants will attempt to respond this question in a capacity-building *workshop* representing water utilities, private sector, local governments, international organizations and African regional networks. The following four interlinked themes will articulate the workshop: (i) Managing water and sanitation services in the urban areas; (ii) Strengthening institutional governance and accountability; (iii) Financing water and sanitation services; and (iv) Promoting partnerships among water operators.

The workshop, which will serve as a forum for sharing knowledge gained in improving the governance of public water utilities, is organized by the Division for Sustainable Development in partnership with UN-Habitat. The main objective is to strengthen the capacities of water utilities of the region in meeting the dual challenge of service expansion and efficient delivery of services.

Contact: Mr. Aslam Chaudhry, Division for Sustainable Development, +1 212/963-8558

Reinventing government in Africa: building trust

Regional forum, Addis Ababa, 11-13 December
http://www.unpan.org/directory/conference/guest/browseoneconference.asp?conference_id=2011

The Division for Public Administration and Development Management is organizing, in collaboration with UNDP, the Africa Governance Institute and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, a *regional forum* on reinventing government in Africa on the theme of building trust in government.

Aside from providing a regional perspective on the theme of the 7th Global Forum, scheduled to take place in Vienna, Austria in June 2007, the regional forum aims at soliciting the views of participants on measures for renewing and strengthening citizen faith in public authority.

The forum will be attended primarily by Ministers and high-level government officials, particularly from ministries and departments responsible for public service and local government; by officials from national assemblies in Africa; and by representatives from international organizations, including the

UN system, the academia and African regional institutes.

Contact: Mr. John-Mary Kauzya, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, +1 212/963-1973

Arab States

e-HR management project

Start-up meeting, Rabat, 11 December

The Government of Morocco has envisaged and defined a significant e-Government national programme for 2005-2008 (IDARATI) with the purpose of enhancing and accelerating the process of modernizing the country. The programme centrepiece will be the ability to effectively manage the career of all civil servants in the Government of Morocco.

The Division for Public Administration and Development Management, using resources from the Italian Trust Fund, will assist the Government of Morocco to develop an integrated personnel and financial management system that is made available to all ministries. The *official Start-up Meeting* will take place on 11 December in Rabat, attended by the relevant Government officials, the chosen vendor and representatives from DPADM and UNDP.

Contact: Mr. Richard Kerby, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, +1 917/367-4332

Asia and the Pacific

Compilation of international merchandise trade statistics

Workshop, Bangkok, 12-15 December

An *international workshop* will review the country practices in compilation of international merchandise trade statistics in the regions of South and South-East Asia. This review will be guided by the country replies to the questionnaire on the National Compilation and Dissemination Practices, which was sent out in July 2006.

The questionnaire deals with a broad range of issues starting from institutional arrangements to reporting practices. In addition, current concepts, definitions and recommendations of IMTS,

Rev.2 will be reviewed and discussed in light of the revisions of SNA93, BPM5, the Manual on SITS, the Kyoto convention and relevant economic classifications. Issues which will be covered are – among others - the boundary between goods and services, goods for processing abroad, and linkages between trade and business statistics.

Contact: Mr. Matthias Reister, Statistics Division, +1 917/367 7098

Improving skills in reforming public administration

Workshop, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 14-16 November
http://www.unpan.org/directory/conference/guest/browseoneconference.asp?conference_id=2000

The Division for Public Administration and Development Management is organizing a *workshop* on enhancing knowledge and skills in reforming public administration to an engaging and performing civil service in a challenging world. This workshop is being organized in partnership with the Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration and in conjunction with EROPA's seminar on modernizing the civil service in alignment with national development goals.

Experts and practitioners in the areas of civil service reform and public enterprise management have been invited to share their expertise and experiences on innovative policies and civil service reforms that lead to the engagement of citizens in the implementation of development goals.

Contact: Mr. Jacinto De Vera, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, +1 212/963-0525

National sustainable development strategy of the Republic of Korea

Technical meeting, Seoul, December

The Government of the Republic of Korea and the Division for Sustainable Development are working together on the review process of this national strategy, which involves a *technical meeting* in December and subsequent review workshop in March 2007, focusing on knowledge sharing, in-depth discussion and development of recommendations by selected

countries from the Asia and Pacific Region, concerning key aspects of national sustainable development strategy development, content, implementation and monitoring.

Contact: Ms. Birgitte Alvarez-Rivero, Division for Sustainable Development, +1 212/963-8400

Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States

The use of administrative data in economic statistics

Regional workshop, Moscow, 30 October–1 November

A *regional workshop* in Moscow will shed light on the use of administrative records for updating statistical business registers and compiling basic economic statistics, creating effective inter-agency cooperation and ensuring necessary legal preconditions for national statistical offices to have access to such records.

The Statistics Division is holding the event, jointly with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation.

