

**Provisional Programme for the Commemoration of
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**

**17 October 2009 (observed on 19 October)
United Nations Headquarters**

Children and Families Speak Out Against Poverty

11:00 – 11:30 am Press Conference, Room S-226

- H.E. Mr. Gérard Araud, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations
- Ms. Rachel Mayanja, United Nations Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women
- Mr. Denzel Matthew, ChildFund International, Dominica (with chaperone, Mr. Francis Joseph, Director of ChildFund Caribbean, Dominica)
- Mr. Thierry Viard, Executive Secretary, International Movement ATD Fourth World

Moderator: United Nations Department of Public Information

1:15 - 2:30 pm Commemoration, Conference Room 2

- Opening music by Mr. Adam Ezra
- Introduction by Co-masters of Ceremony, Ms. Samantha Danzler and Ms. Elise Roberts, Fourth World Movement
- Testimony on behalf of children and families living in poverty, Mr. Denzel Matthew, ChildFund International, Dominica
- Message of the United Nations Secretary-General delivered by Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, followed by statement
- Statement of Ms. Liz Gibbons, Deputy Director, Policy & Practice, United Nations Children's Fund
- Testimony on behalf of children and families living in poverty, Ms. Zena Grimes, Fourth World Movement
- Message of H.E. Mr. Gérard Araud, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations
- Message of H.E. Mr. Michel Kafando, Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations (*or representative*)
- Video: Children as Agents of Change, Marymount School
- Recommitment to Overcoming Extreme Poverty: Reading of the Text of the Commemorative Stone and Dedication of Flowers, Sr. Deidre Mullan, Sisters of Mercy
- Testimony of a Youth Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Chris Varney, Australia

- Rendition of “We Shall Overcome” by Mr. Adam Ezra
- Testimony about the Children’s Parliaments in India, Ms. Fatima Rodrigo, International Presentation Association (IPA)
- Message on behalf of the International Movement ATD Fourth World delivered by Mr. Charles Courtney, President, Fourth World Movement
- Closing comments by Co-masters of Ceremony

3:00 - 5:30 pm Interactive Panel Event, Labouisse Hall, UNICEF House

"Children: the future and the present - participation in poverty reduction and accountability for rights"

- Refreshments
- Introduction by Moderator, Sr. Deirdre Mullan, Sisters of Mercy
- Performance by Treehouse Shakers dance and theater company
- Panelist testimonies on the importance of the right to participate and how that right is exercised
 - H.E. Mr. Crispin S. Gregoire, Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of Dominica to the United Nations
 - H.E. Mr. Gonzalo Gutiérrez, Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations
 - Mr. Denzel Matthew, ChildFund International, Dominica (with chaperone, Mr. Francis Joseph, Director of ChildFund Caribbean, Dominica)
 - Ms. Ariane Eigler, Social Worker, Bronx Defenders
 - Ms. Denisse Becerra, Youth Delegate of Peru to the United Nations
 - Ms. Liz Gibbons, Deputy Director, Policy & Practice, United Nations Children’s Fund
- Open dialogue with audience