



AFICS BULLETIN

NEW YORK

ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS

Vol. 41, No. 4 October 2010

ANNIVERSARY YEAR – 2010

UNITED NATIONS – 65th

AFICS (NY) – 40th



**“GREAT GOALS ARE WITHIN REACH” SAYS SECRETARY-
GENERAL, OPENING GENERAL DEBATE OF SIXTY-FIFTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY**

(See 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	
S-G Opens 65th Plenary of G-A	4
World Leaders Advocate UN Reforms	5
International Day of Older Persons	7
Summary Report of 39th Session of FAFICS Council	7
Comments on Situation of UNJSPF	9
\$2 Billion UN Appeal for Pakistan Floods	13
“UN WOMEN” Created by GA	14
‘Women, Peace & Security’ Resolution’ 10th Anniversary	15
AFICS (NY) IN ACTION	
Governing Board Elects Bureau	16
AFICS (NY) Admin. Assist. Moves On	17
NEWS YOU CAN USE	
Development Consultant Needed	18
Seminars: Taxes; Immigration; Retirement	19
ADVOCATES’ CORNER	
UN Day	19
Millennium Development Goals	
World Leaders Adopt Action Agenda	20
Voices Against Poverty Heard Worldwide	22
UN AT WORK WORLDWIDE	
Global Pact Banning Cluster Munitions	23
HEALTHY LIVING	
Flu Season 2010-11	24
THE LATEST WRINKLE	
Old Age is a Gift	26
OUR AMAZING WORLD	
Origins	27
BOOK REVIEWS	28
WORLDWIDE REUNIONS	29
OBITUARIES	31
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	Lola Costa-Esnard
Linda Saputelli	Beatrice Frankard-Little
1st Vice President	Suzan S. Habachy
Frances Zainoeddin	Margaret Miles
2nd Vice President	Stafford K. Mousky
Thomas A. Bieler	Dr. Sudershan Narula
Secretary	Edward Omotoso
Louise Laheurte	Federico Riesco
Deputy Secretary	Christine Smith- Lemarchand
Anthony J. Fouracre	Sylvia Simpfendorfer
Treasurer	Ishmael
Leon Thomas	Office Staff
Deputy Treasurer	Angie de Hitta
Puran Sharma	Jamna Israni
Others Board Members	Librarian
Miguel Arnabal	Dawne Gautier
Fernando Astete	
Denis Beissel	
Barbara Burns	

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

Editor

Mary Lynn Hanley

Design & Layout
Fidel Keymolen

Columnist

Dr. Sudershan Narula

Contributors

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

Publishing Director

Linda Saputelli

Please submit news, views, photos and letters to the Editor by e-mail: [<MLhanley11@aol.com>](mailto: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.

Dear Colleagues and AFICS Members,

I would like to take advantage of the opportunity offered me by this column to thank all of you who honoured me and the other members of the Governing Board with your vote in our recent elections. I feel both privileged and proud to be surrounded by such a competent and enthusiastic team – Frances Zainoeddin, Tom Bieler, Louise Laheurte, Tony Fouracre, Leon Thomas, Puran Sharma, Mary Lynn Hanley and our office staff, Angie de Hitta and Jamna Israni. We are all most appreciative of the tireless efforts of those who have served our Association over the years. It is now our turn to lend our service to AFICS (NY) and we feel excited by the prospect of building on the valuable contributions left by our predecessors.



As my term as President begins, I would like to share my thoughts with you on the future of AFICS – a future that will be dedicated to responding to the concerns of members, increasing the visibility and strengthening the role of our Association and furthering UN advocacy.

My first goal is to revitalize our Standing Committees, which are so crucial to our work and indeed are part and parcel of our raison d'être. Our Committees continue to do important work. However, a few of our committee members have reached a point where they now wish to pass the baton and retire for a second time, now from their committee roles in AFICS. These capable members need to be replaced as soon as possible and we also need to reinvigorate some of our other committees. Right now we are on the lookout for people with graphic design, IT, writing and organizational skills to name just a few, but our needs are constantly changing and all hands, not only "experts" are always welcome at any time.

To complement the AFICS By-Laws, we are currently in the process of developing rules of procedure that do not exist at present, to ensure more effective functioning of the Association and assist the Governing Board in furthering good governance for ourselves and the membership at large. We have recently upgraded our treasury functions and have in mind a similar undertaking with respect to certain administrative procedures.

In the coming weeks, we will be reaching out to UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA in an effort to attract more members from those organizations. And we continue to maintain our close and cordial working relations with the Washington, D.C. and Florida chapters of AFICS (NY), the Pension Fund, the Insurance Unit for ASHI matters, the Credit Union and our umbrella organization, FAFICS.

My team and I have already been consulting with many of you and have received lots of good ideas. We have a number of new projects in the pipeline, such as a speakers' series, a panel discussion on the international civil service, a jazz concert, monthly social gatherings for the purpose of socializing and greeting new members and many other endeavours. For all of these activities, we need you and urge you to come and help us in any way you can.

Being a member of AFICS allows us to continue being part of the international environment with its cultural diversity, shared ideals and linkage to the work of the United Nations system of organizations. It gives us opportunities to make new friends, keep in touch with old ones around the world and participate in a whole array of activities that reflect our continuing commitment to the ideals of the United Nations. I urge you to keep checking our website for announcements and latest news flashes.

Although we have been letting you know over this past year or so that we will increasingly be communicating with you by email, we still do not have up-to-date contact information for many of you. We need your current email address. So if you have not already done so, please ensure that you have provided your latest email address to AFICS. Rest assured that AFICS will not share your email address with anyone else.

In closing, I would like to extend, also on behalf of the new Board, our very best wishes to all of our far-flung member-

ship. We already know many of you personally and hope during our tenure to become acquainted with many more AFICS members. All members, including those living outside the tri-state area are always welcome to stop by our office and say hello. We look forward to seeing more of you at our social events and to having you join one or more of the Standing Committees listed on our website. AFICS needs your help to assist us in serving you better, so please contact me directly, or a member of our office staff and offer us a little bit of your time. I also invite you to send in your suggestions as to how best we can meet your needs and concerns.

I look forward to working with you to make AFICS a vital part of our lives in pursuit of all that we have believed in during our working lives with the United Nations. I feel certain that you will find your experience with us rewarding and enriching.

Sincerely,
Linda Saputelli

UNITED NATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

“GREAT GOALS ARE WITHIN REACH” SAYS SECRETARY-GENERAL, OPENING GENERAL DEBATE OF SIXTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY

MEMBER STATES URGED TO STAND UNITED “AGAINST FORCES THAT WOULD DIVIDE US”

Achieving the United Nations ambitious agenda for a more prosperous and sustainable world free of nuclear weapons was among the great challenges of our era, and the Organization had a moral duty to pull together in a principled stand against the divisive forces, be they social, economic or geopolitical, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told world leaders as he opened the 65th General Assembly’s week-long annual general debate on 23 September.

“The great goals are within reach,” he said. “We can achieve them by looking forward [and] uniting our strength as a community of nations in the name of the larger good.” Following the Assembly’s review of the status of the Millennium Development Goals, which had concluded the day before, the challenge now, he said, was to deliver on the pledge for a mutually accountable partnership to better the lives of billions within this generation.

Work would hinge on helping people help themselves, and investing smartly in areas such as education and women’s

empowerment. He stressed that the United Nations was working on a host of longer-term issues, with new momentum seen in nuclear disarmament, climate change and women’s empowerment.

During the year, the Organization had been on the ground in times of emergency, he said, citing its involvement in Pakistan following epic floods, in Haiti after a devastating earthquake, in Iraq brokering a compromise to keep elections on track, and notably in Africa, where it had adapted its mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to changing circumstances. Defining the United Nations work, however, were efforts to build a stronger institution. In the weeks ahead, as the Assembly’s substantive work got under way in earnest, delegates must remember that the world still looked to the United Nations for moral and political leadership.

Echoing that thought, General Assembly President Joseph Deiss, stressed, “It is up to you, the Member States, to make the United Nations strong and able to play a central part in

facing global challenges.” The Organization risked being marginalized by the emergence of other actors on the global stage and criticism that it was ineffective, especially in the wake of a global financial crisis that had demanded a fast, coordinated response. To maximize its ability to play a global governance role, “we must work to make it strong, inclusive and open,” he said. It would be up to Members to determine the ideal combination of legitimacy and effectiveness.

For the African Union, that meant holding two permanent seats with full veto power, and five non-permanent seats on the Security Council, said Bingu Wa Mutharika, President of Malawi, who spoke as the Union’s 2010 Chairman in the lengthy debate that followed. Such reforms would allow Africa to effectively participate in global governance carried out by the United Nations, a point reinforced by Ernest Bai Koroma, President of Sierra Leone, who said no continent should have an exclusive monopoly over the Council’s membership. He looked forward to the situation evolving during the Assembly’s session.

Throughout the day, world leaders and high-ranking officials from more than 30 countries outlined national objectives and offered other prescriptions for making the United Nations a more representative yet agile body, able to confront complex situations and meet weighty demands. Gatherings like the annual general debate would only be valuable, some said, if they allowed for shaping of a common vision for action towards peace, development and justice.

Citizens participating more directly in solving societal challenges would demand the United Nations to be accountable to them, many said. To meet that expectation, said Swiss President Doris Leuthard, each Member State must first put its own house in order and commit itself clearly within the Organization.

Carrying that thought further, and touching directly on the theme of the debate, Steven Vanackere, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Institutional Reform of Belgium, said that at the heart of any form of governance lay responsibility, whether global or local, national or international. However, responsibility alone was not enough, as governance was not only about behaving responsibly, it was also about being accountable. That applied not

only at the level of the single State, but also at the level of the United Nations.

For other speakers on the opening day, peace and security concerns emerged as a top priority, particularly in their respective regions. For Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, his country’s decision 16 years ago to give up what had then been the world’s third most powerful nuclear arsenal had not lost its importance. Ukraine’s “non-bloc” status, declared this year, had reduced regional tensions and created a strategic balance throughout the country. To enhance global security, the United Nations could make greater use of existing regional security mechanisms, he added.

In Central America, drugs were the region’s “weapons of mass destruction,” said Panama’s President, Ricardo Martinelli Berrocal, adding that the area was also being used by human traffickers who steered mixed migratory flows of persons from other continents through its borders. In the face of those challenges, Panama and members of the Central American Integration System had decided to create a Regional Security Coordination Centre.

Perhaps nowhere was peace and stability more discussed than for the Middle East, a goal that Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Emir of Qatar, said could only be achieved by renouncing the use of force, clearing that region of weapons of mass destruction, and settling bilateral disputes on the basis of international agreements. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey, underscored that efforts to create a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East should be intensified, and a conference on that issue should be convened in 2012.

To make headway in the region, United States President Barack Obama said his country had pursued direct talks this month between Israel and the Palestinians. He challenged the Assembly to come back next year with an agreement that would lead to the induction of a new United Nations Member, an independent, sovereign State of Palestine, living in peace with Israel.

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division
Adapted from UN Website
(where full account may be found)

WORLD LEADERS WARN ONLY “RADICAL OVERHAUL” CAN BRING UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION FULLY INTO TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

ANNUAL GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUES WITH CALLS FOR SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM

A shifting power balance and rapid globalization of threats – from economic crisis and drug trafficking to pollution and terrorism – taken together, had ushered in a new world order, world leaders told the General Assembly on 24 September as

it moved into day two of its annual general debate. This has challenged the United Nations to update its anachronistic structures and mindsets so that it can truly lead in the twenty-first century.

Such reforms, many of the day's nearly 40 speakers argued, must include a Security Council that reflected the views of developing countries and emerging economies, which were currently sidelined from that powerful decision-making table. Africa's voice in particular should be heard on compelling peace and security issues, as well as water management, poverty eradication and women's empowerment. Some urged that blocs like the European Union be represented in the General Assembly, while others were hopeful that a broad international push over the next year could lead to the addition of a new member, Palestine. The key to making headway on all those issues was a United Nations that was more responsive to changed circumstances.

"We are not doing anything like what we must," said Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. In recent years, global institutions had sometimes struggled to adapt to new circumstances. Reform was essential, he said, adding: "All of us have to respond to a world that is profoundly altered." Without a radical overhaul, the United Nations would not provide the needed leadership. The Security Council must reflect the new geography of power, with permanent seats for Brazil, India, Germany and Japan, as well as African representation. The European Union's vital role in promoting prosperity should be represented in the Assembly. As a community of nations, he said the United Nations faces three challenges: redrawing of the map of power; globalization of problems, including terrorism and climate change; and increasingly fluid forms of identity.

Pressing further, Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal, pointed out that the Organization's very Charter bore the "stigma of colonial prejudice" as it still referred to the notion of an "enemy State" and general principles of law recognized by "civilized" nations, as if there existed uncivilized ones. Composed of 51 Members in 1945, the United Nations today counted 192. Meanwhile, the Security Council's membership had changed only once – in 1965 – and 17 years of discussion on the matter had passed without much progress. He said maintaining the status quo would only expose that body to more criticism. "Inertia can be very dangerous," he said. The United Nations could never be credible without a permanent Security Council seat for Africa with veto rights.

For some, it seemed as though the United Nations had evolved into a two-tier Organization, reflecting a world that was divided into two groups, one with inherent laudable values, rights and liberties, and another that needed coaching on those principles. Rwanda, said its President, Paul Kagame,

seemed to have been relegated to the latter, along with other developing nations. "Marginalized and disenfranchised, we are also considered chronic violators of our own human rights," he said. An accountability deficit worked against the idea that the United Nations was credible, relevant and democratic. He urged that it did not become a tool for the powerful to subjugate others.

Supporting that point, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of Uganda, said Africa's economic re-awakening was a strong building block that would strengthen the United Nations. Some Western groups had begun to talk of African "lions," equating their performance to that of Asian "tigers" of the past, with estimates projecting African consumption to reach \$1.4 trillion by 2020.

In some areas, a disconnect was seen in more general but equally important work to reach the Millennium Development Goals, other speakers said. There were times it felt like the international system set out to put hurdles in the path of its own efforts to overcome challenges, said Bharrat Jagdeo, President of Guyana, pointing to a lack of coherence among aid, trade and climate, which made it difficult for poor countries seeking progress. The United Nations should establish global accountability indicators to transparently monitor whether States were pursuing policies that helped them discharge their global duties in a holistic manner. Better accountability, properly understood, could help the United Nations rise to current challenges.

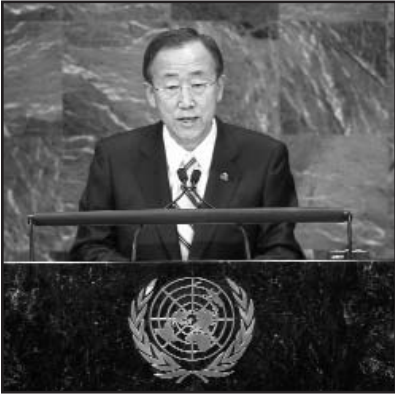
As for building peace and security, resumed dialogue between Israel and the Palestinian Authority was "really good news," said Christine Fernandez, President of Argentina. During the current session, she hoped to see a State of Palestine seated in the Assembly Hall. That would contribute greatly to global peace and security.

Offering a fresh perspective, Montenegro's President Filip Vujanović said that his country, as the youngest member of the United Nations, welcomed the adoption of the resolution on system-wide coherence and supported United Nations efforts to fight transboundary problems like organized crime, drug trafficking and trafficking in human beings. He also underlined his appreciation for United Nations peacekeeping missions, saying "a decades-long experience in peacekeeping operations confirmed the justification and relevance of this concept and strategic policy of the UN." Montenegro was continuously enhancing its participation.

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division
Adapted from UN Website

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS
OBSERVED ON 1 OCTOBER 2010**

MESSAGE FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON



This Day marks the twentieth anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons. Older persons play an invaluable role in all societies – as leaders, caregivers and volunteers – yet are also vulnerable to discrimination, abuse, neglect and violence.

The United Nations has long fought for the rights and well-being of older persons, and to make their voices heard. On this year's observance, we celebrate hard-won achievements, especially those related to the Millennium Development Goals. In many countries, older persons have benefited from reduced rates of poverty and hunger, improved access to medicines and health services, and greater education and work opportunities.

Yet, progress has been uneven, as it has been for the Millennium Development Goals overall in all countries and regions. For example, in those countries hardest hit by the AIDS pandemic, it is often grandparents who are left to care for AIDS orphans. In sub-Saharan Africa, 20 per cent of rural women aged 60 and older are the sole supporters of their grandchildren. These caregivers, who take on added and often unex-

pected responsibilities, typically with little or none of the necessary resources, desperately need social services, especially social pensions, so that they and their families have a chance for life beyond mere survival.

The number and proportion of older persons is growing rapidly. In the past three decades their numbers have doubled. By 2050, the global population of older persons will total 2 billion – a significant shift in the world's demographic profile with implications for us all.

On this International Day, I call on Governments to do more to address the needs of older persons. The key interventions are well-known: granting universal access to social services; increasing the number and worth of pension plans; and creating laws and policies that prevent age and gender discrimination in the workplace.

With five years left before the 2015 Millennium Development Goals deadline, it is time for Governments everywhere to institute the financial, legal and social protections that will lift millions of older persons out of poverty and ensure their rights to dignified, productive and healthy lives.

Department of Public Information
News and Media Division
From UN Website

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
39TH SESSION OF THE FAFICS COUNCIL**

The thirty-ninth session of the Council of FAFICS - the Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants - was held in London, at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization, immediately prior to the Pension Board's 2010 session.

The agenda for the Council's session, which was hosted by BAFUNCS, the Federation's UK Association, was both heavy and varied.

Following the opening of the session by the Federation's President, Andrés Castellanos, the Secretary-General of IMO welcomed participants to the session. The FAFICS President provided an exhaustive overview of developments since the last session, and outlined the new challenges facing the Federation. The Council expressed appreciation for this compre-

hensive report. *(Editor's Note: See full text of the President's report appended to the full report of the session, posted on the FAFICS website: (<http://afics.unog.ch/FAAI-FAFICS_Reports_E.htm>)*

The session was marked by two events: first, the commemoration of the Federation's thirty-fifth anniversary, which prompted messages of support and solidarity from emeriti office holders, the Secretary/CEO of the Pension Fund, the Chairman of the Pension Board and the President of the United Nations Federal Credit Union. These messages will be included in a commemorative publication to be issued later this year and are posted on the FAFICS website. Less cause for celebration was the news that the much-admired Secretary of FAFICS, Anders Tholle, had decided to step down after some ten years of service to the Federation. The

President, the Presiding Officer and Members of the Council hailed his outstanding contribution to FAFICS, in recognition of which he has been appointed Secretary emeritus. Anders' shoes will be hard to fill, but he has a worthy successor in Jayaraman (Jay) Sunderesan, perhaps best known as a former President of CCISUA. Jay was elected by acclamation and took up office on 1 October 2010.

