



48th Session of the Commission for Social Development

High-level panel discussion on “Social Integration and its relationship with poverty eradication and full employment and decent work for all”

4 February 2010, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

The panel discussion will allow for an interchange of ideas among Members States, relevant United Nations agencies and civil society on strategies for social integration in the context of poverty eradication and promotion of full employment. This interaction is intended to stimulate thinking on how to incorporate social integration policies and principles into broader poverty eradication and employment policies. The panelists will explore how efforts to eradicate poverty and promote full employment and decent work can help to advance social integration, particularly of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups in society.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Beatriz Merino

Dr. Beatriz Merino is the President of the Iberoamerican Federation of Ombudsmen, and the National Ombudsman of Peru. Her mission is to secure the constitutional and fundamental rights of the citizens and the community, as well as to supervise the fulfillment of the government’s obligations and to oversee the appropriate rendering of public utilities to the community. It also supervises all levels of the state. Since 2005, she is an advocate of the Peruvian people.

In 2003, Dr. Merino was appointed the Prime Minister of Peru. She was the first woman to hold that position. Previously, from 2001 to 2003, she was the Head

of the National Tax Administration Agency in Peru. Recognized as a leader in women's issues, Dr. Merino was elected for the Peruvian Senate from 1990 to 1992, and after for the Congress from 1995 to 2000. As a congresswoman, she presided over the Women and Human Development Committee of the Congress of the Republic of Peru.

Dr. Merino has made studies at the London School of Economics and holds graduate degrees from the Harvard Law School. In the private sector, she had a longstanding career at the Procter & Gamble Company, as responsible for the International Trade, Environmental Legislative Affairs, and Government Relations for the Latin American Division. In Procter & Gamble she was recognized among 25,000 company managers as a worldwide example of leadership, being the first woman lawyer to be awarded with such distinction.

Panelists

H.E. Mr. J. Piet Hein Donner

H.E. Mr. J. Piet Hein Donner is the Minister of Social Affairs and Employment of the Netherlands. Mr. Donner held various senior government positions. From 2002 to 2006 he was Minister of Justice, and from 1998 to 2002 was a member of the Council of State. In 1990 he was appointed a member of the Advisory Council on Government Policy becoming its chairman in 1993.

From 1982 to 1984 he was seconded to the House of Representatives of the States General to serve the Committee of Inquiry into government policy on the Rijn-Schelde-Verolme shipyard and engineering works. Mr. Donner also worked in the Ministry of Economic Affairs. He has sat on the boards and advisory committees of the CNV Trade Union Federation, the University of Tilburg, the STIMO (which promotes socially responsible business practice among small and medium-sized enterprises), the Protestant Sports Union, the Asser Institute and the NCW Trade Union.

Dr. Servacius B. Likwelile

Since 2005, Dr. Servacius B. Likwelile has been the Chief Executive Director of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in the Office of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania. From 2001 to 2005, Dr. Likwelile was the Director of Poverty Eradication, in the Vice President's office where he managed the anti-poverty program of the Government. He was a focal point and played an important role in the design and formulation of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty, known as MKUKUTA.

Dr. Likwelile has extensive experience on research and training and served as the Head of Department of Economics at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, the Coordinator of research and training at the Research and Poverty Alleviation (REPOA), the Economic Advisor with UNDP, Dar es Salaam, and lectured at the University of Dar-es-Salaam. Dr. Likwelile holds a Ph.D in Economics from the University of Dar-es-Salaam, has presented numerous papers and has published widely.

Professor Vojtech Tkáč

Professor Vojtech Tkáč is the Adviser to the Minister, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of Slovakia. He held various senior government positions: from 1993 to 1998, he was the Deputy-Minister and in 1998 he was the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of Slovakia. From 1998 to 2006, he was the Chairman of the Committee for Social Affairs and Housing, National Council of Slovakia. Since 1972, he served as University pedagogue and College lecturer at numerous universities in Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

Professor Tkáč held professional offices in Czechoslovak Trade Union Bodies as an advocate for the care of workers and later as the head of Legislation Department of the Czech and Slovak Trade Union Confederation. He has written numerous scientific monographs and books which have been published both in Slovakia and internationally. He holds a Ph.D in Labour Law from the Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia.