



AFICS BULLETIN

NEW YORK

ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS

Vol. 41, No. 3 July 2010



AFICS (NY) CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO RETIREES

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AND RECEPTION

TEN MAJOR THINGS THE UN DOES EVERY DAY (page 4)

"The mission of AFICS(NY) is to support and promote the purposes, principles and programmes of the UN System; to advise and assist former international civil servants and those about to separate from service; to represent the interests of its members within the System; to foster social and personal relationships among members, to promote their well-being and to encourage mutual support of individual members."

AFICS(NY) webpage: <<http://www.un.org/other/afics>>

CONTENTS

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT	3
UNITED NATIONS HIGHLIGHTS	
Every Day, UN Works to Solve Global Challenges	4
UN Pays Tribute to Peacekeepers	4
Beware of Scams Mentioning UN	6
AFICS (NY) IN ACTION	
Annual Assembly and Reception	7
Committee Reports	19
AFICS (NY) Library	21
MEMBERS' FORUM	
Activities in Retirement	22
"Marie du Sahel"	23
ADVOCATES' CORNER	
Obama Likes Int. Institutions	25
Progress on Global Health & MDGs	26
UN AT WORK WORLDWIDE	26
HEALTHY LIVING	
Not Just a "Senior Moment!"	27
Ways to Forestall Alzheimer's Disease?	29
WORLDWIDE REUNIONS	30
OBITUARIES	33
IN MEMORIAM	36

ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS (New York)

Honorary Members

Martti Ahtisaari	Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Kofi A. Annan	Ahmad Tejan Kabbah
Ban Ki-moon	Javier Perez de Cuellar
Aung San Suu Kyi	

GOVERNING BOARD

Honorary Board Members

Margaret K. Bruce	Helen Geffen Roht
Andrés Castellanos del Corral	George F. Saddler
O. Richard Nottidge	Patricia K. Tsien
	Jane Weidlund

Officers

President

Edward Omotoso

1st Vice President

Linda Saputelli

2nd Vice President

J. Fernando Astete

Secretary

Christine Smith-
Lemarchand

Deputy Secretary

Louise Laheurte

Treasurer

Vacant

Deputy Treasurer

Puran Sharma

Others Board Members

Miguel Arnabal
Denis Beissel
Thomas A. Bieler

Barbara Burns

Lola Costa-Esnard

Dede Emerson

Anthony J. Fouracre

Béatrice Frankard-Little

Anne Gunning

Suzan S. Habachy

Phyllis P. MacPherson

Margaret Miles

Stafford K. Mousky

Dr. Sudershan Narula

Federico Riesco

Office Staff

Lydia Ontal

Angie de Hitta

Jamna Israni

Librarian

Dawne Gautier

Published quarterly by the Association of Former International Civil Servants (NY)

Editor

Mary Lynn Hanley

Design & Layout

Fidel Keymolen

Columnist

Dr. Sudershan Narula

Contributors

George F. Saddler
Andrés Castellanos
Lola Costa-Esnard
Dawne Gautier

Publishing Director

Edward Omotoso

Please submit news, views, photos and letters to the Editor by e-mail: MLhanley11@aol.com

Unless otherwise noted, throughout the Bulletin the term "AFICS" is used to refer to AFICS (New York).

The views and opinions expressed in the various reports, articles and illustrations in the Bulletin do not necessarily represent those of AFICS (NY), its Bureau or Governing Board, nor does the Association accept responsibility for the accuracy of information given. The mention of any product, service, organization or company does not necessarily imply its endorsement by the Association.

THE UN EVERY DAY

Every day of the year, the United Nations assists more than 34 million refugees and others in particular need. The UN has 116,000 peacekeepers in 17 operations on four continents. The UN provides food to 108 million people in 74 countries. These are among the fascinating but little known facts about the United Nations. We publish on page ___ of this edition a list of at least 10 very important things that the UN does every day. Prepared by the UN Secretariat's Department of Public Information, this list can be useful in our advocacy for the UN, one of the priority activities of our Association.



Jabulani and Vuvuzela World Cup

Two words have now been added to the global *lingua franca*: Jabulani and Vuvuzela. Jabulani is the name given to the official soccer balls newly issued by Adidas for use at the 2010 FIFA (*Federation International de Football Associations*) for its World Cup championship, hosted for the first time ever on the African continent, in the Republic of South Africa. Vuvuzela is the name of the simple, long plastic trumpet that virtually every fan has been blowing from the start to the end of each match of the tournament. There have been complaints about both: the Jabulani ball is said to be erratic, unsteady; players (especially goalkeepers) cannot be sure how it will bounce or float at any given time. The Vuvuzela has an incessant, monotonous sound, like the buzz of a million bees.

Three events gather the world's official or sporting representatives the most: the UN General Assembly, the Olympics, and the FIFA World Cup. The World Cup is the greatest and most popular sporting event on this planet. FIFA is a strong ally of the UN. Many of the celebrity footballers are goodwill ambassadors of the UN or one or more of its system of organizations. Notable among them are **Zinedine Zedane** and **Didier Drogba**, who recently hosted special events for UNDP in South Africa. The World Cup is a celebration of the beautiful mosaic of humanity at play. For me, the most beautiful sight is when, at the end of a game, opponents hug and exchange jerseys with each other. That's humanity at its best! As the tournament unfolds in South Africa, with billions of people following the games on TV, radio, on-line, by iPhone, iPad, i-whatever, and in the print media, all I want to say is: GO, WORLD!

Yes, He Can – Yes, He Has!

Critics, and even some of his supporters have complained that, despite promises during his campaign, U.S. President **Barack Obama** has not brought about much "change". But as far as American attitude towards the UN is concerned, there is positive difference. Outstanding American dues are being paid, and cooperation with the UN and its system of organizations has moved in the right direction. We carry an article on this matter on page 25 written by **Nina Hachigian**, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress, which appeared in *The Huffington Post* on 7 June. It is a new day in UN – USA relations. Here's hoping it will not only continue but be enhanced.

Edward Omotoso
President

UNITED NATIONS HIGHLIGHTS



EVERY DAY

**The United Nations works
to solve global challenges**

1. Provides food to 108 million people in 74 countries
2. Vaccinates 40 per cent of the world's children, saving 2 million lives a year
3. Assists over 34 million refugees and others fleeing war, famine or persecution
4. Fights climate change and leads a campaign to plant 1 billion trees a year
5. Keeps the peace with 116,000 peacekeepers in 17 operations on 4 continents
6. Fights poverty and helped 300 million rural poor achieve better lives in the last 30 years
7. Monitors, promotes, protects and develops human rights worldwide
8. Mobilizes \$7 billion in humanitarian aid to help people affected by emergencies
9. Leads international efforts in clearing landmines in over 30 countries
10. Promotes universal primary education, reaching 88% enrolment coverage in developing countries

Outreach Division
Department of Public Information
United Nations

UN PAYS TRIBUTE TO PEACEKEEPERS' WORK AND SACRIFICES IN WORLD'S HOT SPOTS

In honour of the eighth annual International Day of Peacekeepers, which this year fell on Saturday, the day before, on 28 May, the United Nations celebrated the dedication and courage of the men and women who play an indispensable role in the cause of peace around the world, while honouring the sacrifices of those who have paid the ultimate price in that service.

Ceremonies at UN Headquarters in New York paid tribute to the more than 124,000 personnel who are serving in 16 operations on four continents, doing everything from clearing

landmines and delivering aid to helping refugees and supporting free and fair elections. "Our courageous peacekeepers are among the best of what the United Nations has to offer," Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro remarked during a wreath-laying ceremony to honour fallen colleagues. "This is a day to celebrate their remarkable contributions. They do so much more than keeping the peace: they build bridges... they earn trust... they help societies heal the wounds of war," she said. "But today we also remember the terrible price they pay for their critical but dangerous work."

The UN General Assembly established the International Day in 2002 to pay tribute to all men and women serving in UN peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who had lost their lives in the cause of peace. The 192-member body designated 29 May as the Day, as it was the date in 1948 when the first UN peacekeeping mission, the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), began operations in Palestine.

This year's observance was a particularly sombre one owing to several tragedies that struck UN peacekeeping over the last year, from ambushes in Darfur, terrorism in Kabul, and the tragic earthquake in Haiti.

As part of the commemorative events, 218 peacekeepers who lost their lives while serving under the blue flag over the past 14 months were posthumously awarded the Dag Hammarskjöld medal at a ceremony presided over by Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Alain Le Roy.

This year's theme was "Haiti Standing," to mark the loss of 101 UN peacekeepers in the 12 January quake and highlight the ongoing contributions by the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) to the country's recovery.

The tragedy in Haiti represented the biggest single loss of life in UN peacekeeping history, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted in his message for the Day. "But that dark day also became one of our finest hours, as the men and women of MINUSTAH set aside their own trauma, got the mission quickly back on its feet and helped the people of Haiti cope with the horrific aftermath."

Mr. Ban, who was attending an international conference in Rio de Janeiro, had met the day before with the families of Brazilian peacekeepers killed in the Haiti earthquake, and participated at the unveiling of a commemorative plaque for the peacekeepers. "Hope in action. That is their legacy," he told the gathering. "They gave everything for the country of Brazil... for the people of Haiti... for the work of the United Nations."

General Assembly President Ali Treki, in his message for the Day, noted that some 9,000 personnel in uniform are currently providing security, clearing roads, conducting patrols, helping to restore basic services to the Haitian people, and much more. "Thanks to the courageous efforts of our peacekeepers in Haiti, there is hope and opportunity to recover and rebuild from a catastrophe of such proportions," he said.

Adapted from UN Website

**APPROVED RESOURCES FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS
for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010**

MINURCAT (United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad)	US \$ 690,753,100
MINURCAT (United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad)	US \$ 690,753,100
MINUSTAH (United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti)	US \$ 611,751,200
MONUC (United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo)	US \$ 1,351,538,500
UNAMID (African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operations in Darfur)	US \$ 1,598,942,200
UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Observer Force)	US \$ 45,029,700
UNFICYP (United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus)	US \$ 55,897,000
UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon)	US \$ 589,799,200
UNMIK (United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo)	US \$ 46,809,000
UNMIL (United Nations Mission in Liberia)	US \$ 561,031,500
UNMIS (United Nations Mission in the Sudan)	US \$ 958,350,200

UNMIT (United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste)	US \$ 205,939,400
UNOCI (United Nations Operations in Côte d'Ivoire)	US \$ 491,774,100
UNOCI (United Nations Operations in Côte d'Ivoire)	US \$ 491,774,100
UNOMIG (United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia)	US \$10,946,000
AMISOM (African Union Mission in Somali)	US \$ 213,580,000
Sub-total	US \$7,488,717,600
UNLB (United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi)	US \$ 57,954,100
Support account (backstopping of peacekeeping operations, mainly at Headquarters)	US \$322,547,400
Sub-total	US \$ 380,501,500
GRAND TOTAL	US \$ 7,869,219,100

*Figures from DPKO; Summary prepared by **Frances Zainoeddin***

BEWARE OF SCAMS IMPLYING ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

AFICS members have recently contacted us concerning the receipt of e-mail purporting to be from the UN, UN agencies or UN Officials. Often these messages say that recipients are due large sums of money from the UN and ask them to provide fees and/or bank account information so that the funds can be transferred..

THESE E-MAILS ARE SCAMS! DON'T BELIEVE THEM!

The following circular issued by UN/DPI some time ago remains valid today:

The United Nations has been made aware of various correspondences, being circulated via e-mail, from Internet websites, and via regular mail or facsimile, falsely stating that they are issued by, or in association with the United Nations and/or its officials. These scams, which may seek to obtain money and/or in many cases personal details from the recipients of such correspondence, are fraudulent. The United Nations wishes to warn the public at large about these fraudulent activities being perpetrated purportedly in the name of the Organization, and/or its officials, and would appreciate your bringing suspect communications to its attention.

Please note that:

- The United Nations does not charge a fee at any stage of its recruitment process (application, interview, processing, training or other fee). Go to <http://jobs.un.org/> and click on Vacancies.
- The United Nations does not request any information related to bank accounts or other private information.
- The United Nations does not offer prizes, awards,

funds, certificates, scholarships or conduct lotteries through e-mail, mail or fax.

The United Nations strongly recommends that the recipients of solicitations such as those described above exercise extreme caution in respect of such solicitations. Financial loss and identity theft could result from the transfer of money or personal information to those issuing such fraudulent correspondence. Victims of such scams may also report them to their local law enforcement authorities for appropriate action. Should you have any doubts about the authenticity of an e-mail, letter or telephone communication purportedly from, for, or on behalf of the United Nations and/or its officials, please send an e-mail query to inquiries@un.org before taking any further action in relation to the correspondence.

This fact sheet has been issued by the Public Inquiries office, Visitors Services, Department of Public Information, United Nations. Tel.: 212-963-4475; Fax: 212-963-0071. E-mail: inquiries@un.org; Website: <http://www.un.org/gen-info/faq>

AFICS (NY) IN ACTION

AFICS (NY): 1970 – 2010: 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

REPORT ON ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AND 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS HENRY LABOUISSÉ HALL, UNICEF HOUSE, Thursday, 20 May 2010

By **Christine Smith-Lemarchand**, Secretary, AFICS (NY)

Call to order. In opening this year's Annual Assembly, AFICS (NY) **President Edward Omotoso** asked all present to rise for a minute of silence in memory of deceased Association members and UN system staff worldwide. In January 2010 the UN had suffered what Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had called the Organization's greatest loss when more than 100 staff members had died in the earthquake in Haiti. The people of Chile who had also endured a violent earthquake and many aftershocks were also included in the remembrance.

Welcome. Mr. Omotoso welcomed AFICS members and thanked UNICEF for its hospitality. He welcomed the **UNICEF** Director for Human Resources Ms. Christine Lloyd, representing UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake who was away from New York. Ms. Lloyd conveyed Mr. Lake's congratulations to AFICS (NY) on its 40th Anniversary. She praised the important role of the Association in maintaining a very important social network going beyond contractual status and sustaining emotional attachment to the Organization. She wished the Association a very successful meeting.

Message from the President of the 64th session of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, delivered by Senior Advisor Souad El-Alaoui. Ms. El-Alaoui conveyed the regrets of the President of the General Assembly who was travelling and unable to attend the Annual Assembly. In his message, the President commended the Association for carrying the vision of "a pioneering group of former and serving UN staff who came together 40 years ago to support and protect our hardworking men and women, as they separate, and once they have separated [from] the international civil service." He stressed the importance of "employing [our] collective strength to identify and tackle the problems we face today." He praised the efforts of the Association "to protect and support fellow colleagues" and thanked the members for remaining active members of the UN family. "Bearing in mind our collective responsibility to make a difference to the world, to be agents of change" he concluded, "I congratulate you on your 40 years of service

to the UN community, and wish you success in your future endeavours." (See full text below.) President Omotoso asked Ms. El-Alaoui to convey his gratitude to the President of the General Assembly.

Message of the United Nations Secretary-General, H .E. Ban Ki-moon, delivered by Ms. Netta Avedon, Chief of Human Resources Services, OHRM. The President informed the membership that, in the absence of the Secretary-General who was on his way to Turkey, and the unavailability of the Deputy Secretary-General, Ms. Netta Avedon would deliver the Secretary-General's message. In his message, the S-G emphasized the importance of dealing effectively with crises to avoid instability and insecurity at a time when the world faced a number of serious problems. He wanted to see a new multilateralism take hold, and he continued to rely on former international civil servants, such as members of AFICS, "vital members of the UN community," to help him carry out that vision. He wished AFICS a memorable gathering. (See full text below.) President Omotoso expressed the Association's gratitude to the Secretary-General for his support of AFICS (NY).