As usual, a major focus of the Council meeting was on shaping the FAFICS position on Pension Board agenda items of key interest to UN pensioners. These included:

- **The report of the Working Group on Plan Design.** FAFICS has played an active role in the work of this Group. The Council gave its delegation a clearly defined mandate in 2009, which was essentially reaffirmed in 2010, as follows:
 - (a) Eliminating the 0.5 per cent reduction in the first adjustment due after retirement;
 - (b) Maintaining the defined nature of the Pension Fund;
 - (c) Increasing the normal retirement age to 65;
 - (d) Reverting to the two per cent accumulation rate for all participants and retirees;
 - (e) Enhancing withdrawal settlements for staff with less than five years contributory service;
 - (f) Reviewing the entitlements of family members, particularly by reducing the period of continuous marriage required for divorced spouses to qualify for a pension benefit.

The Council also agreed that priority should be given to doing away with negative cost-of-living adjustments, as a prerequisite for lowering or eliminating the trigger point for annual adjustments.

- **Report on the UNJSPF Emergency Fund.** FAFICS supported the call of the Working Group on Plan Design for a study on enhancing the scope of the Emergency Fund and the flexibility of its administrative requirements.
- **Wide variations in local currency track benefits of Professional staff.** FAFICS took the view that the Federation should be fully involved in all on-going studies of exchange-rate averaging options, while vigorously defending the retention of the two-track system.
- **Special index for pensioners.** FAFICS supported the recommendation of the CEO/Secretary of the Pension Fund that the special index should be suspended due to conceptual deficiencies inherent in the current provisions.

- **Small pensions.** This item was on the Pension Board agenda at FAFICS request. Concerned at the delay in a review of the special adjustment provisions for small pensions, FAFICS urged that the Pension Board take up the matter in the context of the review of pensionable remuneration by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) scheduled for 2011. This recommendation was accepted by the Board and by ICSC.

On virtually all the other matters summarized above, the Pension Board's position was marked by extreme caution. A key factor in this approach was the recent actuarial valuation of the Fund, which for the first time in many years had revealed a deficit. The Board heeded the advice of the Committee of Actuaries that in these circumstances it would not be prudent to approve measures incurring additional costs. At the same time it accepted the argument put forward by FAFICS that one actuarial deficit does not constitute a trend. It therefore decided not to adopt any cost-cutting measures. The result was that in most cases no action was taken (the exceptions being the Special Index, the Emergency Fund and small pensions).

The report of the Working Group on Plan Design was hailed by the Board as an invaluable reference tool and is to be issued as a Board publication, but practically all its recommendations have been shelved. As the inherent merit of most of the Group's recommendations has not been challenged by the Board, FAFICS will need to monitor progress vigilantly. Unfortunately, the Board was again unable to reach consensus on the Group's recommended improvement in the eligibility requirements for divorced spouses to receive a pension benefit.

During the Council, a very useful meeting was organized with the CEO/Secretary of the UNJSPF and the representative of the UN Secretary-General on Investments, and members of their staff. This session included comprehensive presentations on the current status of the Pension Fund and on recent developments in investment returns. These were followed by a question and answer session. (These complemented questions from FAFICS member associations that had been submitted in advance in written form by the Federation's President.) The Council particularly appreciated the positive response by the Pension Fund to the idea of a mission to Argentina and Colombia to look into the purchasing power problems affecting those two countries.

Of the many other issues on the Council's agenda, particular attention is drawn to:

- **After-service health insurance (ASHI).** Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 64/241

on ASHI funding, the Council approved a resolution underscoring the importance of maintaining and defending ASHI schemes against attempts to undermine them. It outlined a number of specific actions to be taken by the FAFICS Bureau.

- **FAFICS membership drive.** With the recent admission of several new members, FAFICS should achieve its membership target of 50 member associations by the end of this year. The associated target of 20,000 members should also be reached at that time. These goals, set by FAFICS President Andrés Castellanos when he was first elected, will be a tangible sign of the Federation's growing legitimacy and outreach.
- **Strengthening the participation of women in the FAFICS Council.** Following a lively discussion on this topic, the Council decided to set up a working group to conduct a survey on gender balance across the Federation and to prepare a draft FAFICS policy statement on gender balance.
- **Strengthening the functioning of the FAFICS Council.** A working group was set up to look into ways and means to improve the functioning of the

FAFICS Council, aimed at greater efficiency of its sessions.

- **Pensions of former staff from former USSR, Ukranian SSR and Byelorussian SSR.** The Council decided to continue with a working group on the situation of former staff from these former countries deprived of their UN-earned pensions by the respective former governments.

Lastly, a word on elections. Andrés Castellanos was re-elected unopposed and by acclamation, with many Council members expressing appreciation for his work on behalf of the Federation. The election of the Vice-Presidents triggered a secret ballot...the first for many years, as there were ten candidates for seven positions. The outcome was a step in the right direction for gender balance in the Federation, as the number of women Vice-Presidents increased from one to three! One of the new Vice-Presidents is the AFICS (NY) President, Linda Saputelli. AAFI-AFICS Vice-President Katia Chestopalova was also elected, while Mary Johnson, AFICSA-Australia's President, was re-elected.

Enid Steward-Goffman

COMMENTS ON THE FUNDED SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

By Mr. Bernard Cochemé
UNJSPF CEO

The Pension Board held its annual session in July 2010 and reviewed the results of the latest actuarial valuation as well as the performance of the investment of the assets of the Fund. I would like to take this opportunity to comment on these two important items which provide an update on the financial situation of the Pension fund.

Starting with the actuarial situation, I would recall that the primary purpose of the actuarial valuation is to determine whether the current and estimated future assets of the Fund will be sufficient to meet its liabilities. The practice of the Fund has been to carry out a valuation every two years. The report presented to the Board by the Consulting Actuary in June 2010 revealed an actuarial deficit of 0.38% of pensionable remuneration on the basis of data as at 31 December

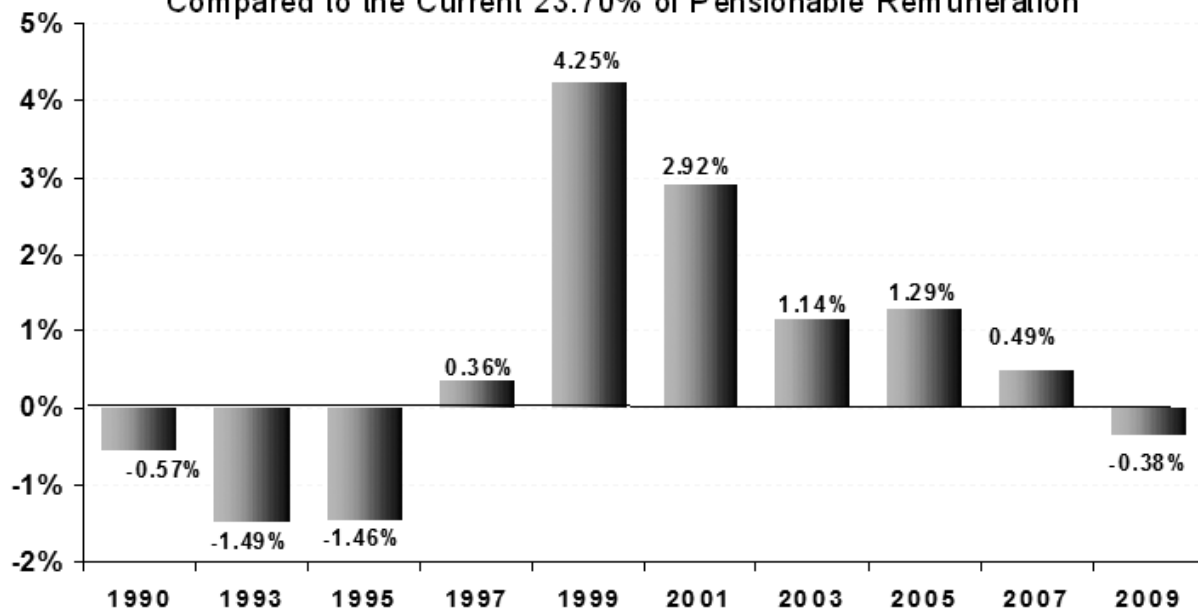
2009. In others words, the current contribution rate of 23.7% (7.9% paid by employees and 15.8% paid by employers) is short by 0.38 percentage points when compared to the estimated 24.08 % contribution rate needed to balance the Fund's financial situation in the long term.

1. Does the actuarial deficit revealed by the latest valuation place the Pension Fund at risk?

First, it is important to note that this latest result is the first in many years to reveal a contribution rate deficiency. The six previous biennial actuarial valuations since 31 December 1997 have disclosed surpluses above the current contribution rate of 23.7% of pensionable remuneration, in the range of 4.25% to 0.36%, as shown on the following table.

Actuarial Valuation Results as of 31/12/2009

Excess or Deficit Contribution Rate Required to Maintain Balance Compared to the Current 23.70% of Pensionable Remuneration



While a single or, for that matter, a series of single figures provides useful information at the valuation date and can possibly be indicative of a developing trend in the future financial situation of the Fund, a further analysis of these results is necessary to properly assess the situation.

Another indicator contained in the actuarial valuation is the funded ratio of the Fund. This indicator compares the current assets of the Fund with the value of all accrued benefits on the valuation date which include benefits for current retirees and beneficiaries as well as benefits already earned by current participants, if their services were terminated on that date. This funded ratio is close to 140 per cent. It shows that the Fund would have considerably more assets than needed to pay the benefits, assuming that no future adjustments would be made in pensions for changes in the cost of living. However, if the pension adjustment system, including the two-track system, is taken into account the funded ratio would drop below 100.

The conclusion drawn by the Consulting Actuary is that the 140 per cent funded ratio calculated on a “plan termination” basis reflects a strongly funded position as had been the case for the past ten valuations. The Committee of Actuaries reviewed these figures and similarly concluded that the Pension Fund continues to be adequately funded and is assumed to meet its short and long-term pension payment commitments.

Among the many factors that play a role in actuarial valuations, three of them e.g. demographic, economic and changes

in benefit provisions are the most important ones. As far as the UN Pension Fund is concerned, changes in benefit provisions have occurred during the past 10 years but their long term impact has not been considered significant.

Regarding demographic factors, the Pension Fund has observed through its regular biennial experience reviews, increases in the life expectancy of its participants and the related additional costs of improved longevity. The Fund has accordingly reflected this trend in the revision of its mortality tables in 2007 and through increases in its pension commutation factors in 2009. The impact of these changes has been quite significant; the 2007 actuarial valuation, when the surplus dropped from 1.29 per cent to 0.49 per cent, reflected the estimated 2.1% actuarial cost of the revised mortality tables. The latest 2009 valuation reported a deficit of 0.38% which included a 0.25% cost for the revised commutation factors.

In fact, the change in 2009 from a surplus to a deficit has been primarily the result of investment experience which has been below the assumption. As is the case with demographic factors, actuarial valuations are carried out on the basis of long-term assumptions. For investments, performance achieved in recent years has fallen short of meeting the long-term investment objective for real rate of return of 3.5 per cent, as can be seen on the following table which presents the Fund investment performance over this real return objective on the basis of annualized data for 1, 3 and 5 year periods.

Annualized Real Rates of Return; Excess of 3.5% long-term objective

	1 Year	2 Years	5 Years
31-December 2009	13.1%	-4.6%	-1%
31-December 2008	27.3%	-5.7%	2.1%

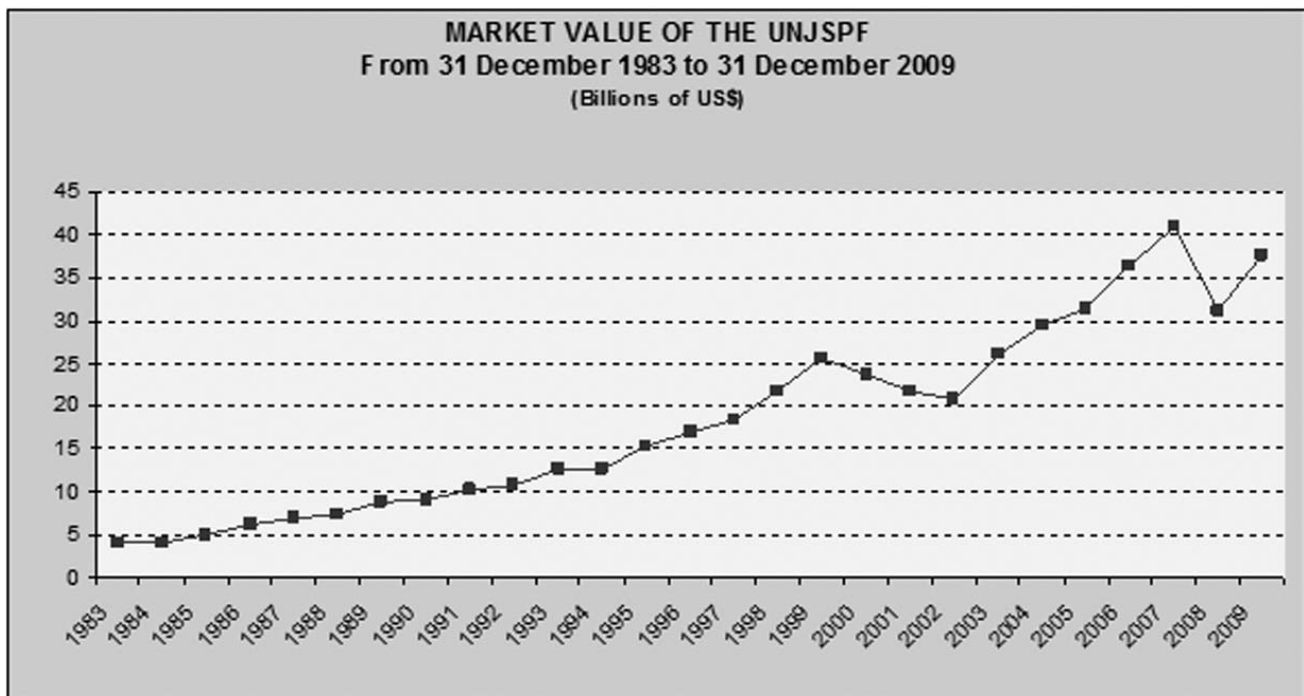
This table also shows the significant impact that the negative 24.9% return in 2008 followed by a positive 20.3% investment performance in 2009, in nominal terms, had on the annualized rates of return for periods below 5 years.

What arises from the recent review of the financial situation of the Fund is the considerable volatility shown by the Fund's investment performance.

2. Does the volatility of the Fund's investments place the Fund at risk?

There is no doubt that the recent turmoil in the global financial markets has had an impact on the market value of the Fund's investment portfolio. The assets of the Fund dropped significantly in 2008, from US\$41.7 billion to \$31.2 billion,

and again during the first quarter of 2009 when their market value went down to \$26.6 billion. Since then, the financial markets have bounced back and the market value of the assets of the Fund increased to \$37.6 billion at the close of business on 31 December 2009. In other words, the Fund's assets decreased by some \$10 billion in 2008 and recovered about \$6 billion in 2009. At the time of writing, on 9 August 2010, the market value stands at \$38.1 billion.



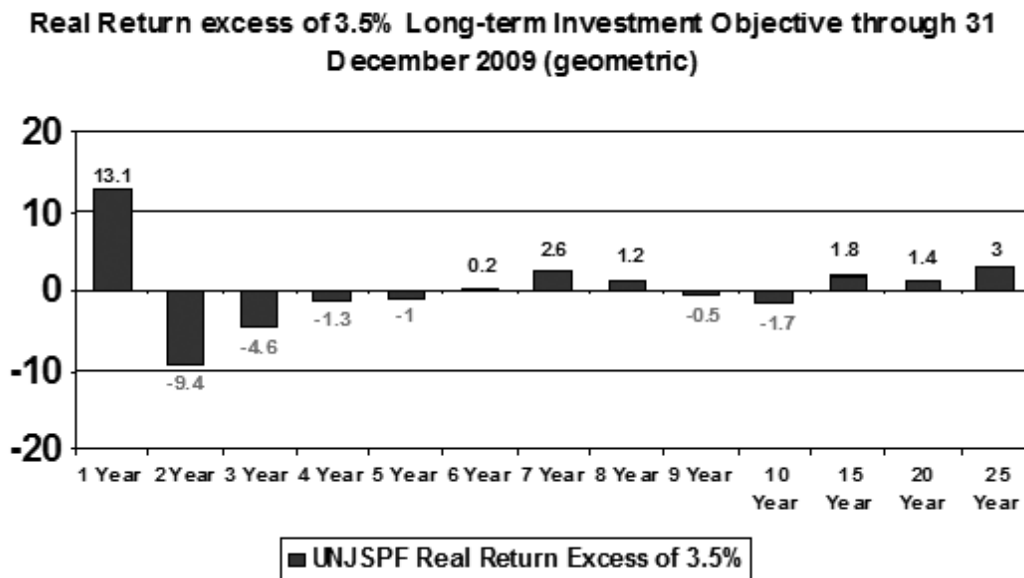
The above graph illustrates the evolution of the market value of the Fund's assets as recorded on 31 December of each year. The volatility in the financial markets has negatively impacted the actuarial situation of the Fund. However, this impact is somewhat attenuated in the actuarial valuation by the use of a five-year moving market average methodology (including a limiting corridor of 15 per cent below and above

the market value of the assets), which results in a smoothing of extreme "bumps" in the markets.

It is also important to stress the importance of maintaining a long-term outlook for the Fund and, in particular, the long-term investment horizon. Annual contribution income (\$1,928 million in 2009) generally covers and, at times, ex-

ceeds benefit payments (\$1,917 million in 2009). Therefore, the Fund is not required to draw funds from investment income or to sell its equity, bond or real estate holdings to fund short-term needs. Investment income which includes interest, dividends and other revenues from the real estate portfolio and the sale of securities, continues to be re-invested. This is obviously a very positive feature of a fully-funded and slowly maturing defined-benefit pension scheme such as the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund.

The following graph compares the investment performance over a longer term period against the Fund’s long-term investment return objective of 3.5% in real terms; it shows that despite the short-term volatility, the performance of the investments has exceeded its long-term objective.



In summary, the Fund’s long-term projections are practically unaffected by the current volatile market conditions. However, as noted by the Committee of Actuaries, the Fund needs to ensure that, in the long-term, investment performance meets the 3.5% real return objective and that this objective is achieved with no undue risk as possible to avoid fluctuations in the results of future actuarial valuations. The Committee’s comment should be understood in the context of a maturing pension fund where the results of future actuarial valuations will be more strongly linked to future investment returns.

