

48th Session of the Commission for Social Development High-Level Panel Discussion in Commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development

3 February 2010, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The High-level panel discussion will allow for an interchange of ideas among Members States, relevant United Nations agencies and civil society on strategies for how best to advance social development 15 years after the World Summit for Social Development. This interaction is intended to review advancement towards and renew commitments to achieving people-centred development. It is also aimed at stimulating thinking on how to address the relationships between social development and emerging issues such as climate change and the economic crisis. At the same time, the panelists will examine ways to expand the benefits of social development to all, particularly of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups in society.

Keynote Speaker

Professor Jimi Adesina

Mr. Jimi Adesina is a Professor of Sociology at Rhodes University of South Africa. He teaches and conducts research in development, labour studies and social theory at the Department of Sociology of Rhodes University. He was trained at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, and at Warwick University, UK. He has published widely on labour, development studies and social theory. He has been the Secretary of the South African Sociological Association, the interim Secretary-General of the African Sociological Association, and a member of the Executive Committee of Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). Professor Adesina was also the External Research Coordinator for the UNRISD subproject on Social Policy in sub-Saharan Africa within the project titled "Social Policy in a Development Context". In addition, he was an expert at the November 2009 meeting convened by UN-DESA on Policies to Advance Social Integration, held in preparation for the 48th session of the Commission for Social Development.

Panelists

H.E. Mr. Rudolf Hundstorfer

H.E. Mr. Rudolf Hundstorfer is Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection of Austria. Mr. Hundstorfer started his trade union activities as a youth spokesman in the administration of the City of Vienna. He was responsible for youth affairs in the Union of Municipal Employees and was also elected chairman of Vienna's Union of Municipal Employees. He served as chairman of the Social Democratic Trade Unionists and was member of Vienna's Provincial Diet and City Council and first chairman of Vienna's City. He has also served as president of the Austrian Trade Union Federation.

H.E. Mr. Enrique Deibe

H.E. Mr. Enrique Deibe is the Secretary of Employment in the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of Argentina. In addition to holding various positions in the private sector and as a public policy advisor, Mr. Deibe is also a professor of Labour Relations and has published many research papers in the field of labour relations. He has served in the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security in various capacities since 1988 and in 2003, he was appointed National Employment Secretary and has served in that capacity since.

Mr. CHUA Hoi Wai

Mr. CHUA Hoi Wai is Business Director of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China. He is directly involved in activities related to social welfare services, employment, poverty, social security and health care financing. He has been in charge of the Social Development Index Project since 1998, and was the coordinator of the Civil Society Index Project completed in 2006. He was also the President of the Hong Kong Social Workers Association and Executive Committee member of the International Council on Social Welfare. Mr. Chua has participated in a number of civil society organizations and statutory or advisory committees of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China.