Contact: Mr. Vladimir Markhonko, Statistics Division, +1 212/963-5252

Publications and websites

Technical reports

Overcoming Economic Vulnerability and Creating Employment: Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its Eighth Session

Forthcoming

<http://www.un.org/esa/policy/devplan/e200633.pdf>

Overcoming economic vulnerability and creating employment: report of the Committee for Development Policy on its eighth session, held 20-24 March 2006, contains the contribution of the Committee to the high-level segment of the 2006 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, which was entitled creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development. The publication examines the concept of coping with economic vulnerability and instability, focusing on national and international policy responses, and contains the review of the status of least developed countries. The publication is expected to be issued in November.

Contact: Mr. Anatoly Smyshlyaev, Secretary, Committee for Development Policy, +1 212/963-4687



Policy Workshop on HIV/AIDS and Family Well-being

<https://unp.un.org/details.aspx?enry=E06260>

The purpose of the Policy Workshop on HIV/AIDS and Family Well-being, held in Windhoek, Namibia in January 2006 was to bring together representatives of governments and non-governmental organizations as well as academic experts and practitioners from various countries in southern Africa to discuss the impact of HIV/AIDS on families in the region; to consider how families and communities are coping with the disease; and to contribute to the development of a strategic policy framework to assist Governments to strengthen the capacity of

families and family networks to cope. This report reflects the collective views of workshop participants.

Statistical compilations



Monthly Bulletin of Statistics and MBS Online

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mbs>

Provides monthly statistics on 50 subjects from over 200 countries and areas, together with special tables illustrating important economic developments. Quarterly data for significant world and regional aggregates are included.

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.Q/403

Vol. LX – No.7, July 2006

Special features in this issue: World shipbuilding; Civil aviation traffic: passenger-km, cargo net ton-km; Total exports and imports by countries or areas: volume, unit value, terms of trade and purchasing power of exports, in US dollars; World exports by provenance and destination.

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.Q/404

Vol. LX – No.8, August 2006

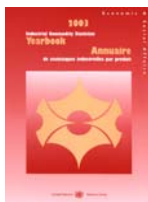
Special features in this issue: Indices of world industrial production by branches of industry and by regions; Producer price indices; Earnings in manufacturing, by sex; Construction of new buildings; Total exports and imports by regions: volume and unit value indices and terms of trade.

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.Q/405

Vol. LX – No.9, September 2006

Special features in this issue: Retail price indices relating to living expenditures of United Nations officials; Fuel imports, developed economies: unit value and volume indices; Indicators on fuel imports, developed economies; Registration of new motor vehicles; External trade conversion factors; Manufactured goods exports: unit value indices, volume indices and value; Exports by commodity classes and by regions; Selected series of world statistics.

Contact: Ms. Adriana Skenderi, Statistics Division, +1 212/963-4602



Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2003

http://unstats.un.org/unsd/industry/icsy_intro.asp

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.P/43

Sales no. E/F.05.XVII.9

The Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook provides statistics on the production of about 530 major industrial commodities. Data are provided for a ten-year period and for approximately 200 countries and territories. The commodities have been selected on the basis of their importance in world production and trade. At the end of the publication are two annexes: an index of commodities in alphabetical order; and a table of correspondence among ISIC-based commodity codes, SITC Rev. 2, SITC Rev. 3 and Harmonized System codes.

Contact: Mr. Ralf Becker, Statistics Division, +1 212/963-4600.



World Statistics Pocketbook 2005

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.V/30

Sales no. E.06.XVII.3

<https://unp.un.org/details.aspx?entry=E06WSB>

This handy international statistical pocketbook provides a compilation of basic economic, social and environmental indicators for 208 countries and areas world-wide. It covers 57 key indicators in the areas of population, economic activity, agriculture, industry, energy, international trade, transport, communications, gender, education and environment, based on over 20 international statistical sources. The layout provides an easy-to-view comprehensive statistical profile of each country or area; and the notes on sources and definitions on indicators provide a valuable guide for further research by the in-depth user of these statistics.

Contact: Mr. Virgilio Castillo, Statistics Division, +1 212/963-4867

Population and Vital Statistics Report, January 2006, Vol. LVIII

Forthcoming

This biannual journal, released in English, gives you estimates of world and regional populations as well as estimates for 218 countries. Information is derived from each country's latest

population, national census and from nationally representative statistics on birth and mortality.

Contact: Mr. Armino Miranda, Population Division, +1 212/963-3210

Handbooks



Innovations in Governance and Public Administration: Replicating What Works

<https://unp.un.org/details.aspx?entry=E06020>

This publication sheds light on the many opportunities of innovations in governance as a developmental tool. The publication provides key ideas and useful tools to transfer and adapt successful practices and innovations in governance and public administration. By providing governments with a menu of innovations to solve economic and social problems and with tools to adapt to their own context, the international community can play a critical role in promoting good governance.

Contact: Division for Public Administration and Development Management

Websites

60th Anniversary of the United Nations Statistical Commission

http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/stacom_archive/statcom_commemorative.htm

Commemorative site in celebration of the Commission's 60 years of building the global statistical system

Contact: Mr. Virgilio Castillo, Statistics Division, +1 212 963-4867

Standard International Trade Classification, revision 4

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/sitcrev4.htm>

Site repository of the fourth revision of the Standard International Trade Classification, produced in view of the accumulated changes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System.