I would like to add that the Fund will soon undertake a new Asset-Liability Management (ALM) study which is an important component of its on-going performance monitoring process and risk management policy. Using the results of the ALM helps to ensure long-term solvency and assists the Fund’s Investment Management Division and the UN Secretary-General, who has fiduciary responsibility over the investments of the Fund, in decisions concerning optimal long-term asset allocation and currency strategies for the investment of the assets of the Pension Fund. The results and recommendations are expected in Spring 2011.

PAKISTAN FLOODS

S-G LAUNCHES UN \$2 BILLION REVISED APPEAL FOR “WORST NATURAL DISASTER THE UNITED NATIONS HAS RESPONDED TO IN ITS 65-YEAR HISTORY”

Following are UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s remarks at the launch of the revised humanitarian funding plan for recovery from floods in Pakistan, held in New York on 17 September:

Thank you for joining us as we launch the revised Pakistan floods appeal.

One month ago, I travelled to Pakistan and witnessed some of the devastation for myself. We have all been struck by the enormous scale of the crisis – the number of people affected, the amount of need, the human tragedy is immense – and it is growing.

The flood waters have kept moving. The wall of water has now washed over the south of the country. In the floods’ wake, we are seeing hunger, misery and desperation: children becoming malnourished; skin diseases on the rise because of the lack of soap and clean water; nowhere for families to shelter from the sweltering sun.

Diarrhoea could spread quickly in these conditions. Clean water and sanitation equipment must reach even more people. Millions of children and pregnant women are especially at risk. They need access to critical health care.

Pakistan is not facing just one humanitarian crisis – but many at once. Different responses are required. In some places, water is still spreading and millions are waiting for help. In other areas, waters have receded and people are eager to rebuild and plant crops. All of this makes the Pakistan floods the worst natural disaster the United Nations has responded to in its 65 year history.

Simply put: Helping the 20 million people affected will be a

test of our collective humanity. That is why today we are launching an appeal for an additional \$1.594 billion in assistance. Together with the initial appeal, our 12-month response plan amounts to just over \$2 billion.

The United Nations and the humanitarian community know what to do: getting food, medicines and tents to people who need them; getting trained and experienced workers into some of the most difficult parts of the country. This is what we can do.

The hard part is reaching so many people with what they need, when they need it. That is why your support is crucial now more than ever. The waters may be receding in places, but the needs are not. Every dollar is required to save lives.

I thank the Governments, regional organizations and individuals that have generously supported humanitarian work in Pakistan. Your assistance is making an immense difference for millions of people. But even greater challenges lie ahead. Let us rise to them. Let us dig deeper. Let us help the people of Pakistan respond to this global disaster. Thank you very much for your support.

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division
Adapted from UN Website

NB: The AFICS (NY) Charities Foundation has contributed \$3000 through UNICEF to the S-G’s Appeal.



“UN WOMEN” CREATED BY UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UNANIMOUS VOTE MERGES FOUR PREVIOUS PROGRAMMES TO ESTABLISH NEW ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

In an historic move, the United Nations General Assembly voted unanimously on 2 July 2010 to create a new entity to accelerate progress in meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide.

The establishment of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women – to be known as “UN Women” – is a result of years of negotiations among UN Member States and advocacy by the global women’s movement. It is part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact.

“I am grateful to Member States for having taken this major step forward for the world’s women and girls,” said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a statement welcoming the decision. “UN Women will significantly boost UN efforts to promote gender equality, expand opportunity, and tackle discrimination around the globe.”

UN Women merges and will build on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system which focus exclusively on gender equality and women’s empowerment:

- * Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW, established in 1946)
- * International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW, established in 1976)
- * Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI, established in 1997)
- * United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, established in 1976)

“I commend the leadership and staff of DAW, INSTRAW, OSAGI and UNIFEM for their commitment to the cause of gender equality; I will count on their support as we enter a new era in the UN’s work for women,” said Secretary-General Ban. “I have made gender equality and the empowerment of women one of my top priorities – from working to end the scourge of violence against women, to appointing more women to senior positions, to efforts to reduce maternal mortality rates,” he noted.

Over many decades, the UN has made significant progress in advancing gender equality, including through landmark agreements such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for

Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Gender equality is not only a basic human right, but its achievement has enormous socio-economic ramifications. Empowering women fuels thriving economies, spurring productivity and growth.

Yet gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in every society. Women in all parts of the world suffer violence and discrimination, and are under-represented in decision-making processes. High rates of maternal mortality continue to be a cause for global shame. For many years, the UN has faced serious challenges in its efforts to promote gender equality globally, including inadequate funding and no single recognized driver to direct UN activities on gender equality issues.

UN Women – which will be operational by January 2011 – has been created by the General Assembly to address such challenges. It will be a dynamic and strong champion for women and girls, providing them with a powerful voice at the global, regional and local levels. It will enhance, not replace, efforts by other parts of the UN system (such as UNICEF, UNDP, and UNFPA) that continue to have responsibility to work for gender equality and women’s empowerment in their areas of expertise.

UN Women will have two key roles: It will support inter-governmental bodies such as the Commission on the Status of Women in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms; and it will help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, as well as forging effective partnerships with civil society. It will also help the UN system to be accountable for its own commitments on gender equality, including regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

The operations of UN Women will be funded from voluntary contributions, while the regular UN budget will support its normative work. At least US\$500 million – double the current combined budget of DAW, INSTRAW, OSAGI, and UNIFEM – has been recognized by Member States as the minimum investment needed for UN Women.

“UN Women will give women and girls the strong, unified voice they deserve on the world stage. I look forward to seeing this new entity up and running so that we – women and men – can move forward together in our endeavour to achieve the goals of equality, development and peace for all

women and girls, everywhere,” said Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro.

The General Assembly resolution creating UN Women also covers broader issues related to UN system-wide coherence, laying out a new approach to the funding of UN development operations, streamlining the work of UN bodies, and improving methods of evaluating reform efforts.

* * *



On 14 September Secretary-General Ban announced his appointment of Michelle Bachelet, former President of Chile, as the Under-Secretary General for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women – the head of UN Women. She will be a member of all senior UN decision-making bodies and will report to the Secretary-General.

“Ms. Bachelet brings to this critical position a history of dynamic global leadership, highly honed political skills and uncommon ability to create consensus and focus among UN agencies and many partners in both the public and private sector,” said the S-G. “I am confident that under her strong

leadership, we can improve the lives of millions of women and girls throughout the world.”

Ms. Bachelet served as President of Chile from 2006 to 2010. A long-time champion of women’s rights, she has advocated for gender equality and women’s empowerment throughout her career. One of her major successes was her decision to save billions of dollars in revenues to spend on pension reform, which guaranteed a programme of social protections for women and children, despite the financial crisis. This included tripling the number of free early child-care centres for low-income families and the completion of some 3,500 child-care centres throughout Chile.

Ms. Bachelet also held ministerial portfolios in the Chilean Government as Minister of Defence and Minister of Health. As Defence Minister, she introduced gender policies intended to improve the conditions of women in the military and police forces. As Minister of Health, she implemented health-care reform, improving attention to primary care facilities with the aim of ensuring better and faster health-care response for families.

Ms. Bachelet was born in Santiago in 1951 and is the mother of three children. She holds a medical degree and studied military strategy at Chile’s National Academy of Strategy and Policy and at the Inter-American Defense College in the United States.

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division
Adapted from UN Website

AS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON ‘WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY’ NEARS, S-G CALLS FOR END TO BRUTAL VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS

FOLLOWING ARE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON’S REMARKS TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325: A CALL TO ACTION, AT HEADQUARTERS, 25 SEPTEMBER 2010:

Welcome to this conference and thank you all for being here today. I thank the Permanent Mission of Canada for taking the lead in organizing this event.

In a month, we will mark the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). This landmark resolution raised awareness of the unique and grave issues that women and girls face during and after conflict. It has undoubtedly increased international commitment.

We can point to some successes. In countries like Afghanistan and Burundi, we have supported women’s participation in post-war constitutional reform. In others, like Timor-Leste and Sierra Leone, we have helped to raise the proportion of women in the security forces.

But this tenth anniversary is a sombre occasion. Our achievements over the past decade have not met our own expectations. Women are still excluded from peace processes. The security sector in most countries is still dominated by men.

When conflicts end, and international aid begins to come in, it is still not geared to the needs of girls and women. And – most tragically and strikingly – women and girls still suffer gender-based violence, including systematic sexual attacks, in and around armed conflict. The international community is still failing to protect the most vulnerable – as we saw recently in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The results of this violence, for the victims and their communities, are devastating, and can last for years or decades. And those who carry out these war crimes still generally go unpunished. This issue is of such grave concern and urgency that the Security Council has passed two further resolutions on it, and I have appointed a Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Margot Wallström, to make sure that it gets consistent high-level attention. How, then, can we turn the corner?

As the tenth anniversary approaches, we must move beyond rhetoric. I suggest some concrete commitments.

- ★ Above all, we must end the brutal and blatant violations of the bodies of women and girls during armed conflict and its aftermath.
- ★ We must put women at the front and centre of peace processes – in negotiation and mediation, post-conflict governance and reconstruction.
- ★ We must create and implement the right laws, so that those who carry out such crimes are brought to justice.

- ★ We must develop National Action Plans to implement resolution 1325 (2000). So far, only 19 countries have done this.
- ★ We must review progress against reliable indicators.

But all these commitments will not make the difference we need without increased resources. Civil society groups cannot plan and implement their programmes when funding is not enough, or is unreliable because of donors' shifting priorities. I urge those with the power to mobilize resources for this work to do so.

