



## **Civil Society Forum**

*Commission for Social Development*

### **“Civil society: Promoting empowerment of people to achieve the goals of social development”**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm**  
**United Nations HQ, NLB-Conference Room 4**

The Civil Society Forum has been planned by the NGO Committee for Social Development in joint sponsorship by UN-DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office. This Forum has been organized to prepare civil society participants to participate during the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission for Social Development (Feb 6-15, 2013 at UNHQ in New York) as well as in ongoing discussions related to evaluation of the post-2015 development framework. Speakers are invited to address and critique the Commission's two-year focus on empowerment and give voice to perspectives from civil society on what is required to eliminate poverty, reduce inequality, and achieve social integration and decent work for all.

**9:00-10:00 Forum Sign In** - United Nations Lobby

#### **10:00-10:30 Opening Session**

##### **Welcome:**

**Ms. Susan Somers**, Secretary General, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse;  
Co-Chair, Civil Society Forum Task Force

**Ms. Margaret Mayce**, Dominican Leadership Conference; Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development

##### **Special Presentations:**

**Mr. Wu Hongbo**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, UN-DESA

**Ms. Sewa Lamsal Adhikari**, Charge d' Affairs Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations,  
Bureau Chair, Commission for Social Development

**Ms. Daniela Bas**, Director, Division for Social Policy & Development, UN-DESA

**Mr. Werner Puschra**, Executive Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office

**10:30-1:00 Keynote Panel (Q&A 12:30-1:00)**

**“Civil society: Promoting empowerment of people to achieve the goals of social development”**

##### **Moderator:**

**Mr. Sergei Zelenov**, Executive Director, International Council on Social Welfare;  
Co-Chair, Civil Society Forum Task Force

**Speakers:**

**Mr. Michael Cichon**, President, International Council of Social Welfare

**Mr. Charles Abbey**, Executive Director, African Development Programme

**Ms. Karen Higgins**, National Co-President, National Nurses United, a Coalitional Member of the Robin Hood Tax Campaign

**Mr. Iñigo Errejón Galván**, Professor of Political Science, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

**1:00-2:00 Lunch Break****2:00-2:15 Presentation: “Civil Society Declaration”**

**Ms. Margaret Mayce**, Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development

**2:15-3:00 —“On Providing Mutual Aid, Empowerment and Solidarity” followed by Q&A****Moderator:**

**Ms. Sara Burke**, Senior Policy Analyst, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office

**Speakers:**

**Mr. Andrew Ross**, Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis, New York University; Activist, Occupy Sandy and Strike Debt

**Ms. Bethany Brown**, Policy Director, HelpAge, USA; Global empowerment of older people in disasters.

**3:00-4:00 – Break Out Groups**

These interactive sessions offer attendees an opportunity to discuss in more detail the Commission’s priority theme of empowerment with regard to its relationship to poverty, jobs and social integration. Keynote speakers from the morning panel and/or their colleagues will participate as resource persons in the break out groups.

**1) Poverty eradication**

Resource persons: Mr. Michael Cichon and Mr. Charles Abbey

**2) Full employment and Decent work**

Resource persons: Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Deputy Director, International Labour Organization and Ms. Karen Higgins

**3) Social Integration**

Resource persons: Mr. Iñigo Errejón Galván and Mr. Andrew Ross

**4:15 – 4:30 Closing Remarks:**

**Ms. Margaret Mayce**, Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development