Contact: Mr. Ronald Jansen, Statistics Division +1 212/963-5980

Comings and goings

Comings



Ms. Kathleen Abdalla has been appointed Chief of the National Information, Monitoring and Outreach Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development effective 1 October. Ms.

Abdalla joined the Division in 1997 and has worked on energy issues and on facilitating and supporting the annual sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, developing energy indicators for sustainable development and organizing the CSD Learning Centre. Ms. Abdalla joined the United Nations in 1985. Prior to her assignment with DESA, she served in Iraq, Jordan and South Africa. Ms. Abdalla holds a Ph.D. in economics.

Goings



Ms. Mary Pat Silveira retired from the United Nations in October after 28 years with the Organization. Ms. Silveira began her United Nations career at the Center for Science and Technology for

Development in 1978. She transferred to the Division for Sustainable Development in 1993 and later joined the UN Mission in Kosovo as Deputy UN Chief Representative in Mitrovica. After leaving Kosovo, Ms. Silveira worked in the Environment and Human Settlements Division of ECE before rejoining the DESA Division for Sustainable Development in 2004. Ms. Silveira's last posting was as Chief of the Sustainable Development National Information, Monitoring and Outreach Branch.

The following staff members also retired from the organization between 1 August and 30 September.

Ms. Marcia Brewster, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Sustainable Development

Ms. Salsbury Greta, Statistician, Statistics Division

Mr. Manuel Chua, Statistic Assistant, Statistics Division,

Ms. Faith Aarons, Administrative Assistant, Executive Office

Ms. Astorga Victoria, Secretary, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination

Ms. Dorothy Dicker, Secretary, Division for Sustainable Development

Promotions

The following staff members were also promoted between 1 August and 30 September.

Mr. Seth Nikhil, Director, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination

Ms. Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development

Mr. Kozue Nagata, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination

Ms. Ann D'lima, Statistics Assistant, Development Policy and Analysis Division

Mr. Luis Collantes, Information System Assistant, Development Policy and Analysis Division

Calendar

November

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

Geneva, 30 October-3 November

General Assembly Second Committee

“Keep the Promise: Make It Happen”

New York, 2 October-1 December

Panel discussion on energy security and its implications for the future

New York, 1 November

Panel discussion on e-Government as a tool for participation and inclusion

New York, 3 November

General Assembly Third Committee

New York, 2 October-22 November

Workshop in on implementation and follow-up to concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Bangkok, 6-9 November

Workshop on the principles and recommendations for the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

Bamako, 6-9 November

Dialogue on civil society engagement in public accountability

Manila, 7-8 November

Inauguration of the Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament

Rome, 17 November

December

Training workshop on statistical organization and management for SADC member States

Luanda, 2-7 December

Expert group meeting on measuring international migration: concepts and methods

New York, 4-7 December

Observances

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

25 November

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/asp/user/list.asp?ParentID=10270>

Violence against women remains prevalent, pervasive, systemic, and even sanctioned. The key challenge that remains is to move the issue from awareness that it is a human rights violation and a crime, to making it socially unacceptable and counter to community norms. Governments, NGOs, civil society, the private sector and international bodies must work together to face this challenge head on, and to provide the political will, commitment and courage to finally eradicate this scourge from human life.

International Day of Disabled Persons

3 December

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/disiddp.htm>

The annual observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons, 3 December, aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

The theme of the day in 2006 is e-Accessibility, and is based on the goal of full and equal enjoyment of human rights and participation in society by persons with disabilities.

International Migrants Day

18 December

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/asp/user/list.asp?Query=migration>

On 4 December 2000, the General Assembly, taking into account the large and increasing number of migrants in the world, proclaimed 18 December International Migrants Day (resolution 55/93). On that day, in 1990, the

Assembly adopted the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (resolution 45/158).

Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to observe International Migrants Day through the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and through the sharing of experiences and the design of actions to ensure their protection.

Special events

UN Common Ground conflict resolution film series

New York, 8 and 28 November

The Division for Public Administration and Development Management and the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination represent DESA in co-hosting with DPA, DPI and UNDP the UN Common Ground Conflict Resolution Film Series, which is presenting two world-premiere documentary films in November. On 8 November, *Echoes Across the Divide* will be shown, in which Turkish and Greek Cypriots bridge the political divide with a concert played on rooftops across the Green line. On 28 November *The Imam and the Pastor* will be shown, an exploration of Christian/Muslim trust-building and partnership where former instigators cross the religious divide to become instigators of peace and rebuild communities torn apart by violence. Both film screenings take place at 6 p.m. at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium.

Contact: Ms. Gay Rosenblum-Kumar, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, + 1-212/963-8381

DESA News is an insider's look at the United Nations in the area of coordination of economic and social development policies. 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, and is issued every two months.

Contact: Communications and Information Management Service, + 1 212/963-5874