For my part, I will make sure that the United Nations system takes a more coherent, comprehensive and measurable approach to implementing resolution 1325 (2000).

And I will continue to work for women's empowerment, through all the means at the UN's disposal. The newly-created UN Women, under the leadership of Michelle Bachelet, will bring women's perspectives into all our work. Women's issues are not an "add-on." They must be an integral part of all our thinking on peace and security. Women are not only the victims of war. They must play a key role in bringing peace.

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division
From UN Website

AFICS (NY) IN ACTION

AFICS GOVERNING BOARD ELECTS NEW BUREAU

At its meeting on 16 September 2010, the AFICS (NY) Governing Board elected the following officers to its Bureau:

Linda Saputelli, President
Frances Zainoeddin, First Vice-President
Thomas A. Bieler, Second Vice-President
Louise Laheurte, Secretary
Anthony J. Fouracre, Deputy Secretary

Leon Thomas, Treasurer
Puran Sharma, Deputy Treasurer

Outgoing President, Edward Omotoso joined all Board members present in congratulating the newly elected members and wished them well as they continue to serve AFICS (NY) during their one-year term. He also thanked all Board members, including outgoing members and Honorary members and/or

Past Presidents of AFICS (NY), as well as Committee Chairs and members, office staff and others who serve AFICS in various capacities for their assistance and cooperation during his two year-long terms as Governing Board President.



Left to right: Angie de Hitta & Jamna Israni (AFICS Admin. Assists.), Linda Saputelli (AFICS Pres.), Ed Omotoso (outgoing AFICS Pres.), Lydia Ontal(outgoing AFICS Admin. Assist.)

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

We are currently producing a new DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, so once again we urge you to send us your latest address and email and fax numbers. This is especially important because we still continue to get significant returns of sent mail and email. Remember, we will use your information only to send you AFICS notices and publications. We will never share it with anyone without your permission!

LONG-TIME AFICS (NY) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT MOVES ON

Lydia Ontal, an administrative assistant in the AFICS (NY) office for the last 13 years, has resigned, effective 30 September 2010. She will continue to serve as Assistant Secretary to FAFICS, an office to which she was re-elected in July.

During her tenure in the AFICS (NY) office Lydia worked with four presidents of the Association: George F. Saddler, O. Richard Nottidge, Andrés Castellanos, and Edward Omotoso. Over the years, she helped the office grow from one tiny room to a larger space that includes a library and conference room, and from hand-written files for members to the current Access database accessed by the latest generation of computers.

Lydia's daily presence in the office and calm, quiet efficiency in serving AFICS (NY) will be sorely missed. The members of the Governing Board and office staff wish her well and look forward to seeing her from time to time as she continues with her FAFICS responsibilities.

FALL LUNCHEON – SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Fall Luncheon will take place as follows:

Date: **18 November 2010**

Restaurant: **Ben & Jack's Steakhouse**

Address: **219 East 44th Street (between 2nd & 3rd Aves.)**

A circular is being mailed with further details and information will be posted on the AFICS website.

ALERT: ASHI and MEDICARE PART B

The UN may be proposing a subsidy for present and future Medicare Part B participants and also require that all eligible retirees between the ages of 65 and 75 who have not already enrolled in Part B, do so, possibly as soon as during the first three months of 2011.

Watch for details on the AFICS (NY) Website. We will provide them as soon as they are available.

CORRIGENDUM

In our July 2010 Bulletin, on page 20 we listed Mr. Adebola Laniyan, former Regional Transport Officer with UNMIK, as a new member – but failed to indicate that he is a **Life Member** of our Association.

We welcome Mr. Laniyan as a Life Member and apologize for the omission.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

PALMS FOR LIFE FUND SEEKS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Palms for Life Fund, a New York-based NGO with a mission to support projects that end poverty, is currently seeking a consultant with experience in managing development projects, in particular in Africa.

Palms for Life Fund was founded and is headed by Hannah Laufer-Rottman, formerly of the World Food Programme and now an AFICS (NY) member, living and working in the New York area.

For further information, you are invited to get in touch with Ms. Laufer-Rottman directly. Her contact information is available on her website, <palmsforlifefund.org>.

SEMINARS ON TAXES, RETIREMENT/ESTATE PLANNING, IMMIGRATION

Joseph J. Gaspari, CPA, is one of the Tax Consultants listed on our AFICS Website. We have learned that his firm, Gaspari Financial, holds seminars from time to time, covering not only tax matters (for those with G-4/Resident Alien/Citizen status) but Immigration, Retirement Planning and Estate Planning. The seminars are held at least once a month. For more information: Email: <joeg@gaspariassoc.com>; Tel: (914) 472-3700.

ADVOCATES' CORNER

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON'S MESSAGE FOR UNITED NATIONS DAY, 24 OCTOBER, 2010

On United Nations Day, I express my great appreciation to the millions of people throughout the world who believe deeply in our work for peace, development and human rights, and who uphold our ideals and help us achieve our goals. To all of you, friends and fellow citizens of the world, I say: thank you.

Sixty-five years ago on this date, the founding Charter of the United Nations entered into force. Every year on UN Day, we reaffirm our global mission. We reassert the universal values of tolerance, mutual respect and human dignity. And we recognize the progress we have made together: gains in literacy and life expectancy; the spread of knowledge and technology; advances in democracy and the rule of law. But above all, United Nations Day is a day on which we resolve to do more - more to protect those caught up in armed conflict, to fight climate change and avert nuclear catastrophe; more to expand opportunities for women and girls, and to combat injustice and impunity; more to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

Last month's Millennium Development Goals Summit at the United Nations generated political momentum as well as financial commitments that are especially significant in these

difficult economic times. I am determined to press ahead as the 2015 deadline approaches.

Despite our problems, despite polarization and distrust, our interconnected world has opened up vast new possibilities for common progress. Let us commit to do even more to realize the great vision set out in the United Nations Charter.

Department of Public Information
News and Media Division
(from UN Website)

UN Day presents a wonderful opportunity for advocacy on the local level. For instance, Honorary Board Member and former President of AFICS, Margaret (Molly) K. Bruce – who is also very active in the Westchester UNA/USA – got the following proclamation issued by local officials in the town of Mount Kisko, New York, using the following form supplied by UNA/USA:

United Nations Week Proclamation

Whereas, the United Nations was founded in 1945, and the anniversary of the day on which the UN Charter came into force is observed each year on October 24; and

Whereas, the United Nations promotes peace and security, development and human rights around the world, and is vital now more than ever; and

Whereas, in September 2000, all United Nations member states, including the United States, agreed upon eight Millennium Development Goals to meet the needs of the world's poorest; and

Whereas, the Millennium Development Goals provide a common development strategy for the international community, allowing for improved coordination, coherence, and effectiveness at all levels; and

Whereas, the Goals address universal issues from poverty and access to education to improving healthcare and environmental sustainability and enjoy unprecedented political support because they are specific and measurable, with a deadline and indicators for monitoring progress attached to each goal; and

Whereas, the United States has a long tradition of leading international efforts to improve health, education and eco-

nomie growth in developing countries; and

Whereas, the United States has shown its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals through foreign assistance, progressive trade initiatives, and debt relief measures; and

Whereas, the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), in cooperation with other organizations, has declared "Engaging America in the Millennium Development Goals" as its theme for the 2010 United Nations Day commemorations; and

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of (name) should join with others around the country in participating in events relating to UN Day;

Now, therefore, I, (name and title of town official) of the Town of (name) do proclaim Sunday, October 24, 2010 as
United Nations Day in the Town of (name)

Lee H. Bloom of Larchmont, New York, a member of UNA/USA, suggests approaching local and county officials about celebrating the day as Molly successfully did.

He says that the UNA National Office usually issues a Proclamation form that can be mailed to the mayor, supervisor or county executive with a covering letter requesting that it be issued at an official meeting prior to October 24.

In the Town of Mamaroneck (and in the Village of Mamaroneck) where he lives, he attends this meeting and the Supervisor (or the Mayor in the Village) designates a Town Board member to read the Proclamation aloud and then they present

it to him and he says a few words about the importance to all of us of the work the UN does. The meeting is covered by local access television so that the message gets out to at least a segment of the public.

Each local government is also asked to fly the UN flag on the municipal flagpole during the week which includes October 24. If they don't have a UN flag they buy one and present it to them.

You may want to try a similar approach in your own town next year!

SIXTY-FIFTH G-A: WORLD LEADERS ADOPT "ACTION AGENDA" ON WAY FORWARD FOR MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Amid concern that the historic promise made 10 years ago to free millions of people from the injustice of extreme poverty, hunger and disease would ring hollow without a renewed political push for success, on Sept. 22, world leaders concluded the United Nations General Assembly meeting to review the Millennium Development Goals with a solemn pledge to take concerted action to unleash transformational change.

Adopting a sweeping outcome document at the end of the high-level meeting – "Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals" (document A/65/L.1) – the leaders set out an action agenda to reach the Goals by 2015. Underscoring the centrality of Goal 8, which calls for creating a global partnership for development, they

expressed deep concern that efforts had fallen far short of what was needed, and said, "We are convinced that the [Goals] can be achieved, including in the poorest countries, with renewed commitment, effective implementation and intensified collective action by all Member States and other relevant stakeholders."

Indeed, the Goals were never meant to be a one-way street, something that rich countries did for poor ones, said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who immediately hailed the Assembly's action and congratulated the political leaders attending the three-day event for laying a solid foundation for the world's quest to achieve the Goals. Moreover, the action agenda they had approved provided a road map for dra-

matically accelerating progress, and he was encouraged that States had used the summit to reaffirm concrete support.