After delivering the Secretary-General's message, **Ms. Avedon**, who will be retiring in November 2010, evoked memories of her UN career. She thanked AFICS members for their dedicated service to the cause of peace and security. She acknowledged the role of AFICS members who participate in the mentoring programme and thanked members who had offered to volunteer after the earthquake in Haiti. President Omotoso thanked Ms. Avedon for being the official liaison between the UN administration and AFICS and wished her luck in her forthcoming retirement.

Message from Mr. James Jonah, former Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. First Vice-President Linda Sapatelli read the statement of Mr. Jonah, who had an engagement outside the country. Mr. Jonah "took pleasure in expressing his appreciation for the commendable contribution that AFICS is making to our daily lives." AFICS had provided constant assistance to many retirees and he was always

looking forward to reading the AFICS Quarterly Bulletins. As AFICS was celebrating its 40th Anniversary he said that it “allow[ed] us moments of reflections about the current situation of the Organization in which we believe passionately and to which we dedicated our lives for many years.” He saluted the General Assembly for agreeing to undertake a major renovation of the Secretariat building, promising that it would be beautiful and safe.

He brought the attention of the audience to the role of the International Civil Service, whose inspiring image was, in his view, “beginning to wear thin.” There had been crises of confidence regarding the viability of the International Civil Service in the past, but there had also always been individuals or groups of countries that had risen “to stoutly defend the service.” He reflected on the erosion of the concept of an International Civil Service, which had been gradual at times but had accelerated during the past decade and a half. The media was often misguided in their criticisms and the provisions of the UN Charter requiring that members of the Secretariat be of “high calibre and integrity” had been lost. The politicization of the Secretariat had reached an unprecedented level and the UN career service was now judged to be a thing of the past, and with it the UN’s indispensable “institutional memory.” Although cynics would say that things had changed and we should not expect miracles, the recent heroism and selfless dedication of veteran International Civil Servants who had paid the ultimate price in man-made and natural disasters in Iraq and Haiti served to remind us all of all that is noble in the service of the organization. He concluded by saluting “all of our colleagues who left behind a legacy of which we can be proud.” (See full text below.)

President Omotoso thanked Mr. Jonah for his excellent substantive statement.

Update on the Capital Master Plan (CMP) Project by Assistant Secretary-General Michael Adlerstein. **President Omotoso** introduced Mr. Adlerstein and thanked him for agreeing to brief the Assembly on the restoration of the United Nations Secretariat complex.

The goals of the renovation were to make the compound safer, more modern and more professional, Mr. Adlerstein said. The renovated building would be closer to the concept of the original 1952 building. Last week marked the second anniversary of the CMP launch, leaving three years remaining in the five-year project. There had already been some significant achievements, including the leasing, designing and fitting out of swing space for most of the United Nations Secretariat, some 6,000 people – many in locations close to HQ, others on Madison Avenue or Long Island City. UNFCU was still in the DC-2 building and CHASE Bank had a branch at the corner of 44th St. and First Avenue.

Swing space had been built for all conference rooms and all functions outside the Conference Building had been relocated. A new state-of-the-art data centre had been built in the basement of the North Lawn Conference Building and the migration of data from the Secretariat was now well under way. The infrastructure work in the basement was very complicated and in close proximity to many staff, but approximately 60 per cent of infrastructure and system work in the basement had already been completed.

He said he was engaged in discussions with all departments and offices about reoccupation of the Secretariat, which was on schedule and should be completed by 2012, ending the most disruptive part of the CPM. The Conference Building would also be completed in 2012, and the General Assembly would return to its renovated home in 2013. Another important accomplishment was the Secretary-General’s establishment of the Capital Master Plan Advisory Board, the first meeting of which had taken place earlier in the week.

Almost all floors in the two buildings would be closed to all but authorized construction personnel, he explained, adding that most of the Conference Building’s functions, including all meetings and conferences, had already been relocated to other locations. Last month, the Security Council had commenced work in its temporary home in the basement of the General Assembly building, where it would meet for the duration of the renovation work in the Conference Building. The Secretariat building was nearly empty; some information technology staff remained on the 18th and 19th floors to maintain computer systems and manage the migration to the new data centre.

On the east façade of the Secretariat Building a hoist had been constructed for an external freight elevator that would be used to remove demolition debris and hoist new equipment and materials. In the next ten days, a separate scaffolding system would be erected on the west façade, facing First Avenue, to be used to install the new glass curtain wall system. That system had been ordered more than a year ago and the parts were being made and assembled in numerous countries for delivery in August. The work would start with the upper floors and be completed in 20 months.

The circle in front of the Secretariat was closed for all but construction vehicles. Walls and barriers had been installed today to reroute traffic in the compound. The 42nd Street staff entrance would remain open to all badge-holders, including accredited media, and would be the main entry point from First Avenue for individuals seeking to access the Library and the cafeteria. The northern part of the Secretariat lobby would be closed, as would access to the Conference Building, by the end of May.

The Secretariat lobby and Conference Building would no longer be in use as an indoor thoroughfare between the north and south ends of Headquarters. A covered walkway along the East River would connect the North Lawn Conference Building and the South Annex Building. Badge-holders could continue to use the sidewalk on First Avenue. Vehicular traffic into and out of the parking garage had also been impacted, with the garage ramps surrounding the circle closed since 15 May. Diplomatic vehicles continued to enter at 44th Street, but were routed north to access the delegates' entrance of the General Assembly Building. The changes were temporary and would last for the next two years.

The 45th Street vehicular gate would remain open as an exit lane, but the 48th Street entrance was the main access for parking. All vehicles should exit the garage through the southern gate of the service drive onto 42nd Street.

Replying to questions, Mr. Alderstein indicated that the General Assembly building was still open to the public. Guided tours would continue throughout the project in sections not undergoing renovation. In the next two years additional space would be available in the North Lawn building for visitors' functions. The post office in the concourse was still open but would relocate. The Book Store was open. The Staff Café was closed. Decisions regarding their relocation would be taken in the next two years. President Omotoso thanked Mr. Adlerstein for his very informative presentation.

Remarks by the President of the Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS)

Andrés Castellanos Del Corral. The FAFICS President congratulated AFICS (NY) on its 40 years of continuing and exemplary service not only to its large membership residing in 103 countries but to all former international civil servants through FAFICS, which it helped to found. Commemorating its 35th anniversary this year, FAFICS is now comprised of 45 Associations, located in all regions of the world, with approximately 18,600 members, he said, adding that it is hoped that there will be 50 member Associations with a total of some 20,000 members by the end of 2010. As a worldwide network looking after the rights and benefits of all beneficiaries of the UNJSPF, FAFICS has also been playing and fostering an advocacy role across its member Associations in support of the UN's principles, goals and programmes, in accordance with its own statutes. Success here, he said, would always depend on the degree of enthusiasm with which the Associations and their members may be willing to defend and promote publicly the values and achievements of the UN, as well as by the degree of acceptance, respect and support provided by the UN system organizations. Recalling the legacy of service for the good of all left by the 15 Presidents of AFICS (NY) – three of whom had served as Presidents of FAFICS – and their respective Bureaux, he looked forward

to continuing cooperation. (See full text below.)

Announcements. **President Omotoso** gave the floor to **First Vice-President Linda Saputelli** who made several announcements. Tickets for a 50/50 raffle were available at the entrance and drawing would be held during the reception. There would be no access to the Ex-Press Bar before 6:00 p.m. A flyer about the AFICS Library, which featured books written by UN staff, was available at the door; members were encouraged to donate books authored by them to the Library. Members were urged to provide their e-mail addresses, and members who had not paid their dues were urged to bring their accounts up to date or risk being dropped from membership in accordance with the By-Laws.

Annual Report of the Association. **President Omotoso** greeted all present and congratulated all on the 40th Anniversary of a very successful Association. He paid tribute to all his predecessors, to the Vice-Presidents, and to other officers and members of the Governing Board “for their enormous efforts, their volunteerism and personal sacrifices that had greatly contributed to the achievements of the Association over the years.”

He reported that in the past year the Board had held regularly monthly meetings. The various Standing Committees and the Charities Foundation have regularly reported to the Governing Board and received its guidance, directives and suggestions. Their reports had been published in the current issue of the AFICS Bulletin.

He took the opportunity to commend and thank Editor **Mary Lynn Hanley**, design and layout colleague **Fidel Keymolen** and others responsible for the production of the *Bulletin*, which had greatly improved in content and presentation. The *Bulletin* could now be found on the website at <www.un.org/others/afics> well ahead of actual distribution. He thanked **Barbara Burns** and **Sylvia Simpfendorfer** for maintaining the website. He encouraged members to send contributions for inclusion in future *Bulletins*.

The President announced that AFICS (NY) was seeking a Treasurer and he asked for volunteers for the job which was not very complicated and would be further simplified. He appealed to members to pay their dues and urged them to consider converting to life membership.

President Omotoso then paid tribute to **Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon** and his staff for their cooperation. He mentioned in particular Under-Secretary-General for Management and Administration **Angela Kane**; Assistant Secretary-General and Director of Human Resources **Catherine Pollard**; Assistant Secretary-General **Warren Sachs**; and Liaison **Netta Avedon**. He renewed his thanks

to the UN Federal Credit Union for their continuous support.

He concluded by saying, “Forty years after its creation, the state of AFICS (NY) is buoyant, healthy, strong and robust. I salute our visionary founders. I salute those who have steered the Association to success over the years. And I salute all of you, the current officers and all Members. Let us rejoice. Let us celebrate. Congratulations.”

Pension Matters. Mr. Frank De Turrís, Director of Operations and Secretary, UNJSPB reported that the General Assembly had approved the majority of the recommendations contained in the report of the UNJSPB, providing financial and human resources for four important initiatives: the Integrated Pension Administration System (IPAS) project; the separation of Financial Services from Operations; the establishment of a Risk Management function in the secretariat and the establishment of a new Operational Review and Development Unit within Operations (NY).

The value of the Fund had gained 2.2% from the end of December 2009 until the end of the first quarter of 2010. The Fund did not have to sell assets to meet disbursements in 2009 and the long-term performance of the Pension Fund was very good. He referred members to the annual letter, quarterly reports on investments, booklets (in particular a new one on survivors’ benefits) and other documents available on the Pension Fund website: <www.unjspf.org>.

Assistant Secretary-General Warren Sach, Representative of the Secretary-General for Investments, reported on the Fund for 2010. The Fund had returned 32.2 per cent in the first quarter of 2010 compared with a loss of 28.3 per cent in 2009. The investments had been at the right place at the right time. Small changes in the future would be discussed with the Investment Committee. A number of infrastructure improvements had been implemented. SWIFT was now operational, processing up to \$100 million a day. The Charles River Trade Order Management System allowed a safer and automated interaction with brokers and met the standards of a large operation. New risk management software was expected to be in place by the end of 2010.

He expressed his gratitude to the **Director of the Pension Fund Investment Management Service, Ms. Suzanne Bishopric**, and her team, and yielded the floor to her. Ms. Bishopric indicated that although the Fund had under performed in the difficult year 2009, it had already over performed in the first quarter of this year. The Fund had remained focused on its goal, keeping a long-term perspective and investing conservatively.

President Omotoso thanked Mr. de Turrís, Mr. Sach and Ms. Bishopric for their very informative presentations. Additional

information could be obtained from the Pension Fund website: <www.unjspf.org>.

Insurance Matters. Mr. Christophe Monier, Chief of the Insurance and Disbursement Service. President Omotoso introduced the new Chief of the Insurance and Disbursement Service, Mr. Monier, and indicated he had attended the May AFICS Board meeting and briefed the members of the Board on the latest developments regarding UN insurance.

Mr. Monier thanked AFICS representatives, particularly **Mr. Richard Nottidge** and **Mr. Tom Bieler** for their active participation in the meetings of the Life and Health Insurance Committee.

A survey to assess satisfaction with UN health insurance plans had been concluded and the consulting firm, Deloitte, was currently processing the results. Twenty-five per cent (6,300 participants) had answered, a higher than usual percentage according to Deloitte. The participation of the retirees had been very important. There were 250 pages of comments. Some of the preliminary results indicated that participants were ready to pay more for more benefits. However, participants, particularly active staff, lacked understanding of the plans and some serving staff members were not well versed in what national plans had to offer. Deloitte recommended that the UN educate staff, particularly new staff, on the merits of the different plans, and that the Organization require enrolment in Medicare Part B for those who qualify.

He mentioned that an audit of claims submitted to AETNA, Blue Cross, CIGNA and Van Breda was under way.

The following increases would occur on 1 July 2010: AETNA: 5.10%; Blue Cross: 10.66%; HIP: 7.45%; and CIGNA dental: 6.29%, with dental implants now included. There would be no changes in deductibles and co-payments. The changes from AETNA PPO to POS had resulted in higher discounts than expected.

The UN administration, including the USG for Administration and Management and the Controller, fully supported a reimbursement to staff enrolled in Medicare Part B. The Administration was considering making enrolment in Medicare Part B compulsory for those who were eligible. Because there appeared to be widespread misunderstanding about criteria and eligibility, Mr. Monier reminded AFICS members that Medicare Part B was open to anyone age 65 and above who had been a legal resident of the United States for the five previous years. He also indicated that the UN drug coverage was better than the coverage provided by Medicare Part D. **President Omotoso** thanked Mr. Monier for his presentation.

Report of the President of the AFICS (NY) Charities Foundation, Dede Emerson. The President reported that in

2009 the Foundation had received eight requests for grants and approved four for a total of \$5,500. In early 2010 a grant had been given to UNICEF for the Haitian relief effort. She mentioned the annual appeal and urged members to make donations enabling the Charities Foundation to continue assisting those in need. She thanked members of the Charities Board and Assistance Review Committee for their time and effort.

Results of the Election to AFICS (NY) Board of Governors, by Anthony Fouracre, Chair, Nominating Committee. On behalf of the Nominating Committee Mr. Fouracre announced the six winning candidates ranked according to the number of votes they had obtained. Elected as members of the Board for the period 2010-2013 were:

- Thomas Bieler
- Federico Riesco
- Denis Beissel



**MESSAGE FROM H.E. DR. ALI ABDUSSALAM TREKI
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Colleagues and friends,

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to make brief remarks to your annual assembly, and on this great occasion of the Association's 40th Anniversary.

Your work over the last 40 years was born from the vision of a pioneering group of former and serving UN staff, who came together to support and protect our hardworking men and women, as they separate, and once they have separated, from the international civil service. I commend you for carrying on this vision, which is of course fully aligned with the principles and purpose of the United Nations to promote the rights and dignity of all human beings.

As the world reels from food, energy and financial crises, hunger, poverty, disease, and climate change, it is more important than ever that we employ our collective strength, to identify and tackle the problems we face today. Current efforts supported by the United Nations, such as South-South cooperation which aims at sharing knowledge, expertise and technological solutions among developing and middle-in-

- Margaret Miles
- Linda Saputelli
- Louise Laheurte

He congratulated the successful candidates on their election and expressed his appreciation to those candidates who were not elected for their willingness to run. **President Omotoso** joined Mr. Fouracre in congratulating the successful candidates and commending the other candidates. He also thanked the Chair and all members of the Nominating Committee for a job well done.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the **President** declared the Assembly closed. Members were invited to attend a performance of traditional Crimean Tatar Folk Dancing sponsored by the **American Association of Crimean Turks**, before proceeding to the United Nations Ex-Press Bar for the Association's Annual Reception.



come countries in order to develop their own best practices and to ensure the transfer of technologies for development more efficiently, are therefore increasingly crucial.

So much is possible with deliberate and concerted action.

Mr. President, colleagues and friends,

Your efforts to protect and support your fellow colleagues provide but one example of what can be achieved when we bring together our collective minds and strengths to advance the needs of a group of people. I know that many of you have had long and distinguished careers at the United Nations, and in your retirement you also continue to make a rich contribution to the work of the UN. Such contributions are invaluable to the work of the organization, and I thank you for remaining such active members of the UN family.

In conclusion, bearing in mind our collective responsibility to make a difference to the world, to be agents of change, I congratulate you on your 40 years of service to the UN community, and wish you success in your future endeavors. Thank you.



MESSAGE FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON

Delivered by Ms. Netta Avedon, Chief, Human Resources Services, OHRM

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to all who have gathered for the annual meeting and 40th Anniversary celebration of the Association of Former International Civil Servants.

You gather at a time when the world faces a number of serious multiple crises. In the blink of an eye, we have seen a housing crisis in the United States turned into the biggest global economic crisis in the history of the United Nations. Our world is warming faster than the world's top scientists had forecast. We face a possible cascade of nuclear proliferation, as well as extremism and terrorism. If we fail to deal effectively with these crises, there is a real prospect of instability and insecurity as governments are weakened, and as people lose faith in their leaders and their own futures.

Some of these challenges are new, of course. But practiced hands such as you will surely recognize others, or at least aspects of them or the factors that link them. Like my prede-

cessors as Secretary-General, I have been stressing the need for global solidarity in addressing these challenges. I have been calling on Member States to take multilateralism to the next level. I want to see a new multilateralism take hold – one that is focused on delivering global goods such as health, education, freedom from hunger, peace. A multilateralism that combines power with pragmatic principle. And one whose instruments of service – the United Nations above all – have the authority and the funding needed to do the jobs asked of them.

UN staff are of course my main allies in carrying out that vision. But I continue to rely on the achievements, wisdom and institutional memory of those who came before – former civil servants such as you, whose formal careers with the Organization may have ended but who remain vital members of the UN community. Thank you for your service and for staying in touch with the Organization and with each other. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable gathering.

MESSAGE FROM JAMES O. C. JONAH

(During his long and distinguished UN Career, James Jonah's assignments included Assistant Secretary-General, Office of Human Resources Management, and Under Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship. Upon retirement he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations.)

As we celebrate today the 40th anniversary of the Association of Former International Civil Servants, I would have wished nothing better than to join you on this happy event. Regrettably, as was so common throughout my service with the organization, I was obliged to be out of the country. Despite this, I take pleasure in expressing our common appreciation for the commendable contribution that AFICS is making in our daily lives.

Throughout the years, AFICS has been providing excellent analyses and reports about issues raging from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund to medical and other benefits. Without this constant assistance of AFICS many retirees would have found themselves in a quandary. I am certain that many of us look forward to the AFICS quarterly bulletins that capture developments in the Secretariat as well as bring to our attention news relating to the happy and sad times of our former colleagues, particularly those who have passed away.

Details of other information that you provide enable us to renew contacts with former International Civil Servants, who in many instances live in far-flung corners of the world.

The 40th Anniversary further allows us moments of reflections about the current situation of the Organization in which we believe passionately and to which we dedicated our lives for many years. The good news is that despite enormous obstacles and financial constraints, the UN continues to serve the common purpose of mankind by making its best efforts to rid the world of hunger and disease, as well as promoting respect for human rights worldwide.

Without any hesitation we should salute the General Assembly for agreeing to undertake a major renovation of the Secretariat building through its Capital Master Plan. For many of you, the on-going renovation may appear shattering: your former offices and departments have been relocated to adja-

cent buildings and in some parts it may look like a ghost town when compared to your experience. But this is all for the good: soon we will have a beautiful reconstructed and safe Secretariat building.

When we turn our attention to other retrospectives and reflections the picture may appear gloomy. As former International Civil Servants you have shown a deep personal commitment to the ideals of the United Nations and have served in the Secretariat with great enthusiasm and dedication. When you retired you proudly joined this band of International Civil Servant colleagues.

Sadly, this inspiring image of a model International Civil Service is beginning to wear thin. Some will even go so far as to say that the concept of an International Civil Service has been killed and buried. But we need to remind ourselves that there have been previous crises of confidence regarding the viability of the International Civil Service: I refer to the first attempt at its birth to weaken the fundamental principles of the service as formulated and promoted by the first Secretary-General of the League Secretariat – Sir Eric Drummond; the painful tensions surrounding our American Colleagues in the Secretariat during the dark days of the McCarthy period; the great debate about the TROIKA proposals and the dogged refusal of Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld to support it on the grounds that it would destroy the Independent International Civil Service.

During all these periods of the past, someone or a group of countries have risen to stoutly defend the service. Here, the most notable was the now famous Oxford Speech of the Second Secretary-General of the Organization. You may recall that Dag Hammarskjöld sternly warned all and sundry about the grave consequences for world peace should governments succeed in destroying the concept of an Independent International Civil Service. In this regard, he reminded Secretariat officials that while they may not avoid upholding moral values and views, they are solemnly obligated to conduct themselves always with strict impartiality.

You may want to pose this question. What has now changed? First of all, as we have receded from the horrors of the Second World War, which inspired the establishment of the Organization, it has become business as usual. The fact of the matter is that today there is hardly any member state or group of states that are willing or able to take up the cudgel in promoting the virtues of the International Civil Service. On the contrary, all available evidence would suggest that member states are comfortable with the erosion of the concept of an Independent Civil Service. Representatives of governments are far more ready to trumpet misguided criticisms that the

International Civil Service, with its permanent contracts, breeds “dead wood.”

And yet, as we have reached the nadir in efforts to weaken the concept of an Independent International Civil Service, we are witnessing today developments that may have been inconceivable during your times in the Secretariat. Of course, the erosion of the concept of the Independent International Civil Service has been gradual at times. But the past decade and a half have seen a stampede to do away with the service altogether.

Sure enough, there is still lip-service paid to the service; but the reality is that the key principles and elements of the service are now more honoured in the breach than in the observance. As a direct consequence we are constantly bombarded in the media by questionable behaviour of International Civil Servants or those who are engaged in the service of the Organization. Lost in all this, is a requirement that the UN Charter demands that members of the Secretariat should be those of high calibre and integrity. Nevertheless, we are told of unwarranted malfeasance in procurement activities; allegations of gross sexual abuse of young girls and women by UN peacekeeping personnel.

Obviously, it has not been edifying to read in the world media the unseemly portrayal of the two most senior International Civil Servants in Afghanistan accusing each other of wrongdoing relating to the recent elections in that country. And to make matters worse, the president of Afghanistan publicly accused UN officials of manipulating the voting process in his country.

In a feeble attempt to undermine the concept of an Independent International Civil Service, one scholar asserted that the traditional posture of selfless, low-profile and impartial International Civil Servants is both contradictory and inconsistent with the modern requirement to engage in sophisticated and savvy media management. While it is acceptable that spokespersons of the Organization should be well equipped to articulate the accomplishments of the UN, there is no shred of evidence that spin-doctors have brought any concrete credit to the Organization. More often than not, the inclination is to claim early credit for the Secretariat that may do some harm when it turns out that accomplishments were a false dawn.

We should not shy away from the fact that the fate of the International Civil Service is linked, like an umbilical cord, with the selection of the head of the Secretariat – The Secretary-General. There is now a consensus that some or all Permanent Members of the Security Council, who possess what

is referred to as veto powers, are averse to the appointment of strong, very active, imaginative and independent Secretaries-General. If this is the situation, then from where should come the leadership to energize the Secretariat with the purpose of making it relevant to the needs of our times?

As a consequence of this stubborn reality, the gross politicization of the Secretariat has reached an unprecedented level. The UN career service is now judged to be a thing of the past and with it the indispensable “institutional memory.” One member of my former department, who is anxiously looking forward to retirement, informed me with a chuckle that in today’s Secretariat “institutional memory” is considered as both a distraction and a humbug.

Is there anything that could be done to change these regrettable developments? I see none. There is no hope at the moment that the Security Council would alter its modalities for the selection of the Secretary-General. And with the retire-

ment of the first and second generations of International Civil Servants, who were infused in varying degrees with the original spirit of a reliable and genuine International Civil Service, the memory of the service will fade further. In this instance, we should recall that when the second Secretary-General of the League Secretariat, Joseph Avenol, was dragging the league secretariat in the wrong direction, dedicated International Civil Servants forced him to tender his resignation. Alas, it was too late and Avenol’s behaviour contributed to the demise of the League of Nations.

Cynics would say times have changed and we should not expect miracles. Yet, not long ago we witnessed the heroism and selfless dedication of veteran International Civil Servants who paid the ultimate price in man-made and natural disasters in Iraq and Haiti. Their sacrifice should remind us all of that which was noble in the service of the organization. We salute all of our colleagues who left behind a legacy of which we can be proud.

**REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS
OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS (FAFICS)
ANDRÉS CASTELLANOS DEL CORRAL**

Mr. Edward Omotoso, President of AFICS (NY),
Members of the AFICS (NY) Governing Board,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear colleagues,

On behalf of FAFICS, the Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants, I wish to congratulate you on this particular occasion in which AFICS (NY) commemorates 40 years of continuing and exemplary service to its large membership residing in 103 countries, as well as its ongoing contribution, beginning five years after its founding, to all former international civil servants through FAFICS, which it helped to found together with AAFI-AFICS Geneva and FFAO-Rome.

Today, AFICS (NY) can look back with much satisfaction, singly as an Association and collectively with other similar Associations through the Federation, seeing that such initiatives have born fruit in the pursuit and realization of a myriad of benefits basic to the interests of the membership and of all former international civil servants, affiliated or not – in terms of pensions, in particular, and of health insurance as well. Together our Associations have been a recognized voice for rights and fairness before the respective authorities and legislative bodies.

The Federation that AFICS (NY) helped to establish in 1975 is now comprised of 45 Associations located in all regions of the world, with approximately 18,600 members (which, by

the end of the year, we hope may reach a total of some 20,000 members from 50 member Associations). This is a cherished target that I personally set out to attain when I took office one and a half years ago. Thanks to the valuable assistance toward achieving that goal of the Secretary, in particular, the FAFICS Bureau and the leadership of several individual member Associations, the commemoration of FAFICS’ 35th anniversary is an occasion to celebrate our enlarged global growth.

Since my participation in your Annual Assembly of 2009, when I informed your gathering about the membership status of FAFICS, new AFICSs in Bangladesh, Cameroon and the Philippines were subsequently admitted, thereby enriching our membership. The applications of Associations located in Ukraine, Somalia and Mauritius (the latter also including UN system retirees residing in other Indian Ocean island countries) are expected to be approved by the FAFICS Council at its forthcoming session in London this July, as they have already fulfilled the required membership formalities. At present the application of AFICS-Senegal is still pending, while AFICS Associations in Benin, Nicaragua and Malaysia are rapidly shaping up. Meanwhile, we are also in communication with an existing Association in Nigeria as a potential member, and discussions have already been held and are continuing with a seminal team residing in Japan, interested in organizing an AFICS in that country, as well as with a similar nucleus in Fiji to cover those residing there and in all the other Pacific island countries.

Throughout its existence FAFICS has served to identify and to promote the existence of an international community of former international civil servants with an identity of their own, bound not only by genuine and worthwhile interests but also by full identification with both their individual UN System organization and the United Nations as a whole.

As a worldwide network looking after the rights and benefits of all beneficiaries of the UNJSPF, increasingly in recent years FAFICS has also been playing and fostering an advocacy role across its member Associations in support of the UN's principles, goals and programmes, in accordance with its own statutes.

It should however, be noted that besides the enthusiasm and activism needed from the FAFICS leadership, much of the success of the UN advocacy role to be played by member Associations – and of the use of the FAFICS network for other UN endeavours (such as volunteering to mobilize human resources immediately after the Haiti tragedy, for which FAFICS was highly commended by the UN Secretary-General, the Chef de Cabinet and the UN USG for Management) – would always depend on and unavoidably be affected by two factors. On the one hand, by the degree of enthusiasm with which the Associations and their individual members may be willing to contribute, as does AFICS (NY), to defending and promoting publicly the values and achievements of the Organization, whether at the local, national and/or international planes on which they interact; and secondly, on the degree of acceptance, respect and support provided by the UN system organizations to the individual AFICS Associations and to their members at their respective sites, including UN system organization offices in the field. Sadly, sometimes the latter are forgotten or statements recognizing their worth

ignored, though they have been provided increasingly over recent years by each and every UN Secretary-General since 1970, by the heads of several UN organizations and even by Presidents of the UN General Assembly, as well as by specific instructions from the UNDP Administrator, initially issued in 2001, requesting that field offices give full support and facilities to Associations of former international civil servants of the UN system organizations functioning in those countries.

Still, from time to time we in FAFICS receive unpleasant information from some of our AFICS member organizations, with requests for institutional guidance and help on how to deal with situations that should not occur. In all cases these are handled amicably and resolved, as we are aware of the lack of better and updated general information to field offices by their respective headquarters on their relations with AFICSs at their site.

Mr. President, indeed the 15 Presidents of AFICS (NY) in these 40 years and their respective Bureaux, including yourself and the present Governing Board, have left a legacy of service for the good of all, quite difficult to be surpassed, which has also included the contribution of AFICS (NY) to the presidency of FAFICS, held by three of your former Presidents.

We in FAFICS are fortunate and thankful to have counted on your unreserved support to the Federation during your tenures, keeping up with a similar performance by your predecessors. We look forward to our continuing cooperation and wish you and AFICS (New York) many years of success. Happy Anniversary. I thank you.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION

By

EDWARD OMOTOSO, PRESIDENT

Dear colleagues and friends,

Greetings to all of you, those here present and those unable to be in New York because of distance and other reasons.

Congratulations to all of you on this 40th Anniversary of our very successful Association. In the current (April 2010) AFICS Bulletin, which has been distributed and which is online on our website, you will see articles about the origin of the Association in 1970, and its considerable achievements in the last 40 years, written by experts of the United Nations and of AFICS. Let me wish you many, many more years of useful, effective and successful activities on behalf of retirees, and the UN community.

I want to pay tribute to all my predecessors as President of the Association; to the Vice-Presidents, the other officers, and to all members of the Governing Board for their enormous efforts, their volunteerism and personal sacrifices that have greatly contributed to the achievements of this Association over the years.

As you know, your Governing Board is composed of 18 members, six of whom are subject to election or re-election every year. We also have Honorary Members of the Governing Board, which include former Presidents; and the Chairs and co-Chairs of AFICS Standing Committees and the Charities Foundation. They participate, ex-officio, in the meetings and work of the Board.

In the past year, the Governing Board has held its meetings regularly on the third Tuesday of every month, with adjustments as necessary. The Board has continued to discharge its responsibilities faithfully, as assigned to it by the Association's By-Laws.

One of those responsibilities is the management and supervision of our Standing Committees. Those Committees – and the Charities Foundation – have regularly reported to the Governing Board, and received its guidance, directives and suggestions. In the *Bulletin*, you will see the reports of some of the Committees. The President of the Charities Foundation will report to you at this Assembly.

Without doubt, the two major pre-occupations of AFICS are the **Pensions and After Service Health Insurance**. On your behalf, we have been working very closely with our colleagues in the UN Secretariat and elsewhere who are most directly responsible for these important matters.

Pensions

On pensions, I am happy to report that we have the closest working relationship with the UNJSPF, under the leadership of its CEO and Secretary of the Pension Fund, **M. Bernard Cochemé**, his Deputy **Sergio Arvisu Trevino**, and the Director of Operations, **Frank De Turris**, who is with us and will brief us this afternoon on these matters. The Governing Board in fact has had one of its monthly meetings in the premises of the Pension Fund Secretariat, when we were fully briefed, on your behalf, by the senior officials. I hope all of you have noticed the 2.8 per cent increase that you received in your pension benefits starting in April.

You may be aware that the Pension Fund is currently developing what is called a **Plan Design**. Some of our colleagues in FAFICS have been working with the Pension Fund on drafting this Plan Design. Taking into account the market value of the Pension Fund's assets, the number of its participants, the principal and income, the periodic benefit awards and other relevant parameters, the Plan is expected to focus on the four paramount investment guidelines of the Fund, namely: **safety, liquidity, convertibility and profitability**. You can expect to hear much more about this **Plan Design** in the near future.

When we have received questions about pension-related issues from AFICS members, we have intervened on their behalf with the Pension Fund, often with positive responses and resolution of the individual's concerns. Let me take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our colleagues in the Fund Secretariat for their responsive collaboration with AFICS on such matters.

After Service Health and Insurance

Concerning After Service Health and Insurance matters, we have a similarly positive and responsive working relationship with our colleagues responsible for this important subject in the UN Secretariat. The Chief of the UN Insurance and Disbursement Service, our friend **Christophe Monier**, is with us this afternoon, and will shortly also be briefing us on the latest developments in this important subject. He is highly qualified and experienced in these matters, though he recently came to this present post. I am trying to determine exactly when to stop referring to **Christophe** as "the newly appointed" Chief of Insurance matters. But let me say that, since his appointment, he has been very cooperative and responsive to us. He even attended one of the Governing Board's monthly meetings, where he fielded many questions, which we posed to him on your behalf. These questions included a long-standing issue on subsidy to our members, which we consider will be beneficial to us, to the insurance programme, and to every one connected therewith. I am confident that this issue will come up in our discussion this afternoon.

Since a considerable majority of our members are located in the U.S., we have received many questions on how the Health Insurance Reform Act, recently adopted by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Obama will affect the UN's own Insurance programme. **Mr. Monier** might wish to touch on this issue, as much as he can, in his presentation.

The leadership of the AFICS Insurance Committee regularly responds to enquiries from AFICS members on their individual concerns. For this, I thank the leaders of that Committee, notably **O. Richard Nottidge and Tom Bieler**.

Social Activities

You have also seen the Reports of the Social Committee, which has continued to organize the events that periodically bring us together – the traditional bi-annual lunches, attended by large numbers of our members. This past year, the Social Committee organized a highly successful cruise around New York's historical harbour. I can confidently report that a good time was had by all. These social events constitute glues that unite us. Indeed, members often ask for more of them. Therefore, on your behalf, I thank the leaders of the Social Committee: **Barbara Linardo, Fernando Astete**, and all those who worked with them. You will see them at work again at our Reception from 6 p.m. this afternoon.

NGO Relations, Information and Advocacy for the United Nations

I must pay special tribute also to the NGO Relations and Information Committee, which has represented us very well in various United Nations forums and activities. In particular, it has carried forward our main objective – **advocacy for the United Nations**. I thank the long-time Chair of the Commit-

tee, **Lola Costa-Esnard** and her associates, especially the new Co-chair who has just come on board, **Frances Zainoeddin**. This is the Committee that we have designated to promote and analyse for FAFICS the activities of other FAFICS member Associations on advocacy for the United Nations.

Let me note parenthetically here that, apart from representing you vigorously and effectively in **FAFICS**, **AFICS (NY)** continues to host the President as well as the Deputy Secretary of FAFICS in our offices here in New York. We are happy and proud to have **Andrés Castellanos** and **Lydia Ontal** with us. They do recognize that we provide important technical and logistic support to facilitate their work on behalf of FAFICS.

AFICS (NY) *Quarterly Bulletin*

Speaking of Advocacy for the United Nations, we have made a determined effort to utilize the *AFICS (NY) Quarterly Bulletin* for this prioritized function of our Association. We publish reports on UN at work worldwide, as tools and reference points for our members to cite when they speak about UN to their neighbours, friends and other audiences who often wonder what the UN is really about, and what it actually does.

I hope you do regularly receive and read the *Bulletin*. I want to thank the Editor, **Mary Lynn Hanley**, our colleague responsible for design and Layout, **Fidel Keymolen** and others responsible for the production of this Bulletin which has greatly improved in content and presentation. I hope you read the columns by Dr. **Sudershan Narula**, which always have very good tips for seniors like us. The column has wide following, not only in our Association but beyond.

AFIC (NY) website

You know the *Bulletin* also appears now, well ahead of actual printing and distribution, in our newly designed and much improved website. For those who still don't know, you can reach it at www.un.org/others/afics. It contains valuable and current information on our Association. Let me thank **Barbara Burns** and **Sylvia Simpledorfer** for revamping and maintaining the website. I invite you to look at it from time to time.

Aging Committee

I want also to pay tribute to the Committee on Aging, which has continued to organize very useful programmes under the leadership of its Chair, **Helen Geffen-Roht**. If you have not attended one of the Committee's programmes, you should do so in the future.

Outreach

Also deserving tribute is the Outreach Committee, led by our

colleague **Erlinda Molino**. A number of times during the year, she has come to the assistance of members in need

Pre-Retirement Seminars for UN Staff

In addition to these Standing Committees and the Charities Foundation, one of the most useful and well appreciated functions we perform relates to the Pre-Retirement Programmes organized by our friends in the UN Human Resources Department. We fully brief the staff members who are about to retire on the work and activities of AFICS. Most importantly, we put their minds at rest, that there is life – even a good life – after a career at the UN. From them, we have gained increased members for our Association. We now number close to 3,700 members.

Volunteers Needed, Notably for Treasurer

I want to use this opportunity to appeal, once again, for volunteers to assist in the work of our Association. We need volunteers for various activities, including on the Standing Committees and in the office.

Specifically at this moment, we need a **Treasurer**. One of our members, **Leon Hosang** has been a life-saver in this function. I want to thank him publicly for his outstanding contribution. Last year at this Assembly, Mr. **Puran Sharma** came forward and offered his services as **Deputy Treasurer**. We wanted to make him the Treasurer, but he chose to be deputy, to leave open the possibility for career advancement! We would really, really be glad if a member were to come forward and offer to be Treasurer. It should not be a very complicated responsibility, and we want to simplify it even further. It should be fun. Please volunteer.

I also want to appeal to members who opted to pay their dues annually to do so promptly. It is not much - \$30 per annum. But even better, I would urge them to consider converting to life membership. That way, they will pay a one-time fee. It would be simpler for them and for us in the management. Also, if anyone is in a position to contribute extra funds to AFICS, we would greatly accept and appreciate them.

Appreciation for United Nations Collaboration

I cannot end this report without paying tribute to the Secretary-General, **H.E. Ban Ki-moon**, and his staff at all levels, who have been most cooperative with us. Following the example set by the Secretary-General, they continue to accept us as a full, respected and most welcome member of the UN family. At every step, they have facilitated our work. I will just cite a few examples, among the many who collaborate with us: The U-S-G for Management and Administration, Ms. **Angela Kane**; the ASG and Director of Human Resources, Ms. **Catherine Pollard**, who in fact attended one of our Gov-

erning Board's meetings; a very good friend, ASG **Warren Sach**, who will brief us on **Pension Fund Assets Investments** this afternoon; and **Netta Avedon**, our principal Liaison with the Secretariat, who has facilitated such wonderful collaboration. I said this support is at all levels, and it includes, especially, management and administration, IT, UN Security, maintenance and other services. On behalf of all members of this Association, I thank them very, much. We wish for them, long, fruitful and successful UN careers. And as I keep telling them, AFICS will be waiting for them with open arms at the appropriate time.

I want also to give an appreciative "shout-out" to our friends in the UN Federal Credit Union for all that they have done over the years, and continue to do to facilitate our work, and

to support our common membership. The Credit Union has our congratulations and gratitude.

At 40, AFICS (NY) is healthy, buoyant, robust

My dear friends,

Forty years after its creation, the state of AFICS/NY is buoyant, healthy, strong and robust.

I salute our visionary founders.

I salute those who have steered the Association to success over the years. And I salute all of you, the current officers and all Members.

Let us rejoice. Let us celebrate.

Have a wonderful Annual Assembly, and Happy 40th Anniversary!



American Association of Crimean Turks performs traditional folk dancing following Annual Assembly,



40th Anniversary Reception.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Aging

The AFICS (NY) office has had a tremendous response to the item in our January 2010 Bulletin (page 16), informing members that the Committee on Aging has put together **a list of selected websites providing information on various topics of interest to seniors.**

While continuing to make hard or electronic copies of this list available upon request, **we have also now placed it on our AFICS (NY) website for easy consultation by those using a computer. The website may be accessed at <http://www.un.org/other/afics>.**

Insurance Committee

A number of AFICS members are understandably concerned as to whether the legislation on health insurance passed this year by the U.S. Government will have any implications for our UN After Service Health Insurance plans. The Chair of our AFICS Insurance Committee and a member of the After Service Health Insurance (ASHI) Review Board has replied to this question as follows:

I have been reluctant to make any statement about the new legislation on Health Insurance because I have not read any sufficiently succinct explanation of what its thousand or more pages mean to fully understand it myself.

It will be followed by more government papers implementing it. What hidden pitfalls are hidden in it I do not know!

All I can say is that the UN does not pay U.S. taxes so nothing that might affect other businesses or organizations in the U.S. in this respect will have any effect on the UN. We do try to follow what is good practice but are not compelled to. I am not sure that any of our plans would qualify as "Cadillac" plans because of their expense. That might affect the tax liability of individual retirees but I do not advise on U.S. taxes. It is enough for me to try to understand the implications of the insurance field.

Our After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) plans like Aetna, Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and Van Breda, as well as Cigna, are designed by the UN and these companies provide the UN with "Administrative Services Only" (ASO). These companies do not insure the UN. The UN is large enough to self-insure its health plans. It is only in the case of the HIP Health Plan of New York, which is a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), that the company does act as an insurer. As it is a community-based plan its premiums and the conditions under which it operates are not controlled by the UN.

I believe those of us who are participants in any ASHI plan can congratulate ourselves on our good fortune and be fairly confident that as participants in any ASHI plan our future health care is well protected.

O. Richard Nottidge
Chairman, Insurance Committee

Membership Committee

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members, who joined AFICS (NY) after the end of September 2009. We also invite all members to join one or more of our Committees: Aging ... Legal ... Membership ... NGO Relations and Information ... Outreach ... Pension ... Social. If interested please contact the AFICS (NY) office: Tel: (212) 963-2943; E-mail: afics@un.org.

*Ms. Elizabeth ANDREWS
UNDP, Documents Editor

Mr. Nigel BOND
WHO, Administrative Officer

Mr. Jeremiah BANDA
UN, Chief, Demographic & Social Statistics

Mr. Robert BOUCHOTTE
UN, Layout Technician

*Ms. Lileith BAKER
UN, Office of Legal Affairs

Ms. Huguette CANONNE
UNHQ, Proofreader

*Ms. Sharon CHANG
UNHQ, Library Assistant

*Ms. Dorothy COLES
UNHQ, English Translation Service

*Ms. Elaine COLLETT
UNHQ/DPKO, Assist. Supv. Recruit.

*Ms. Fay COX
UNFPA, Research Associate

Frank DALL
UNICEF, Senior Adviser

Mr. Enesto DE LAS CASAS
FAO, Plant Protection Div.

Mr. Wilfrid DE SOUZA

Mr. Jacinto DE VERA
UN/DESA, Chief of Branch

Ms. Shalini DEWAN
UN/DPI, Director

Mr. Timothy DIBUAMA
UN, Assistant S-G

*Mr. Abdelgadir ELSHEIKH
UNHQ, Chief, General Service

Ms. Nemi FREDNER
UNDP, Programme Assistant

Ms. Elaine FULTZ
ILO, Dir., Eastern Subreg. Office

*Mr. Ibrahim GAMBARI
UNHQ, Special Adviser to S-G

Ms. Beverley GETFIELD
UNDP, Dept. of Finance

Mr. Carl GRAY
UN/DESA, Economic Affairs Officer

Ms. Lucy HOOPENGARDNER
UN, Assistant Head Nurse

Ms. Beth HILL
UNICEF, Assist. Doc. Officer

*Mr. Sayed HUSSEIN
UN/DGACM, Reviser

Mr. Carl JORDAN
UNAQ, Accounting Assistant

Mr. Stephen KATZ
UNHQ, Principal Legal Officer

*Ms. Margaret KELLEY-SHUMAN
UNHQ, Director, GA & ECOSOC

Mr. Fernando LABASTIDA
IMO, Director, External Relations

Mr. Adebola LANIYAN
UNMIK, Regional Transport Officer

Mr. Edward MADINGER
UNICEF, Senior Advisor

Ms. Ma. Theresa MARTINEZ
UNHQ, Senior Prog. Budget Officer

Ms. Margaret McCAFFERY
UN Liaison Officer

Mr. Vincent McCLEAN
UNODC, Representative, Pakistan

*Ms. Joan McDONALD

*Ms. Lilia McGONIGLE
UNHQ, Librarian

Ms. Ellen MURPHY
UNHQ, D/Chief, FPDS/FPD/DFS

Mr. Agostino PAGANINI
UNICEF, Principal Advisor

Ms. Maria PETERMANN
UNHQ, Admin. Asst., Office of Legal Affairs

Ms. Carmen RAMIREZ
UNHQ, Communications Technician

Mr. Yuri REDTSCHITZ
UN/ESCWA, Econ. Affairs Officer

*Ms. Paula SADDLER
UNDP, Ethics Officer

Ms. Susan SAINT-ROSSY
UNESCO, Science & Technology

Ms. Gisela SANTILLANA

Ms. Sheila SARKAR
UNHQ, Chief, ETS

Ms. Helen R. SHASKAN
UN/DPI, Information Assistant

Ms. Nilima SILVER
UNHQ, UN Regional Commissions

Mr. Hsienli TAN
UN/OIOS

Mr. Leon THOMAS
UNDP, Fund Manager

Ms. Julie THOMPSON
UNHQ, Chief, Africa Section

Ms. Gertrude WHITAKER
UNDP, Treasury Assistant

*Ms. Felicity O. YOST
UN, Graphic Designer

*Mr. Anatoly ZOUBANOV
UNHQ/DESA, Pop. Affairs Officer

* **Life Member**

Pension Committee

By now, you should have received the annual circular from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund providing an update on the status of the UNJSPF and comprehensive information on how to contact the Fund if you have questions. Especially welcome was the good news that, effective 1 April 2010, there was a 2.8 per cent upward adjustment of the U.S. dollar entitlements of our pensions, based on the movement

of the United States Consumer Price Index over the two-year period December 2007 to December 2009.

The circular also notes that the first place to check for additional information is the Fund's website: <www.unjspf.org>

AFICS (NY) LIBRARY

Our AFICS (NY) Library has recently acquired the DVD, "Sergio Vieira de Mello: en route to Baghdad," a documentary on Sergio de Mello's diplomatic journey, recently shown on HBO to rave reviews. According to one enthusiastic AFICS member, it is "a very inspiring documentary and not just about Sergio but about how the UN is out there trying to help people. It makes you to glad to be a part of the UN family." (The DVD is also available for sale at the UN Book Shop for those wishing to own a copy.)

We would like to thank the following for their recent book contributions: Biyi Afonja, Ofra Core, May Davidson, Dede Emerson and Diane Jumet.

The Library is opened the first Wednesday of the month from 10a.m. to 4p.m. A deposit of \$10 will be required and the borrower will be reimbursed once the item is returned.

We continue to seek donations of books written by members of the UN system family. To donate, please contact Dawne Gautier, AFICS (NY) Librarian, by telephone at 212-963-2943; or by e-mail at afics2@un.org. Or, since I am in the office only once a month, you may e-mail me at home: dawnegtr@yahoo.com

Dawne Gautier, AFICS (NY) Librarian

MEMBERS' FORUM

ACTIVITIES IN RETIREMENT

As we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of AFICS (NY) this year, we are pleased to receive accounts from AFICS (NY) members of their own or fellow retirees' after-UN service activities so that we can share their experiences with our readers. Here is a recent submission:

THREE DAYS WITH MARIE TOURE N'GOM - "MARIE DU SAHEL" - IN SENEGAL, OCTOBER 2009

By Muriel Glasgow
(former UNICEF Staff Member)

During a short stay in Senegal in October 2009 I reconnected with Marie Touré N'Gom, a retired staff member of UNICEF, a Senegalese, with whom I celebrated her 80th birthday.

There were lots of reminiscences ... we even simulated training sessions (on video) of her causeries/seminars on maternal and child health. We made a trip to Isle de Gorée, where we were given a tour of the Musée des Femmes Senegalaises, which features among others, a portrait of Marie, who is Grand Patron/Dame/President

of the Amis du Musée.

Below is some information I compiled and would like to share with AFICS retirees, in which homage is rendered to Marie du Sahel, as she is affectionately known. In addition there is a very touching piece, which her son contributed. What is wonderful and amazing is that she is being remembered and valued while she can still appreciate and participate in living her life.

MARIE (AS SEEN IN FRONT OF HER PHOTO IN THE MUSEUM OF THE SENEGALESE WOMAN, GORÉE ISLAND)

Regal and tall with a ready smile
As always, a steady stream of
Stories, queries, memories, as always
Reminiscences, some fresh, some –
Seems like I heard that one before
Not a minute ago.

Marie is vibrant in the now
With some vulnerabilities of past
Occurrences, some stark, some just a hint of forgetting
what really happened
Bound together with sharp remembrances of times and
events
All the while vibrant, regal, hospitable,
Generous – this generosity
I will never forget, a generosity
You all will share as you listen to her
Video chats reconstituting her role as
Health Practitioner Midwife gently

Fondling her effective teaching aids
And imagining vividly the training
Activities, substituting me for the trainees and providing
me with
A clear, logical, well developed
Seminar on women's health.
Here it is in two parts:

(For computer users, the following videos may be seen on youtube, with birds adding energy to the presentations.):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8U8MkC_sPSE
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqiPHprljiw>

Et maintenant, and now
I reminisce, valuing those precious (days) spent with her
during the
Week of her 80th birthday in her

Ancestral home, the elder of the
Three Maries, with her son's wife Marie and granddaughter
- Marie
As well as her grandson

Encircled with the love of her son
"Pape," who has attached an article about his mother,
Marie Touré N'Gom.

MARIE DU SAHEL: PIONEER FOR THE CAUSE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

By Latyr Touré

Marie Touré N'gom was born on 14 October 1929 to a large family. At that time, a young girl in such circumstances was destined to receive an education preparing her for marriage and running a home. However, Marie's natural curiosity, enthusiasm for social interaction and, above all, her love for children finally convinced her mother – by then a widow – to send her daughter to school. She started late, but immediately devoted herself to her studies, obtaining in succession, her BEPC in 1949 and her Midwife Diploma in 1952.

In the district where she lived as a child, with its many military personnel and large colony of job-seeking foreigners from many countries, it was relatively easy for Marie to learn foreign languages. This was later a definite asset, a means of communication being an essential tool in carrying out her life's passion.

No one can escape one's destiny, but vocations emerge early on. Even as a child, Marie could be found with the women in the district who had given birth, and their families, helping to take care of the babies.

When she entered active life, she soon developed a passion for social work and found much satisfaction in working with women and children. This soon diverted her attention from routine tasks.

From 1952 to 1958, in collaboration with *l'Institut des Hautes Etudes* (now the University of Dakar), she worked in the Institute of Pediatrics at Aristide Le Dantec Hospital, where, in addition to giving care, she sensitized and trained mothers concerning health and nutrition. She then joined the *team of Professors Senecal, Lariviere, Dupin et Gabriel Senghor*.

From 1958 to 1962 she participated in family surveys with the Organization for Applied Research on Nutrition and Food. She also worked in rural animation for the Centre of Agronomic Research of Bambey, 100 kilometres from the capital.

From 1962 to 1965, she was Director of the School of Social Nurses. This was a challenge because women were not yet involved with the management of public affairs and attitudes towards them were rather hesitant in this regard. But because

of the results she achieved, she was given other responsibilities.

In 1965 she was sent to Oussouye, 500 km from the capital, to organize and supervise the centres for Maternal and Child Protection. She also organized women's cooperatives and helped them create kindergartens for rural children.

As part of an effort to combat maternal and infant mortality, she trained and equipped traditional birth attendants with small first-aid kits containing the basic items for care. Later, this inspired UNICEF to furnish metal kits that were more solid.

From 1967 to 1972, as part of her activities with the University of Dakar, she participated in creating and coordinating multi-purpose mobile teams that provided social and health guidance for families in Pikine, a poor suburb of Dakar. They helped the population to take action on problems of environment, nutrition, surveillance of vulnerable groups (children, pregnant women and the aged), and primary health care. Several women's cooperatives were created or revitalized. The strategy was for families to no longer hold out their hand but to take charge of their problems and their own future.

Parallel to these activities at Pikine, she participated actively in the training at the pilot Rural Health Centre, run at that time by Dr. Fiacre Coly. She guided student nurses, midwives, social workers and doctors in regard to rural realities and methods of working with communities.

She also trained auxiliary health workers in primary health care, and popularised the use of the famous kits for traditional birth attendants.

From 1972 to 1973 she worked in Senegal's Office of Food and Applied Nutrition under Dr. Thianar N'doye. Her training as a nutritionist, as well as her solid experience in this field, earned her the confidence of her superiors who assigned her to teach nutrition in the training schools. She thus had numerous contacts with the Institute of Food Technology, the Centre of Rural Cadres of Bambey and the University Institute of Technology.

In addition, she participated in research on the experimental cooking of local dishes that could be recommended for a hospital setting but also for the wider Senegalese society, then seeking its path to development. It was a time when the consumption of Senegalese products was being promoted, which necessitated the practical presentation of the advantages and nutritive value of African dishes.

Thus, she was able to assist in the elaboration and diffusion of technical brochures and papers on applied nutrition, educational posters, audio-visual material and even birth kits for the birth attendants. Certain technical papers were published in specialized publications such as *L'Enfant en Milieu Tropical* (Children in the Tropics).

From 1962 to 1973 she was Secretary-General of the Senegalese Red Cross, where she elaborated national programmes for those needing assistance, adapted to Senegalese realities. For a long time this had involved mainly the distribution of food and other essentials to the needy who applied to aid institutions. As most of those with the right to such aid did not have access, it was necessary to invent and apply programmes that were better adapted.

From 1955 to 1972 she was an advisor and presenter of educational radio broadcasts. For several years she animated programmes for a UNESCO Pilot Project on Educational Television. She conducted courses and conferences on technical training for women and on the role of rural frontline workers, and worked unsparingly for the promotion of women. At that time TV was at its very beginnings, but she was able to use it to get her message across through educational programmes that were highly appreciated by the public and leaders, alike.

The International Organizations present in Senegal developed an interest in this dynamic woman who worked in the shadows, often with paltry resources. Thus, in 1973 she embarked upon a distinguished international career with UNICEF. First she was in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso) as an Advisor in the drought programme in the Sahel; then in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, where she was a senior adviser covering all the 24 countries of UNICEF's West and Central Africa Region. In Ouagadougou, confronted by the distress of the populations sorely affected by the drought, she attacked her work so fiercely and with such talent that she came to be known as "*Marie du Sahel*."

Her last UN post was UNICEF Representative in the Central African Republic (CAR), retiring in 1990. There, once again she successfully responded to the challenges. In fact, it was the first time in that country that a UN Institution had named a woman to such a high level of responsibility, let alone an African woman. James Grant, Executive Director of

UNICEF at the time, lent his support, testifying to his admiration and friendship in view of results she obtained in the CAR.

It was without a doubt within UNICEF that Marie gave the best of herself. She defended the cause of children and mothers in all the countries she had covered, and particularly in those undergoing war. In Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and numerous other countries suffering conflict or civil war she brought assistance to the victims and the deprived, sometimes running considerable personal risk.

During her rich career she undertook numerous study tours and presented at international conferences:

- 1960: International Congress of Women, Paris
- 1961: International Seminar, Haifa, Israel on "The Role of Women in a Developing Society"
- 1963: USAID fellowship for study in the U.S.A.
- 1964: course in public health applied to the problems of children for health and social personnel, which included venues in Bamako, Mali; Conakry, Guinea; Libreville, Gabon; Nouakchott, Mauritania; Niamey, Niger; Lusaka, Zambia; Pointe Noire, Congo.
- 1971: Role of Woman in the Economic Development of Third World Countries

In the 1960s and 1970s, she prepared many communications for the *Mouvement Mondial des Mères* and the review *L'Enfant en Milieu Tropical*.

For UNICEF and ENDA Tiers Monde, in co-production with Philippe David and Philip Langley, she published a study on appropriate technologies to lighten the work of women in rural areas.

All these activities gave Marie recognition at both national and international levels. Over the years she received a large number of awards, medals, diplomas and certificates of achievement.

All her life she was a pioneer who never failed to meet a challenge. She was among the first Senegalese women to drive a car and the very first to plow through the rutted tracks of villages at a time when young officials preferred the comfort of their air conditioned offices.

She always fought for an ideal and her ideas, no doubt inheriting her strength from her father, a mason and military man, whom she had really never known. Her grandchildren regard her affectionately as a "*gendarme*."

Since her "retirement" Marie continues to tirelessly pursue her vocation for women and children, totally refusing to take it easy. She has remained very active in related non-govern-

mental organizations such as *Comité de Lutte Contre les Violences Faites aux Femmes and Les Enfants d'abord*, and has assisted the *Comité d'Assistance des Epouses de Dipomates Accredités au Senegal* in its social activities. She is the President of *l'Association des Amis du Musée de la Femme* on the famous island of Gorée. In the district where she lives, in spite of her age, she continues to participate in the maintenance of a clean environment, fiercely struggling against unhygienic conditions and ignorance.

In the twilight of her life, Marie's family is proud of her, of what she has done, and what she represents, especially her extraordinary generosity and her sense of caring for others.

Latyr Touré

*Translated from the French and edited by MLH
Revised by Mr. Ian Hopwood (retired former Regional Director, UNICEF, West and Central Africa)*

ADVOCATES' CORNER

OBAMA LIKES INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

In its new **National Security Strategy Report** (NSS), the Obama Administration has finally and fully embraced the importance of international institutions. And not a moment too soon. With neoconservatives advocating an outdated and rigid concept of sovereignty, the Administration needs to bolster its case for strong engagement in international architecture.

When it comes to closing Guantanamo and the war in Afghanistan, the Obama Administration is saying all the right things but implementation has fallen short. It's been exactly the opposite with international institutions. Especially when compared to the Bush Administration, this team has been frenetic – paying our dues at the United Nations and joining its Human Rights Council, finding more money for the International Monetary Fund, cooperating with the International Criminal Court (though not yet joining) and making the G20 permanent.

But until his West Point speech last week that previewed the *National Security Strategy Report*, the words "international institution" never appeared in any Obama speech. That absence has been surprising, given that institution-building has been a priority for progressive presidents past, and is a major necessity now.

The new *National Security Strategy Report* not only discusses international institutions, but makes "international order" one of four major goals of American foreign policy, along with security, prosperity and values. That is a welcome shift because if the Administration does not start educating Americans about the importance of international institutions, the champions of a rigid 19th century sovereignty will continue to dominate the debate.

How many Americans could tell you what the IAEA, IMF, or WHO do? It is telling that that polling data itself doesn't seem to exist, but my guess is: few. There is reason to think that if Americans did know about their critical work in tracking nuclear material (IAEA), staving off financial crises (IMF) and battling pandemics (WHO), they would be supportive; strong majorities of Americans have told pollsters for decades that the U.S. is better off when it works with other countries and through the United Nations.

America needs international institutions more than ever. The threats we face today, from the global financial crisis to terrorism, pandemics and climate change demand international coordination. Only central nodes can coordinate dozens of countries cooperating at once. Through international organizations, states develop habits for working together and do not need to marshal new coalitions for each new threat. Institutions encourage cooperation because they attach a penalty, in reputation or lost privileges, when countries break the accepted rules.

Importantly, working through international institutions, when effective, can be a bargain. A RAND study found that UN nation-building operations are better and less expensive than U.S. efforts. America only paid a fraction of the cost of recent IMF bailouts – and America could not have let Iceland, Hungary or Greece fail without a serious risk to our own economy.

The NSS takes pains to explain that many of these institutions are broken, designed for a different time. That is certainly true. Moreover, these institutions are only as good as the political will of the many countries that comprise them. It will be a constant challenge to gather the momentum within them

to solve our biggest challenges. But that is what the United States must do. Those who think America can remain safe and prosperous outside the international system are not seeing, in the words of the NSS, "the world as it is."

By Nina Hachigian, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress, Posted: June 3, 2010, The Huffington Post June 7, 2010, Copyright © 2010 HuffingtonPost.com, Inc.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REPORT SHOWS PROGRESS ON GLOBAL HEALTH & MDGS

The World Health Organization's annual *Global Health Statistics*, released on 10 May 2010, provides a global snapshot of how the WHO's 193 member countries are progressing on the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The figures are encouraging. With five years remaining to the MDG deadline in 2015 there are some striking improvements in some health MDGs: the percentage of underweight children is estimated to have declined from 25% in 1990 to 16% in 2010; HIV infections dropped 16% between 2001 and 2008; and the percentage of the world's population with access to safe water has increased from 77% to 87%, enough to reach the MDG target.

Also, nine countries in Africa and 29 outside Africa are on course to meet the MDG target for reducing malaria, but in 2008 an estimated 243 million cases of malaria still caused 863,000 deaths, mostly in children under five years old.

New HIV infections have been reduced globally by 16% between 2001 and 2008. In 2008, 2.7 million people were newly infected with HIV; more than 4 million people in low-

and middle-income countries were receiving antiretroviral treatment by the end of 2008 but that left more than 5 million people untreated.

Existing cases of tuberculosis (TB) are declining as more people are being successfully treated. TB mortality among HIV-negative people had dropped from 1.7 million in 2001 to 1.4 million in 2008.

Still, progress has been uneven across regions. Africa lags far behind other regions in most indicators, for example with regard to child mortality. The goal is to reduce by two thirds the number of children who die before the age of five, from 93 children of every 1000 dying before age five in 1990 to 31 of every 1000 in 2015.

The bottom line is, progress has been made, but we still have a way to go.

Adapted from UN Dispatch by Mark Leon Goldberg

UN AT WORK WORLDWIDE

WEBSITE TO TRACK HAITI HUMANITARIAN AID

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has teamed up with Haitian authorities to launch a website designed to chronicle the spending of humanitarian aid provided to help the country after the Jan. 12 earthquake. The site will ensure greater transparency and accountability in the

use of the \$9.9 billion provided by international donors, UNDP officials say.

From *Google/Agence France-Presse* on line (4/21)

EUROPEAN UNION COMMISSION APPROVES ADDITIONAL AID FOR INTERNATIONAL CRISES

OVER \$29.5 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR HUMANITARIAN AID FOR SAHEL REGION

On 2 June, the European Commission approved an additional €24 million (\$29.52 million) to assist over seven million people affected by the food crisis in Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and northern Nigeria. The new funds will permit the financing of more operations in the nutrition and health sectors, including blanket supplementary feeding programmes, screening and treatment of acute malnutrition of children, free access to health services for emergency cases, and mobile health services.

With the situation worsening in the region, EU Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva noted, "The perma-

nent presence of ECHO humanitarian aid experts in the region have helped to provide early warning of the risks and possible scale of the food crisis."

The main beneficiaries of this new funding are the most vulnerable members of the population who are not yet covered by existing humanitarian operations. Priority will continue to be given to acutely malnourished children under five years of age and to pregnant and nursing women.

MORE THAN \$22 MILLION APPROVED IN HUMANITARIAN AID TO VICTIMS OF IRAQI CRISIS

On 3 June the European Commission gave final approval for €18 million (\$22.14 million) in humanitarian aid for the victims of the Iraqi crisis. The aid package will provide protection, water and sanitation, basic household items, access to basic health care and psychosocial support to the most vulnerable people.

Around €7 million is allocated for those inside Iraq; the rest will fund activities for refugees in neighbouring countries, particularly Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. A further €1 million will be kept as a reserve to be used depending on the evolution of the crisis.

"Despite generous hospitality measures and while efforts are mobilized for the reconstruction of the country, the humani-

tarian situation of the most vulnerable among the Iraqi people should not be forgotten," noted Kristalina Georgieva, EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid. The funding will be administered by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO) and delivered through a number of partner organizations, such as specialised UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement as well as international NGOs.

From Delegation of the European Union to the
United Nations Newsletter
EU & UN E-mail Alert Service

HEALTHY LIVING

NOT JUST A "SENIOR MOMENT!" By Dr. Sudershan Narula

Memory loss that disrupts daily life is not just a "senior moment."

If your memory problems are affecting your ability to carry out everyday activities such as driving a car, shopping, or

handling money, please see a doctor, since these may be signs of diseases such as Alzheimer's, or that result from a stroke, injury, poor nutrition, other physiological issues, or emotional problems.

Alzheimer's disease is a serious brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills, and although not all memory loss indicates Alzheimer's disease, one in ten people over 65 years of age, and over half of those 85+ have it.

Currently an estimated 5.3 million Americans of all ages have Alzheimer's disease. This figure includes 5.1 million people aged 65 and older and 200,000 individuals under age 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's disease starts by changing the **recent memory**. At first, a person with Alzheimer's disease will remember even small details of his or her distant past but not be able to remember recent events or conversations. Over time, the disease affects all parts of the memory.

- **Signs of serious memory loss may include:**
 - a. Asking the same questions over and over again.
 - b. Becoming lost in places you know well.
 - c. Not being able to follow directions.
 - d. Getting very confused about time, people, and places.
 - e. Not taking care of oneself – eating poorly, not bathing, or being unsafe.

Early Alzheimer's symptoms include difficulty remembering names and recent events, apathy, and depression. Later symptoms include impaired judgment, disorientation, confusion, behaviour changes and difficulty speaking, swallowing and walking.

- **Some differences between normal aging and early signs of Alzheimer's disease:**

Normal Aging	Early Signs of Alzheimer's
Forgetting the names of people you rarely see	Forgetting the names of people close to you
Briefly forgetting part of an experience	Forgetting a recent experience
Not putting things away properly	Putting things away in strange places
Mood changes because of an appropriate cause	Having unpredictable mood changes
Changes in your interests	Decreased interest in activities

- **Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease**
 - a. **Age** - The greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's disease is advancing age, but Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging. Alzheimer's usually affects people older than 65, but can, rarely, affect those younger than 40.
 - b. **Heredity** - Your risk of developing Alzheimer's appears to be slightly higher if a first-degree relative, such as a parent, sister or brother, has the disease.
 - c. **Sex** - Women are more likely than men are to develop the disease, in part because they live longer.
 - d. **Lifestyle** - The same factors that put you at risk of heart disease may also increase the likelihood that you'll develop Alzheimer's disease. Examples include: high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and poorly controlled diabetes.

- **Treatment**

No treatment is available to slow or stop the deterioration of brain cells in Alzheimer's disease. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved five drugs that temporarily slow worsening of symptoms for about six to 12 months, on average, for about half of the individuals who take them.

- **Prevention**

Age, family history and heredity are all risk factors that we can't change, and although there are no magic potions, there is some evidence to suggest that it may be possible to prevent or delay the onset of Alzheimer's through management of cardiovascular risk factors and a combination of exercise, healthy diet, and healthful habits that help to promote physical and cognitive fitness.

- **Caring for Someone with Alzheimer's Disease**

Caring for a person with Alzheimer's or another dementia poses special challenges. These individuals require increasing levels of supervision and personal care, **and many caregivers experience high levels of stress and negative effects on their health, employment, income and financial security.**

- **Caring for the care giver**

Providing care for a person with Alzheimer's disease is physically and emotionally demanding. Feelings of anger and guilt, frustration and discouragement, worry and grief and social isolation are common. If you're a caregiver for someone

with Alzheimer's disease, you can help yourself by:

- a. Learning as much about the disease as you can
- b. Taking care of your own health
- c. Planning your relief
- d. Asking friends or other family members for help when you need it
- e. Joining a support group
- f. Finding and choosing respite care services and providers

*And please remember that with early detection of Alzheimer's disease, you can get **the maximum benefit from available treatments and have more time to plan for the future.***

WAYS TO FORESTALL ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE?

By Diane Schottenstein, President
Elite Home Services, LLC

Approximately five million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease. It affects about 10 per cent of people ages 65 and up, and the incidence doubles roughly every 10 years after age 65. It is estimated that 50 per cent of the population over the age of 85 may have Alzheimer's. At current rates, experts predict that as many as 16 million Americans will have the disease by the year 2050. Although many scientists are diligently researching, no effective cure is yet available. Although there are no magic potions, there is some evidence to suggest that it may be possible to prevent or delay the onset of Alzheimer's through a combination of exercise, healthy diet, and healthful habits that help to promote physical and cognitive fitness.

1. Keep Active. There is a better cognitive forecast for those who are physically active throughout life. The best exercise plan should combine a cardiovascular workout, strength training and stretching. It has also been noted that when serious brain injury has already occurred, cardiovascular exercise can slow further damage. Resistance training is also important as it increases muscle mass and helps maintain cognitive health. Stretching increases agility and balance and therefore reduces the risk of head injuries.

2. Eat a Healthy Diet. In Alzheimer's, inflammation and insulin resistance injure neurons and inhibit communication between brain cells. In fact, Alzheimer's has been described as diabetes of the brain, and a growing body of knowledge indicates a link between metabolic disorders and the signal processing systems. The American Academy of Neurology recently cautioned that elevated cholesterol in your 40s in-

creases your risk of Alzheimer's. Eating habits that lower inflammation and promote normal energy production are brain healthy. Some tips are: eat a Mediterranean diet (i.e., foods rich in Omega 3 fatty acids, cold water fish, nuts, whole grains, and a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables); avoid trans fat and full-fat dairy products; limit red meat; treat yourself to a glass of red wine and a square of dark chocolate; and drink water daily. It has been reported that drinking green, white and oolong tea is brain healthy. Consider supplementing your diet with vitamins, in consultation with your doctor.

3. Build Brain Power. Studies have found that an active stimulated brain reduces your odds of developing Alzheimer's. Accordingly, it is recommended to keep learning, for example by reading a good book, studying a foreign language, taking a course, or playing a musical instrument. Some people enjoy memorization challenges, puzzles and strategy games. The key is to keep your brain active and challenged in new ways.

4. Get Adequate Sleep. Doctors have found that poor sleep can significantly damage your brain and central nervous system. Regular restful sleep helps restore brain power. Some tips to help you sleep well include: establishing a regular sleep routine; having a comfortable, calm setting to induce sleep; and quieting your inner chatter before bedtime.

5. Manage Stress and Learn to Relax. It is reported that lifelong stress can significantly impact your chances of Alzheimer's disease. Stress in life cannot be avoided but it can be better managed and relaxation techniques can be

learned. Tips to relax include: deep breathing; scheduling daily relaxation activities such as walks, yoga, or petting a dog; engaging in spiritual activities such as prayer, meditation or reflection; and satisfying your social needs by staying connected with friends and family, volunteering to help others, and developing a wide circle of support through joining with other likeminded individuals in clubs or groups.

6. Protect your Brain. Avoid unhealthy activities such as smoking and heavy drinking. It has been reported that smoking increases the odds by 79% that a person age 65 years old will get Alzheimer's disease and that smoking combined with heavy drinking can hasten the onset of Alzheimer's by six to seven years. Other practical ways to protect your brain include: wearing a seatbelt; wearing a helmet when engaging in sports such as bike riding, football or soccer; trip-proofing your environment; and avoiding exposure to environmental contaminants.

Scientists continue to study the causes and cures of Alzheimer's. This article is not meant to be definitive or to overwhelm, but to help you think about what you can do to help ameliorate or delay the onset of the disease. Consult with your doctor and discuss these ideas with friends and family. Pick one or a few things to implement. Awareness of the ways to take care of one's brain is a first step in helping to prevent or forestall the advance of Alzheimer's.

Note: the above article is based on information provided by the Alzheimer's Organization and www.helpguide.org: two wonderful sources with a wealth of additional information. It was prepared by Diane Schottenstein, President, Elite Home Services, LLC, 165 West End Avenue, Ste. 4C, New York, NY 10023, a provider of non-medical companions in the NYC metropolitan area. To contact Elite call 212 874-5341 or email: customercare@elitehomeservicesnyc.com

WORLDWIDE REUNIONS

USA

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF AFICS (NY)



(Photo by Marie McLean)

As per the established calendar of the Florida Chapter of AFICS (NY), the first event for the year 2010 was held on 24 April. By popular demand, the venue was the Bravo

Cucina Italiana situated at Sand Lake Road via Deliagio Way, Orlando.

The event had been set to take place from 12.30 to 3.00pm to enable members coming from longer distances to arrive on time. The timing proved effective: all 22 members who had signed up reached the destination by the appointed hour.

Bravo restaurant's management had provided a separate nook for our group; though the seats were placed very closely to one another, everyone took this as a positive development in that it was "cozy and brings us together."

Each member was able to choose a preferred dish from the A La Carte menu, and everyone praised the quality of the food.

Madan Arora informed the members present that, at present, the impact of U.S. Health Care Reform is not known. With ASHI, AFICS (NY) continues to study this matter and will advise members if we are in any way affected. For the time being, the advice from AFICS (NY) is as follows: **"Those of**

us who are participants in any ASHI plan can congratulate ourselves on our good fortune and be fairly confident that as participants in any ASHI plan, our future health care is well protected.”

The status regarding our appeal to UNJSPF is that a hearing date is still to be fixed by UNAT. The latest information regarding this can be viewed at website <http://www.unpost.org>.

Some members who had recently undertaken international travel were requested to brief the audience on their experiences: Valerie Hampton-Mason reported on her and Jack’s visit to Ireland; Marian Awwad narrated stories about a visit to Jordan; Philip and Maureen Ostenso informed us concerning their recent visit to Trinidad and Tobago at Carnival time. The sharing of such experiences with our Florida Chapter AFICS “family” was fascinating for us all.

Some members suggested that we should undertake a (5 to 7

day) cruise to the Western Caribbean. This will be considered by the Planning Group.

Regarding the holding of an event in South Florida, it was reiterated that the general body had earlier decided that if ten or more members from any South Florida city would take the initiative of organizing such an event, then the members from Central Florida (20 to 30) would be very glad to travel that far. Members from South Florida are welcome to pick any of the following 2010 dates that have been earmarked for the Florida Chapter’s events:

12 June – Japanese or Middle Eastern Lunch

04 September, 2010 – Mexican or Caribbean Lunch

04 December, 2010 – Anniversary Celebration (Lunch or Dinner)

WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF AFICS (NY)

The Washington Chapter of AFICS (NY) held its spring luncheon meeting on Tuesday, 13 April, 2010 at Alfio’s Restaurant in Chevy Chase, Maryland with 28 members and guests in attendance.

President Paul Belanga opened the meeting with a welcome to all. Three AFICS (NY) members, Marianme Drabo-Fofana, Patricia Pilvin, and Claire-Lise Presel, attending one of our luncheons for the first time or after an extended absence, were introduced. The president then introduced the speaker, Sally White, Executive Director of IONA Senior Services.

Ms. White focused on the core programmes of IONA, which are consultation, care management and counselling. IONA is an informed voice to come to when issues arise concerning next steps for older adults. The older adults may themselves have questions about housing options or provision of personal services to enable them to continue living in their homes; likewise, family members may feel compelled to get advice on the future of an older adult in their family circle. The objective of consultation is to provide choices for older adults. Consultations are held at IONA, 4125 Albemarle Street, NW, Washington, D.C. and at clients’ homes in Washington and nearby Montgomery County.

As an example, a retired couple sought counselling in order to make their own choice about living circumstances rather than, at some later date, requiring their children to make a plan for them. Living at home was their choice. However, there are many choices in retirement communities and it is best to make a choice while one is still healthy because opportunities may be limited if made in time of crisis. New con-

cepts in retirement communities are the village concept and neighbor-to-neighbor networks.

The IONA adult care centre provides classes, support groups, and mediating services. Its activities are funded by contributions, fees, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements, and a grant from the D.C. government. As funding is always a key issue, and because the D.C. government is in difficult financial circumstances, an important hearing was to take place on 6 May. Ms. White said that she would like to see the gallery filled with seniors on that date and asked for our support.

President Belanga reported that the September luncheon meeting would be our next event. He announced that UNJSPF pensions would be increased by 2.8 per cent effective 1 April, noting that the financial condition of the Fund is good and that the heavy losses have largely been recovered. The Fund’s record for stability is demonstrated by its 5.1 per cent annual gain over the last five years. A current actuarial report is due soon.

It was announced that the Annual Assembly of AFICS (NY) will take place in New York on 20 May, 2010. David Waugh has volunteered to attend as representative of the Washington Chapter.

Abbas Ordoobadi and Jean Surgi recently attended a meeting of representatives of local retiree associations of international organizations, hosted by the 1818 Society. It was observed that UNJSPF seems to do better than most Pension Funds with respect to communications and information. Abbas reminded us that we, as UN System retirees, are committed to

paying attention to what is happening in the world; that should be reflected in our luncheon speakers and topics.

