

Working Together: Making a Difference. Department of Public Information Non-Governmental Organizations

DPI/NGO Relations and the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs invite you to the Briefing

"Advancing Social Integration and Intergenerational Solidarity"

(In observance of the International Day of Families)

Date: Thursday, 16 May 2013 Time: 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Location: Conference Room 1, North Lawn Building, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Background Information

The International Day of Families was first proclaimed by the General Assembly in 1993, by its resolution A/RES/47/237. The Day reflects the importance that the international community attaches to families as basic units of societies, as well as its concern regarding the situation of families around the world.

Observed on 15 May every year, The International Day offers an annual opportunity for the United Nations, governments, NGOs, educational institutions and the public at large to reflect on how constantly evolving economic, social and demographic trends affect families. The Day also presents an excellent chance for global society as a whole to demonstrate its support for the family.

2013's observance will focus on what can be done to encourage the further development of both social integration and intergenerational solidarity. These themes will also be highlighted during the 20th anniversary celebrations of the International Year of the Family in 2014. These twin themes offer an opportunity to refocus on the role of families in development, including the effects of socio-economic and demographic transformations on the family unit.

Advancing social integration involves bringing together groups across society, including the most vulnerable, and ensuring their inclusion into the social, political, and economic structures of society. Advancing intergenerational solidarity involves promoting exchanges between generations, and is achieved by developing and encouraging programmes that facilitate increased interaction between younger and older generations. These can include tax benefits aimed at supporting intergenerational care, mentoring programmes at work or the promotion of multigenerational living arrangements, just to name a few.

This Briefing will bring together a diverse panel to discuss how making progress on both these fronts can enhance the role of the family in development. The panel will also look at best practices, how social integration efforts can best be applied at local, national and international levels and the role NGOs and civil society activists can play in promoting action on behalf of families.

This Briefing will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m.

MODERATOR

Ms. Maria-Luisa Chavez, Chief, NGO Relations, Department of Public Information

SPEAKERS & PRESENTERS

H.E. Mr. Carlos Enrique Garcia Gonzalez, Ambassador of El Salvador to the United Nations

Ms. Elizabeth Niland, Associate Social Affairs Officer, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development-Youth, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Ms. Donna Butts, Executive Director, Generations United

Ms. Theresa Knox, Program Director, Intergenerational Work Study Program, NYC Department for the Aging

United Nations-produced videos relevant to the theme of the Briefing are sometimes screened during the session. For Briefing information please call the DPI/NGO Resource Centre at +1-212-963-7232 / 7233 / 7234 or e-mail <u>dpingo.briefings@un.org</u>. To receive the Briefing information electronically, please email dpingo.briefings@un.org. You may also visit the DPI/NGO Relations Cluster website at <u>www.un.org/dpi/ngosection</u>, where archived web casts and audio (both, when available) of the Briefing may also be accessed

Requests for guest passes should be faxed on organization letterhead to the DPI/NGO Resource Centre at +1 212-963-2819 or e-mailed to dpingo.briefings@un.org AT LEAST TWO BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR to the Briefing. [Please note that pass requests received at any other email address will not be processed.] All guest passes should be picked up at the DPI/NGO Resource Centre, Room GA-37, on the morning of the Briefing. NGOs are reminded that this Briefing starts promptly at 10:15 a.m.

NOTE: This Briefing will be webcast live. You can post questions and comments during the session on our Facebook (facebook.com/UNDPINGOsPartners4Change) or Twitter hashtag (#DPINGO).