All key issues had been placed on the table, he said; jobs, inclusive development, the Doha trade agenda and women's health and empowerment to name a few. All those topics and more were now at the forefront of the international community's attention. Many participants had committed to launch new initiatives, and with only five years left before the deadline, "we must hold each other accountable."

General Assembly President Joseph Deiss (Switzerland), who, along with former Assembly President Ali Abdussalam Treki (Libya), co-chaired the meeting, said the outcome document reaffirmed that achieving the Goals was a moral duty. New proposals and commitments had been made to support that renewed commitment. Among other things, official development assistance (ODA) would be increased, innovative financing developed and domestic resources mobilized. To consolidate progress, a greater investment must be made in the areas of disaster prevention and risk reduction, he said.

To stay engaged over the next five years, States, by the text, requested the Assembly to annually review progress made towards achieving the Goals, including in the implementation of the outcome document. The President of the Assembly's sixty-eighth session was requested to organize a special event in 2013 to follow up on those efforts.

States also reaffirmed that the Economic and Social Council was the principle United Nations body for the coordination of and follow-up to the Goals, particularly through its Annual Ministerial Review and Development Cooperation Forum. The Secretary-General was requested to report annually on progress until 2015 and to recommend steps, in his annual reports, to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond the 2015 deadline.

Further, by the outcome document, the Assembly noted that, in a globalized world, the scope for domestic policies, especially for trade and investment, was framed by global market considerations, and that it was for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between accepting international rules, on one hand, and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, on the other. In a common pursuit of growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, a critical challenge would be to ensure the necessary internal conditions for mobilizing domestic resources.

The document's action plan also committed the Assembly to specific measures related to each of the eight Goals: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (Goal 1); achieve universal primary education (Goal 2); promote gender equality and women's empowerment (Goal 3); reduce child mortality (Goal 4); improve maternal health (Goal 5); combat

HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Goal 6); ensure environmental sustainability (Goal 7) and develop a global partnership for development (Goal 8).

While all were interdependent, making headway hinged on Goals 1 and 8, some speakers said during the course of the debate, painting a mixed picture of results since 2000. Voicing the concerns of many aid recipients, Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, said, "Platitudes through the years had left some feeling short-changed and sceptical." Standards for Goal 8 were those most woefully unmet. As developing countries struggled to advance in a difficult economic climate, their partners had replaced pledges of assistance with empty rhetoric.

Poor countries had received \$120 billion in 2009, far short of the \$300 billion promised. Commitments made to Africa in 2005 by major donors at the Gleneagles G-8 Summit remained today \$20 billion short. "Somehow, we are expected to soldier on, with less assistance than promised," he said. Achieving the Goals was at a critical juncture; they would not be reached without reducing the credibility gap. For the next five years, building a solid, credible partnership must be the engine of development.

United States President Barack Obama said it was high time to put to rest the old myth that development was mere charity and that certain countries were condemned to perpetual poverty. Today's world was one in which a disease such as smallpox had been eradicated after ravaging people the world over throughout history. It was one in which countries such as China and India were leaders in the global economy, where the doors of education had been opened to tens of millions of children, boys and girls, where diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS were down and access to drinking water was up.

Laying out his Government's new global development policy, which would target incentives for economic growth, he said the final pillar of that approach would be to insist on greater responsibility. "We need to be big-hearted, but also hard-headed in making commitments." The United States would put an end to hollow, unmet promises. The moment of taking responsibility had arrived for developing countries as well. "We can be partners, but you must lead." No nation could do everything everywhere and still do it well. There was now an opportunity to forge a new division of labour for the new century. "Together, we can collaborate in ways unimaginable just a few years ago," he said. "Together, we can deliver historic leaps in development."

Department of Public Information,
News and Media Division

Adapted from UN Website (where full account is available)

CITIZENS' VOICES AGAINST POVERTY HEARD AROUND THE WORLD

On September 17-19, people across the globe turned up the volume on their call for heads of state gathering at the United Nations on September 20-22 to demonstrate leadership in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Citizens gathered at events across continents to amplify their support for the eight MDGs, a set of targets to eradicate extreme poverty and its root causes by 2015 that marks its tenth anniversary this week. They sang, chanted, blew whistles, played drums, blew vuvuzelas, banged pots and pans and set off alarm clocks. The sounds of these noises emanating from villages, towns and cities around the world as part of the three day mobilization “Stand Up, Take Action, Make Noise for the MDGs” were intended to make citizens’ commitments to track and support their countries’ achievement of the Goals visible, vocal and impossible to ignore.

“The Secretary General’s recent report on the Millennium Development Goals has made it clear that with only five years until the deadline by which world leaders have promised to eradicate extreme poverty and its root causes, the active partnership of citizens and governments is more important than ever,” said Corinne Woods, Director of the UN Millennium Campaign. “The citizens participating in ‘Stand Up and Take Action’ on September 17-19 will make it clear to heads of state gathering at the United Nations the following week that they support and want to be a part of the realization of the Goals.”

This mobilization served as a launching point for a new initiative of real-time monitoring by citizens of basic service delivery in their communities. The availability of and access to quality, reliable and consistent basic services are essential for the MDGs to be realized at the country level. The Millennium Campaign will work with governments, civil society, technology partners and the media to launch pilot citizen tracking programs in India and Kenya in 2011.

“Stand Up” events organized across the globe included:

- Bangladesh, Cambodia, Colombia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, and Zimbabwe – in concerts, local artists sang about their support for the MDGs.
- Jordan - 40,000 children simultaneously blew whistles in support of the MDGs, in an attempt to set a new world record.

- India - Stand Up kicked off with a film festival on September 17.
- New York City - Lincoln Plaza was the hub of Stand Up activity on September 19, with exhibitions on promises and progress to end poverty as well as speakers and performers.
- Paris - French citizens and civil society organizations organized a flash mob and Stand Up moment in front of the Eiffel Tower on September 18.
- Washington, D.C. - citizens came together with local musicians, drummers and bands just two blocks from the White House, to amplify their voices in support of the MDGs.
- The Philippines - various fiestas in towns and cities nationwide were dedicated to the call for the achievement of the MDGs, including events from September 17-19 where citizens played instruments made of indigenous materials, including coconuts and bamboo.
- Colombia - the United Nations, in partnership with the National Soccer League, invited 30,000 spectators at one of the most important soccer matches of the season to Stand Up on September 19.
- Egypt – religious leaders gave sermons calling for an end to poverty in more than 50,000 mosques and at Sunday masses in churches across the country. A national youth rally entitled “The Sphinx Stands Against Poverty” took place on September 17 at the historic site of the Giza pyramid.

The “Stand Up and Take Action” mobilization came amidst an ongoing process of citizen engagement with their leaders in support of the MDGs. Other activities included the launch of an alternate report on MDG progress in India and the Philippines on September 15; a dedicated MDG Week in the Philippines’ House of Representatives where citizens launched a roadmap for poverty reduction; and a collective appeal in support of the MDGs presented to the government of Nepal on September 15.

Last year, more than 173 million people participated in “Stand Up,” setting a new Guinness World Record. “Stand Up and Take Action” is organized globally by the United Nations Millennium Campaign, in collaboration with a wide range of partners, including the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP).

For more information, visit www.standagainstopoverty.org

Adapted from UNDP website

UN AT WORK WORLDWIDE

UN HAILS ENTRY INTO FORCE OF GLOBAL PACT BANNING CLUSTER MUNITIONS

United Nations officials expressed their delight at the entry into force of the international convention banning the manufacture, use and stockpiling of cluster munitions, effective 1 August 2010, calling it a “major advance for the global disarmament and humanitarian agendas.” Billions of these weapons – which are considered particularly dangerous, despite their lack of precision – are believed to exist around the world and many have been used in recent conflicts, killing or maiming countless civilians.

Thirty ratifications were needed to make the pact, which prohibits explosive remnants of war known either as cluster munitions or unexploded ordnance (UXO), a part of international law. That milestone was reached in February when Burkina Faso and Moldova both submitted their instruments of ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions at UN Headquarters in New York.

The convention, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a statement marking the ratification, “will help us to counter the widespread insecurity and suffering caused by these terrible weapons, particularly among civilians and children.” He expressed particular pleasure that the pact would enter into force on 1 August, just over two years after it was adopted by 107 States in Dublin, Ireland. “This highlights not only the world’s collective revulsion at these abhorrent weapons, but also the power of collaboration among governments, civil society and the United Nations to change attitudes and policies on a threat faced by all mankind,” the S-G emphasized. The convention – negotiated by States that represent past and current producers, stockpilers and victims of cluster munitions – establishes important commitments regarding assistance to victims, clearance of contaminated areas and destruction of stockpiles. To date, 37 countries have ratified the pact, which also has 107 signatures.

First used in the Second World War, cluster munitions contain dozens of smaller explosives designed to disperse over an area the size of several football fields, but often fail to detonate upon impact, creating large de facto minefields. The failure rate makes these weapons particularly dangerous for civilians, who continue to be maimed or killed for years after conflicts end. Some 98 per cent of victims are civilians and

cluster bombs have claimed over 10,000 civilian lives, 40 per cent of whom are children. Recovery from conflict is also hampered because the munitions place roads and lands off-limits to farmers and aid workers.