President Belanga asked members about their ideas on programmes and logistics. We have three meetings a year, which take place at Alfio's – an agenda that we have had for a long time. Also, Paul announced that he would no longer serve as President after the end of the year, having now served for six years. It was suggested that we do a survey some time before the next meeting to determine, among other things, if there are members willing to stand for election as President, and

also for the Board. Members could nominate themselves or suggest others. It was suggested that the survey form, when mailed to members, include a list of members and contact information (as already exists in the AFICS {NY} Directory of Members) so that members might know each other and be in touch for friendship, carpooling, etc. Paul and David will develop the survey form.

David Waugh, Secretary
AFICS (NY) (Washington Chapter) 04/13/10

CANADA

REPORT ON THE 13TH UN/CAFICS LUNCHEON – 8 JUNE 2010

The Gatsby Mansion, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
www.gatsbymansion.com

With such an interesting name aren't you just a little bit curious?

We invite you to take a look at the above website to see where we celebrated the 13th UN/CAFICS Luncheon. Lunch was as charming and wonderful as the venue itself and ended with a promise to return on 7 December 2010 to repeat the whole experience. The restaurant went "the whole nine yards" and our guests couldn't have been happier!

We would like to take this opportunity to share with other groups in Canada how important it is to have these luncheons and support them wholeheartedly. Here in Victoria our guests are the driving force behind the success of these luncheons, they bring with them a vast worldwide experience, a graciousness to share and a genuine desire to communicate. Thank you to everyone.

Evelyn and Gerry Nye

Invitation

UN/CAFICS/AFICS luncheons are held in June and December of each year. Anyone wishing to attend is invited to

contact us for details:

Evelyn & Gerry Nye, 201-1501 Richmond Avenue, Victoria, B.C., Canada V8R 4P7
1-250-370-2108~~ gerrynye@shaw.ca

We look forward to meeting you here in the Victoria region,
Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

**FORMER SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF UNDP
HOLD TENTH REUNION, IN MOROCCO**

Fifty two former senior representatives of UNDP and their spouses and companions participated in their Tenth Reunion, in Marrakech, Morocco in March. Participants included Leonce Bloch, 92, who was the first Representative in Morocco, and Dame Margaret Anstee and Emmanuel Dierckx de Casterle, also former Representatives in Morocco. Joining them in Rabat was the newly-appointed Representative there, Bruno Pouezat.

Emmanuel, now a resident in Morocco, served as a superb

organizer and guide for colleagues who visited Essaouira on the Atlantic coast and Oukaimeden in the High Atlas during the reunion, as well as the Royal Cities of Fes, Meknes and Rabat on a post-reunion tour.

The group's Eleventh Reunion will take place in Berlin commencing on 8 May 2011 with hosts Kerstin Leitner, Inge Kaul and Manfred Kulesa. Interested parties should contact Chuck Lankester at <clankester@hotmail.com>.



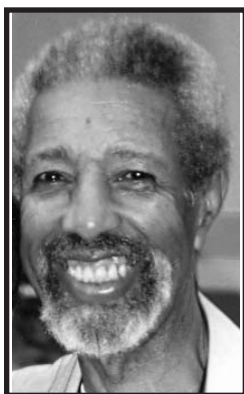
Up in the Atlas Mountains. (Left to right) Frederick Lyons, Filip Marusic, Chuck Lankester and Emmanuel Dierckx de Casterle (joint organizers), Frank Hartvelt and Robyn Lyons.



(Left to right) Robert England, Robin Kinloch, Sandra England, Marina Marusic, Gary Davis, Lacy Buck, Marion and Solomon Akpata and Irene Priestley.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD JENNINGS



Richard Jennings, a devoted jazz fan, a cheerful, tireless worker and volunteer for many organizations in the jazz community, and a member of AFICS (NY), passed away at Beth Israel Hospital on 18 February 2010. He was 78 years old.

Richard was born in the cultural epicentre of Harlem in New York City on 19 September 1931 to Mabel Williams Jennings and Richard Jennings II. An

only child, he grew up in New York City and Wilmington,

North Carolina, attending public schools in both cities. During his teens, his family moved to the South Bronx, where Richard attended Morris High School. It was there that he began to play trumpet and saxophone in music class. Over the years his enthusiasm and dedication for jazz blossomed as he practiced and played with fellow musicians whenever possible.

Later, Richard graduated from Baruch College of the City of New York. He joined the Harlem Hell fighter's 369th infantry and was honourably discharged after four years of military service.

In 1952, Richard met Sylvia Abrams, who became his wife (and preceded him in death). They had three children: Marilyn, Denise, and Richard IV. After a period of employment with the U.S. Postal Service, Richard joined the United Nations, serving from the mid 1950s until his retirement in 1989.

Richard and trumpeter Bill Dixon were the founders of the United Nations Staff Recreational Council Jazz Society in 1959. Richard's vision was to promote an awareness and appreciation of jazz, not only with musical performances, but also through lectures and panel discussions with musicians and other prominent members of the jazz community. He was committed to his family, friends, and the wide world of jazz, and always participated in local and global social and political events.

In addition to his three children Richard is survived by a grandson, a granddaughter, three great-grandsons, a brother-in-law and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. He is warmly remembered and truly missed by his family and many friends.

A memorial service in honour and celebration of the life of Richard Jennings was held on 17 April at Saint Peter's Church in NYC. Fittingly, the evening included a full-fledged concert, with musical tributes offered by many of Richard's friends, well-known in the jazz community, including Alex Blake, T.K. Blue, Ruth Brisbane, Neil Clarke, Barry Harris, Bertha Hope, Rene McLean, Benny Powell, Larry Ridley, Randy Weston, Bill Saxton, Jackie Williams, Leroy Williams and the UN Jazz Society Band.

KRISHAN KAPUR (1924-2010)

Krishan Kapur passed away on 26 April 2010 at the age of 85 after a brief hospitalization in New York City. His grand-nephew and family were at his bedside when he closed his eyes forever.

Krishan's long and very energetic career in the International Civil Service began with the IBRD (World Bank) in 1952. In the late 1960s, he joined UNDP and served as its Treasurer for a number of years. During his tenure with the UNDP Krishan travelled to over 50 countries and negotiated many important agreements on these missions for the UNDP. He retired from UNDP in the mid 1980s as the Director of its Investment Development Programme.

He lived in New York City most of his adult life, where he made many friends who became an integral part of his life. His special passion was discussing global economic issues and global financial markets, as well as worldwide political

issues and other world affairs. He always enjoyed helping his friends and family.

After his retirement, Krishan was a strong supporter of AFICS (NY), as well as the Association's efforts on behalf of UN System retirees. He always encouraged other UN System retirees to join AFICS (NY) and participate in its activities. Krishan donated the funds to purchase AFICS (NY)'s first computer, as well as later making a substantial voluntary financial contribution in order to purchase the carpeting in the present AFICS (NY) office when the Association moved into the space it occupies on the 5th floor in the UNDC-1 building.

Krishnan has left behind his nephews, nieces, grand-nephews/nieces, great-grand nephews/nieces, friends and former colleagues.

Vivek Malhotra (Grand Nephew)

* * *

In March 1974 when I was transferred from the UN Office of the Comptroller to the UNDP to become the Director of Finance, reporting to John A. Olver, Assistant Administrator of UNDP, Krishan Kapur was the UNDP Treasurer in the Office of the Director of Finance and thus we were obliged to work and collaborate very closely.

At that time, the UN Office of the Comptroller performed almost all of the financial services for the UNDP, including preparation of the UNDP periodic staff payroll and custody and investment of all UNDP financial resources. Both John Olver and Krishan Kapur strongly supported the transfer of the custody and investment of all UNDP financial resources

from the UN to UNDP. Perhaps my being offered the position of UNDP Director of Finance was linked to the fact that I might be influential in securing that custody and transfer because of my knowledge and experience in the UN Office of the Comptroller.

Krishan was extremely helpful in this endeavour because of his considerable knowledge and experience in the IBRD (World Bank) as well as his thorough knowledge of global financial markets and his investment expertise. He was able to develop and clearly explain the strategy, tactics and proper justification supporting the transfer of the custody and investment of all UNDP financial resources from the UN to UNDP,

which John Olver and I used effectively in this endeavour. The periodic staff payroll function was to remain with the UN as an outsourced activity because it would not have been cost effective for the UNDP to establish its own separate staff payroll unit.

Krishan was highly motivated and sincere in his considerable efforts to achieve the transfer of custody and investments from the UN to UNDP and he worked long hours preparing the required documentation necessary for John Olver and me to use in convincing those involved in approving the transfer. He displayed a very high degree of technical professionalism, diplomacy and concern for improving the economic development capabilities of the UNDP in pursuing its primary function of providing appropriate technical expertise and capital assistance to UN developing countries.

I am convinced that Krishan relished his role and services to the UNDP. After his retirement we remained in contact as friends and frequently met for lunch at a restaurant near his home on Second Avenue in Manhattan. He remained devoted and loyal to the purposes and efforts of the UN system and especially to UNDP. He was also a very strong supporter of AFICS (NY) and contributed financially to the Association. He should be remembered inter alia for his special efforts to improve and strengthen the financial and investment structure of the UNDP. I would like to extend to his family, friends and former colleagues my deepest sympathy following the death of this exemplary former International Civil Servant.

George F. Saddler

DR. K. N. SATYAPAL



Dr. K. N. Satyapal passed away on 26 January 2010 at the age of 79. He was born in India, the youngest in a family of two sons and three daughters. In the 1950s, while only in his 20s, he set sail on a cargo ship to America with no money, just filled with an incredible determination to make something of himself and to make a difference in the world.

Despite tremendous obstacles, and losing his father, he worked hard, saved every penny, and received a Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University, focusing on agriculture and soil sciences. He chose the path of service, working for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN in Kabul, and Tanzania, and moved to New York in 1965 when recruited by UNDP.

During his 25-year career at UNDP, he oversaw numerous projects and was a strong advocate for training local personnel. He was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Michigan State University and received admirable recognition from the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research for his “untiring, devoted, and outstanding services in support of their efforts to help alleviate hunger and poverty through scientific research.”

Dr. Satyapal retired from UNDP in 1990 as Principal Adviser in the Division for Global and Interregional Programmes. An endearing personality, Dr. Satyapal touched the hearts of many with his kindness, compassion, and infectious humor. Fluent in many foreign languages, he had an exceptional memory and remembered the birthdays of hundreds of people, addressing them by birth date, rather than by name. He was well-known for his interests in gardening, animals and music, and for recruiting and mentoring numerous UNDP interns and staff members over the decades.

More recently, he was featured in the local newspaper for growing banana trees in Bethesda, Maryland, a testament to his lifelong passion for the plant kingdom. He is survived by his wife Thunga, three daughters, Sunita, Shobita and Shanti, and four grandchildren.

Hemant Kumar

IN MEMORIAM

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund has furnished AFICS (NY) with the following information, covering the period 1 March 2010 to 31 May 2010, concerning the passing of former staff members and their surviving spouses. We extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased.

UNITED NATIONS FAMILY

ECLAC

Deiz-Canedo, Marialuisa	19.04.2010
Marin, Rosa	18.02.2010
Ruiz Teran, Guadalupe	21.01.2010
Tomassini, Luciano	18.03.2010

UNECA

Bekele, Tilahun	19.12.2009
Legesse, Mosisa K.	06.07.2009
Mulu, Mellese	23.10.2009
Ohadike, Patrick O.	13.02.2010

UNESCAP

Agile, R.A.	04.01.2010
Ahmad, Nafis	10.02.2010
Dahlke, Gerhard W.F.	28.03.2010
Nishina, Sachio	23.01.2010

UN/HQ

* Abramowitz, F.	24.04.2010
* Aranda, J.M.	11.05.2010
Audoin, D.	15.04.2010
Babinowich, Margret	09.05.2010
Beefink, Ginette M.	03.04.2010
Cho, S.C.	15.04.2010
Constantinidis, Athanase	14.03.2010
Cunningham, V.	18.04.2010
De Brito, Henrika	06.03.2010
* Dodge, S.J.	29.03.2010
Edwards, Kenneth	20.02.2010
* Elshirbeeney, Ali	22.02.2010
* Ferraro, E.	27.02.2010
* Giove, Stephen	14.05.2010
Giuliani, François	22.06.2009
* Goldstein, A.	20.12.2009
* Guernon, Aline	01.05.2010
Hoffman, Frank	30.04.2010
* Jean-Julien, Elvire	01.05.2010
* Jemmott, M.A.	13.05.2010
* Jennings, Richard	18.02.2010
* Kapur, Krishan	26.04.2010
Karwacki, Janusz	20.02.2010
* Kolenik, D.E.	12.03.2010
Kumar, Baldev	17.02.2010

Kusuma, Pauline	03.04.2010
Le Bourgeois, Marie Joseph	17.03.2010
Lin, Ying Shya	23.04.2010
* Luke, Kenneth D.	19.05.2010
Malhotra, P.	16.05.2010
Manoushagian, Lucy	08.03.2010
Mawlawi, Farouk	26.01.2010
McGuckin, Matthew	30.03.2010
Melville, Ronald	06.05.2010
Micu, Nicolae	14.04.2010
Mikkola, Markku	04.05.2010
Moorer, Cora Viola	Unknown
Morgand, Irene Schell	21.02.2010
Nikiforov, Valentin	29.04.2010
Olver, Ruth	20.03.2010
Oramas, Luz Celia	15.02.2010
* Palmieri, P.G.	18.05.2010
Perea, J.	14.04.2010
Press-Diez, Ethel	04.02.2010
* Prieto, Graciela	02.04.2010
* Quirolgico, Amparo	20.05.2010
Rajkovic, Velimir	18.04.2010
Rasmi, Laila	07.02.2010
Santos-Villareal, Abelardo	31.03.2010
Sanz, Martin M.	09.12.2009
Sauro, J.L.	15.02.2010
Silvert, Katalin	30.01.2010
Simon, Leonard	12.01.2010
Sinclair, Peter	06.02.2010
Spicehandler, Daniel	20.04.2010
Stanton, Elizabeth	21.04.2010
Suarez, Cecilia	31.03.2010
* Tamisier, O.L.	11.02.2010
Tarjanne, Pekka	24.02.2010
Teymour, Aly I.	05.04.2010
* Travus, Patricia May	11.03.2010
* Tyr, Hélène	05.05.2010
Valero, Anamaria	24.02.2010
Van De Graaf, J.W.E.	24.03.2010
Vidard, Anne Marie	20.01.2010
* Williams, Maurice J.	10.05.2010

UN/GENEVA

Barnes, Thomas Joseph	04.04.2010
Baumgarten, Jeannette	04.04.2010
Diguardi, H.	15.03.2010

D'Oultremont, Theodore	21.03.2010	UNICEF/LOCAL	
Dubois, Evelyn	26.03.2010	Avo, Francis K.	24.01.2010
* Fernandez-Espinar, Eduard	11.05.2010	Bahadur, R.	Unknown
Fevrat, Renée	19.04.2010	Haque, A.K.M. Abdul	08.03.2010
Figueiredo, Antonio	11.04.2010	Kappal, K.K.	15.01.2010
Guenard, E.	04.04.2010	Nnadozie, David Duruobi	28.12.2009
Matute-Irias, Carlos	27.04.2010	* Phirakijkusol, Pajjarindr	18.04.2010
Portier, Louis	22.02.2010	Saeed, II Mohammad	06.10.2009
* Poustinikoff, V.	22.03.2010	Subramaniam, Vaduvambal	25.01.2009
Rudowicz, Hélène	05.04.2010	Wageealla, Salih E. Husse	30.03.2010
Voutsinas, Paul	26.03.2010		
Zahles-Gruber, Marcelle	21.02.2010	UNIFIL	
		Diab, Barakat H.	18.04.2010
UNCHS		UNIKOM	
Chetty, Krishna Sulochana	11.02.2010	Lozano, Angel	11.03.2010
Wilford, Christopher Lesl	13.04.2010		
UNDP – LOCAL		UNON	
Abdulrahman, Hamisi	15.07.2009	Vilili, Alfayok	24.08.2009
Aguirre, Bayani S.	31.03.2010		
* Ahouanmenou, Jerome	23.05.2010	UNOV	
Badin, A.	28.03.2010	Anderson, Eva	30.03.2010
Bainan, Hadi H.	08.04.2010	Jaminskyj, Borys	23.02.2010
Bibi, Hassan Jan	23.08.2009	Stenzel, Kurt H.	01.03.2010
Demiryurek, Yilmaz	11.03.2010		
Etemba, Etuly Marthe	09.01.2010	UNRWA	
Fida, Mohammad	19.10.2009	Graham, Rita Clarice	28.02.2010
Lee, Moon Ja	23.12.2009		
Mahmoud, Yousuf O.	02.03.2010	UNTSO	
Mandari, Mansuri Juma	20.11.2009	Elyan, Ibrahim Mahmoud	25.02.2010
Nicolescu, Ion	25.03.2010		
Ofori, Daniel C.	12.11.2009	UNU	
Sulaiman, Zahra Bint	27.04.2010	Kawasaki, Kishiko	11.04.2010
Taylor, Andrews	26.01.2010		
Tehou, Augustin	07.02.2010	SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	
Thomas, Aleyamma Mathai	07.05.2010	ILO	
UNEF		Adant, Philippe E.	07.04.2010
Elsayed Khattab, Ezz	09.03.2010	Adossama, Adam Pierre	09.05.2010
		Astapenko, P.	22.03.2010
UNHCR		Bally, Victor Jean Alain	07.04.2010
Barbero, Marie-Thérèse	15.03.2010	Balzano, Guy Louis	04.05.2010
Tekeu, Justin	26.10.2006	Blanchard, F.	??.12.2009
		Boulmier, A.J.	09.05.2010
UNIC		Cavoli, Fausto Maria	26.03.2010
Duarte De Moreno, Luz S.	07.04.2010	Chaouch, B.	23.02.2010
El Tantawy Awad, Amina Mahmoud	Unknown	Cross, M.J.	13.04.2010
		Donmez, Hilmi	23.02.2010
UNICEF – HQ/INTL		El-Boulaki, Mohamed Kamal	Unknown
Arnold, Edward James	05.04.2010	Euvrard, A.	09.03.2010
Ciurzynski, Tadeusz	28.11.2009	Friedrich, Anna	23.03.2010
Standaert, Willem	21.04.2010	Gatti (Travaglini), Maria Luisa	10.05.2010
		Habenicht, Gisela	27.03.2010
		Harder, Elisabeth	07.05.2010

Lefevre, C.J.	08.04.2010	Saran, Ram	24.04.2010
Matilainen, Jouko Aukusti	01.03.2010	Schmincke, Karl Hermann	03.03.2010
Mejia, Castro A.	10.03.2010	Shimura, Nobue	07.03.2010
Mukherjee, A.	05.05.2010	Sihm, Poul Adam	05.03.2010
Scott, Frank Alexander	26.01.2010	Sukhatme, Indumati Deval	04.05.2010
Serre, A.J.	30.03.2010	* Thomforde, Phillip	23.02.2010
Vehrling, I.	10.04.2010	Trainor, Henry Christophe	24.11.2009
Walt, Roger	11.03.2010	Vakomies, Terttu Tuukki	23.05.2010
		Van Rooij, Johannes Petrus P.	26.02.2010
		Van't, Leven Jacob A.	29.04.2010
		Weibgen, Frederick	09.04.2010
		Zaremba, Jean Zdzislaw	12.04.2010
FAO		UNESCO	
Anderson, D.	28.03.2010	Bartels, Francis L.	20.03.2010
Axinn, George Harold	08.03.2010	Brewer, H.	29.04.2010
Barrrios, Manuel	21.12.2009	Colin, Marie T.	23.03.2010
Battisti, Cesare	16.05.2010	Culbert, Frederic	02.05.2010
Ben Alaya, Habib	26.02.2010	Datta, A.	29.01.2010
Biondi, Antonio	03.03.2010	Kinany, Odette	06.05.2010
Bredo, Elisabeth	10.23.2010	Kulla-Beauzethier, Barbar	07.04.2010
Brega, Afra Licia	10.04.2010	Madi, Rukmini	02.04.2010
Caballero, José Maria	01.05.2010	Mba-Nze, Jacques	12.03.2010
Cadenas, Flora F.	05.03.2010	Ouldali, Bekaddour	08.03.2010
Channa, Muhammad Ali	07.12.2009	Rais, Hassan	21.04.2010
Chikuni, Shiro	20.04.2010	Ramos, Saco T.	14.05.2010
Cinelli, Elisabeth	28.02.2010	Ranasinghe, Amara D.	12.02.2010
Davies, Sylvia	08.02.2010	Singh, B.	22.02.2010
De Pooter, Maria T.	17.02.2010	Tcheng, Yung-Kuan	01.02.2010
Deceuninck, Valere Mauric	22.02.2010	Urbani, I.	21.02.2010
Delgado-Castill	02.03.2010		
Devred, Hallet Christiane	04.04.2010	WHO	
Diallo, Tely Oury	18.08.2009	Abdi, Pourandokht R.	24.02.2010
Dorsey, Anna Laure	26.11.2009	Abou Basha, Youssef Kamal	14.03.2010
English, Marcus John W.	04.03.2010	Aguessy, Dominique G.	05.02.2010
Engvall, Lars Ola	22.02.2010	Aly, Abdel Monem M.	14.04.2010
Esther, Birch	11.02.2010	Bajaj, B.F.	13.03.2010
Fernandez-Damborenea, F.	02.02.2010	Bankowski, Zbigniew	07.04.2010
Fiorentino, Pasquale	23.03.2010	Bernard, Marguerite	01.03.2010
Haugaard, P.	12.03.2010	Blouin, Eglia M.	18.04.2010
Huguet, Jeanne	28.02.2010	Bonilla, Ligia	22.02.2010
Lord, Edgar Fred	17.04.2010	Boudzoumou, Gabriel	29.04.2010
Maharjan, Dwarika	23.04.2010	* Castillo, Charlotta R.	07.03.2010
Martens, Ayi	04.04.2010	* Centeno, Eduardo	20.04.2010
Mazzoni, D.	04.05.2010	Comlan, Guy	09.03.2010
Mckenzie, Lorna	08.01.2010	De Nascimento, Alberto	24.02.2010
Nardelli, Anna	13.02.2010	Desbois, Margaret	08.02.2010
Nauriyal, Pratibha	22.02.2010	El Darwish, Mona	06.05.2010
Nonveiller, Nadezda	13.04.2010	Farah, G.M.	04.03.2010
Oh, Heung Keun	29.07.2009	Fernandes, Iron	06.05.2010
Pathirana, W.	06.04.2010	Foster, Averil Lorraine	13.01.2010
Perry, James Rees M.	17.03.2010	* Fratticioli, Maria Gr.	07.03.2010
Phongphant, P.	13.05.2010	Geizer, Imrich	04.05.2010
Puccio, Vee	25.05.2010	Gibson, John M.	25.03.2010
Rakotonindrina, Victor	20.02.2010		
Robb, James Martin	28.02.2010		
Romano, G.	04.03.2010		
Rossi, Luigi	07.03.2010		

* Goumba, Abel	11.05.2009
Greening, J.M.	28.02.2010
Henderson, John, H.	04.01.2010
* Hughes, Patrick Henry	27.03.2010
Iorio, Mario D. Di	16.02.2010
Jacquesson, Elisabeth	03.02.2010
Juarez De Arroyo, Marta Alicia	23.03.2010
Kierski, Josef	16.05.2010
Kimani, François	27.04.2010
Kyriacopoulos, John D.	21.04.2010
Markham, Elsie	08.02.2010
McDermott, Cecily	25.02.2010
Miranda Franco, Rafael	07.05.2010
Montanelli, M.	06.10.2009
Morris, Betty Constance	Unknown
Moya, Bravo V.	20.05.2010
Mpika, Marcel	24.01.2010
Msambichaka, Khadija Ali	10.08.2009
* Neves, Alberto G.	05.01.2009
Nziele, Elise	22.01.2010
Onega, Gladys Susana	28.04.2010
Pilecki, Bohdan	19.01.2010
Radojcic, V.	03.03.2010
Raskova, Helena	13.04.2010
Ray, Kalyani	19.01.2010
Sanchez, Taurino	15.01.2010
* Sandoval, M.	24.03.2010
Schepens, Jacques R.M.	20.04.2010
Sera, B.R.	28.02.2010
Shah, Narayan Keshary	Unknown
Shuert, M. Vinteta	21.04.2010
Sylvain, Jeannette	19.04.2010
* Taine, Seymour I.	21.02.2010
Thangavelu, Mahalingam	??.10.2009
Uriarte, Pablo	17.02.2010
Waldron, Kenneth S.	19.04.2010
Wisniewska, Marianna	12.04.2010
Zahar (Farid), Laila	24.04.2010

ICAO

Bergeron, L.	16.03.2010
Borduas, Pierre	04.03.2010
Du Poset, Guy	16.02.2010
Gonzalez, Collado Mariano	02.02.2010
Hewitt, Clifford Alton	01.03.2010
Jayasekera, S.E.	12.05.2010
Kohli, Sarindro N.	28.01.2010
Schwarz, Uri	02.05.2010
Scott, Walter S.	24.03.2010
Smith, Stephen E.	13.02.2010
Thongpitaks, Preecha	19.11.2009
* Van Gelder, Johanna	02.04.2010
Zaloum, Germaine	11.05.2010

WMO

Chelam, E. Satyavati	09.04.2010
Wiin-Nielsen, Aksel Chris	26.04.2010

GATT

Hortling, Magaretha	07.03.2010
Plessz, Micheline	05.03.2010

IAEA

Abou-Zahra, Amhed Anwar	31.03.2010
Bilbao Alfonso, Alejandro	25.05.2010
Bilbao Alfonso, Alejandro Victor	21.05.2010
Devy, Elizabeth	17.01.2010
Jungmann, August	28.02.2010
Kogler, M.	01.05.2010
Kreutzer, Margarete	05.07.2008
Mally, Sonia	12.03.2010
Pernicka, Frantisek	02.01.2010
Van Der Keemel, Nancy	16.05.2010

IMO

Clarke, Raymond Gerald Ma	16.03.2010
Goll, Else	21.11.2009
Nakayama, Kazuyo	Unknown

ITU

De Bruyn, Jeanne Elizabet	05.04.2010
Djordjevic, Susanne	26.04.2010
Engvall, Lars	22.02.2010
Fabbi, Fernande	22.03.2010
Gendre, Jean-Claude	03.05.2010
Golzi, G.	03.04.2010
Gueguen (Kiefer), Jacqueline	22.04.2010
Plumley, Damian Philip	21.04.2010
Pranata, Juliana	09.05.2010
Renn, Gilbert	02.03.2010
Rzepecki, Kazimierz	01.03.2010
Saif El Bane, Isabelle	08.03.2010
Tarjanne, Pekka	24.02.2010
Walt, Roger	11.03.2010

UNIDO

Fawzi, Maureen	11.04.2010
Hamdy, Mostafa	08.05.2010
Hannoush, A.	22.02.2010
Kitchell, Raymond E.	02.04.2010
Kummer, Kristina	14.05.2010
Prager, Maria	04.03.2010
Russell, B.	07.01.2010
* Taha, Susan	30.03.2010



* Member of AFICS (NY)

CORRESPONDENTS

USA	
Connecticut	Mr. Somar Wijayadasa, 84 Dundee Road, Stamford, CT 06903
Florida	Mr. Madan Arora, Orlando, Florida; marora. <marora.afics@yahoo.com>
Mid-West	Mr. James B. Chandler, 7449 Rupert Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63117 <jchandlr@aol.com>
Nevada (Las Vegas)	Mr. Leocadio (Leo) F. Dioso, 4126 Cascada Piazza Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89135;<leodioso@aol.com>
Texas (Dallas)	Mr. Rudy Moras, 3410 Dartmouth, Dallas, TX 75205-3235;
Washington, D.C	Mr. David Waugh, 5225 Pooks Hill Road, Drop #701N, Bethesda, MD 20814-2039 <drdwaugh@aol.com>
Washington (State)	Mr. Sher Agrawal, 9647 NE 25th Street, Clyde Hill King, WA 98004 <agrasen@hotmail.com>
U.S. Virgin Islands	Mr. Horst Cerni, P.O. Box 223483, Christiansted, St. Croix, US VI 00822. <horst.cerni@gmail.com>
Argentina	Dr. Eduardo K. Centeno, Arcos 1757, 4P A, 1426 Buenos Aires
Brazil	Sr. Eduardo Albartal, Rua José Linhares, 57 Apt. 201, 22430-100 Rio de Janeiro <edalbartal@terra.com.br>
Canada	Mrs. Rose Marie Troniak, 3716 208th Street, Langley, BC V3A 4X7
Congo (Kinshasa)	M. Antoine Kabwasa Nsang-O'Khan, c/o PNUD, B.P. 7248, Righnini
Cuba	Ana Maria Gudz, c/o UNDP, calle 18 No. 110, Miramar, La Habana, Cuba; e-mail: anamaria580@yahoo.com
Cyprus	Dr. C. A. Theodoulou, P.O. Box 40965, 6308 Larnaca; Fax: +357-24 623215; <c.a.theodoulou@cy-tanet.com.cy>
France	M. Marcel Gabbay, 5 Ave. Frederic Mistral, La Nartelle, 83120 Ste., Maxime <mgabbay@wanadoo.fr>
Germany	Dr. agr. Friedrich von Mallinckrodt, Wolfgang-Klausner-Str.11, D-83339 Chieming; <sard.mallinckrodt@t-online.de>
Ghana	Opatafo Osei Boakye Yiadom II, Chief of Adamorabe-Aburi, Ghana (Ms. E.M. Apeadu), P.O. Box 179, ABURI-Akuapen E/R;
México	Mr. Guido Gomez de Silva, Xola 314-E, 03100 México, DF
Nepal	Mr. Kumar S. Maharjan, SUNRISE TOWERS, Unit B-20, Dhobi Ghat, Lalitpur, Nepal; <kumar-maharjan@hotmail.com>
New Zealand	Mr. Ed Dowding, 16A Moore St., Birkenhead, Auckland 1310
Spain (Madrid)	Mr. José M. Aguilar, President, The North-South Institute, Apartado 2371, 28080 Madrid; Fax: 34-91-5636302; <institute@north-southglobal.org> and <aguilar.josemanuel@hotmail.com>
Yemen	Fuad K. Mohammed, P.O. Box 16334 Hadda, Sana'a; Fax: 967 1 448405; <alyaran@yahoo.com>

**We need Correspondents for other areas of the U.S., as well as other countries of the world not presently covered where AFICS(NY) members reside. Volunteers would be most welcome!*

Published by **AFICS(New York), Room DC1-580, United Nations, New York, NY 10017**
Address all communications to the Bulletin Editor at the above address.

 Phone	212 963-2943	E-mail:	afics@un.org
 Fax	212 963-5702	AFICS(NY) website:	www.un.org/other/afics