The pact represents “a major advance for the global disarmament and humanitarian agendas,” Mr. Ban noted in his statement, a theme echoed by Daniël Prins, chief of the conventional arms branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA). “This is a great step forward – here we have a treaty at the nexus of disarmament and humanitarian efforts,” Mr. Prins said in an interview with the UN News Centre. He noted that the convention is not merely symbolic, but contains many practical measures, such as requiring States to provide assistance to victims, engage in clearance operations and conduct awareness campaigns so that children do not inadvertently set off explosions.

The first meeting of States parties to the convention will be held this November in Laos, which Mr. Ban said is a country “that has suffered tremendously from the impact of cluster munitions.” Clearance operations are still ongoing in the South-East Asian nation more than 30 years after conflict left 75 million unexploded cluster bomblets across that country.

Mr. Ban called on all Member States to take part in the November meeting to express their support for the convention, while also urging those nations that have yet to accede to the pact “to do so without delay.”

Cluster munitions have been used in conflicts around the world in recent years, including in the Middle East, South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, the Horn of Africa and Central Africa. The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has been coordinating the removal of cluster munitions in many countries, including Cambodia, Chad, Laos, Lebanon, Tajikistan and Zambia.

Max Kerley, the Director of UNMAS, said he hoped the convention will now gather the kind of support enjoyed by the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty and receive more ratifications in the months ahead.

UN Daily News\Adapted from UN Website

HEALTHY LIVING

This year, the UN Medical Service in New York will offer flu shots to staff and retirees on a first-come-first-service basis as follows: Location: DC1, 2nd Floor Training Room 240; Dates: 28 October; 4-5 and 11-12 November; Time: 10am-12:45pm; 2:30-4:45pm.

FLU SEASON 2010-11: WHAT TO DO TO STAY HEALTHY

By Dr. Sudershan Narula

Earlier today when I was walking along Third Avenue in New York City, I saw the following sign displayed in the window of a Duane Reade drugstore: "Get Your Flu Shot Here! Only \$29.99." Hard to believe but the flu season has arrived and it's time to get your annual flu shot. The good news is that you will only need one shot this year, and there is no shortage of the vaccine.

I. Seasonal flu

1. The season

- ✓ Most Flu occurs from November to May; activity usually peaks in January, February, and March.
- ✓ By mid-September flu cases had already been reported by the federal Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), indicating that the flu struck early this year.

2. Symptoms

- ✓ Fever, sore throat, chills, fatigue, cough, headache and muscle aches

3. Complications from the flu can include:

- ✓ bacterial pneumonia
- ✓ ear or sinus infections
- ✓ worsening of chronic medical conditions

4. How the flu spreads and how to prevent transmission

- ✓ When an infected person coughs or sneezes, infected droplets get into the air and another person can breathe them in and be exposed.

- ✓ The virus can also be spread by hands infected with the virus.

If you are sick, help prevent transmission by:

- ✓ Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the trash after use.
- ✓ Washing your hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub, especially after using tissues or coughing/sneezing into your hands.
- ✓ Avoiding close contact with others, especially those who might easily get the flu, such as people age 65 years and older, people of any age with chronic medical conditions, pregnant women, young children, and infants.

5. Taking care of yourself if you are sick

- ✓ Seek medical advice quickly if you are 65 years or older and have developed flu symptoms, as you have a greater chance of getting complications. You might need medical evaluation or treatment with antiviral drugs and it is very important that these drugs be administered early.
- ✓ CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever subsides except to get medical care or perform truly essential tasks.
- ✓ Drink clear fluids such as water, broth, sports drinks, or electrolyte beverages made for infants to prevent becoming dehydrated.
- ✓ Get plenty of rest.

6. Everyday preventive actions

Stay healthy by practicing these healthy habits:

- ✓ Avoid people who are sick with the flu.
- ✓ Wash hands often and vigorously for 30 seconds with soap and water.
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- ✓ Get plenty of sleep, stay physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

II. Seasonal flu shots

In addition to the common sense measures described above, get a flu shot each season as it is the single best way to prevent the flu.

1. Availability and Timing

- The vaccine is now available – companies began distributing this year's batch in August. It may arrive later in some towns than others.
- There is no anticipated shortage this year – according to the CDC, 160 to 165 million doses of the vaccine are expected to be available compared to 114 million doses last year.
- There is no advantage to waiting to get vaccinated – the sooner we get the shot, the sooner we are protected.
- It takes two weeks for the vaccine to kick in, and the protection lasts throughout the entire flu season.
- Since most influenza occurs between November and May, getting vaccinated in December, or even later, is still beneficial.
- Vaccination is particularly important for high-risk groups, including those 65 and over, and anyone with an underlying condition that weakens the immune system, such as HIV, asthma, diabetes and cancer.
- Infants 6 months and under cannot be vaccinated. For infants to be protected, all family members and caregivers should get the shot.

- The flu vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines, including the pneumococcal vaccine.
- Please note that all those who got the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine, or had H1N1 flu in 2009, should still get the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine.

2. Composition and Types

- The 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine includes protection against three flu viruses, including the H1N1 (swine flu) virus that caused so much illness last season. Although H1N1 is no longer considered a pandemic, the virus is still expected to circulate.
- This season, those 65 years and older will have two flu shots available to choose from – a regular dose flu vaccine and a new high dose flu vaccine designed for those 65 years and older. Both of these are injectable vaccines containing inactivated virus.
- The high dose vaccine is associated with a stronger immune response to vaccination. However, whether the stronger immune response results in greater protection against influenza illness in older adults is not yet known. The CDC has not expressed a preference for either vaccine.
- An ongoing study designed to determine the effectiveness of the high dose vaccine in preventing illness from flu compared to the regular dose vaccine is expected to be completed in 2012.
- There is also a live attenuated (weakened) intranasal flu vaccine but it is **not recommended for adults 50 years and older.**

3. Should anyone avoid the vaccine?

If you are allergic to chicken eggs, which are used to produce the vaccine, or if you have had a reaction to a flu vaccine in the past, talk with your doctor first. If you are sick with a fever, wait to get vaccinated until your symptoms have subsided.

Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, so get the flu shot now and follow the common sense everyday preventative measures described above.

THE LATEST WRINKLE

OLD AGE IS A GIFT

Old Age, I decided, is a gift!

I am now, probably for the first time in my life, the person I have always wanted to be. Oh, not my body! I sometimes despair over my body – the wrinkles, the baggy eyes, and the sagging butt. And often I am taken aback by that old person that lives in my mirror (who looks like my mother!), but I don't agonize over those things for long.

I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, and my loving family for less grey hair or a flatter belly. As I've aged, I've become kinder to myself and less critical. I've become my own friend.

I don't chide myself for eating that extra cookie, or for not making my bed, or for buying that silly cement gecko that I didn't need, but looks so avant garde on my patio. I am entitled to a treat ... to be messy ... to be extravagant.

I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM and sleep until noon?

I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 50s, 60s, & 70s, and if at the same time, I wish to weep over a lost love, I will!

I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves with abandon if I choose, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old.

I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things.

Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect.

I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning grey, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver.

As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong.

So I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day – if I feel like it!

Adapted from the Internet
(with thanks to Andrés Castellanos
for sending it to the *Bulletin*)



OUR AMAZING WORLD

ORIGINS OF CUSTOMS, TERMS, AND EXPRESSIONS

Ever wonder about the origin of some practices, terms and expressions we commonly employ in the English-speaking world? Read on!

Q: Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

A: When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

Q: Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

A: In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfil obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

Q: Why is shifting responsibility to someone else called "passing the buck?"

A: In card games, it was once customary to pass an item, called a buck, from player to player to indicate whose turn it was to deal. If a player did not wish to assume the responsibility, he would "pass the buck" to the next player.

Q: Why do people clink their glasses before drinking a toast?

A: It used to be common for someone to try to kill an enemy by offering him a poisoned drink. To prove to a guest that a drink was safe, it became customary for a guest to pour a small amount of his drink into the glass of the host. Both men would drink it simultaneously. When a guest trusted his host, he would then just touch or clink the host's glass with his own.

Q: Why do ships and aircraft in trouble use "mayday" as their call for help?

A: This comes from the French word "m'aidez," meaning "help me" – and is pronounced "mayday."

Q: Why is someone who is feeling great "on cloud nine?"

A: Types of clouds are numbered according to the altitudes they attain, with nine being the highest cloud. If someone is said to be on cloud nine, that person is floating well above worldly cares.

Q: Why are zero scores in tennis called "love?"

A: In France, where tennis first became popular, a big, round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg and was called "l'oeuf," which is French for "egg." When tennis was introduced in the U.S., Americans pronounced it "love."

Q: In golf, where did the term "Caddie" come from?

A. When Mary, later Queen of Scots, went to France as a young girl (for education & survival), Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scot game golf. So he had the first golf course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced "ca-day" and the Scots changed it into "caddie."

BOOK REVIEWS

(NB. The author of each of the following books has kindly donated a copy for the AFICS (NY) Library.)

THE MEMORABLE DOZEN – Memoir of a United Nations civil servant for health and development By Jack Chieh-Sheng Ling; Translated by Xu Wenqing and Zhang Lei. Published by Peking University Medical Press, 2010. ISBN 978-7-81116-887-8

Website: <http://www.pumpress.com.cn>.

Sold by Peking University Medical Press through its Xinhua Book Store network. Bookseller websites:

http://product.dangdang.com/product.aspx?product_id=20855015&ref=product-0-G

<http://www.bookschina.com.tw/4742788/>

<http://www.bjbb.com/bookdetail.aspx?pid=3472649>

The UN Book Store is reviewing the book and it is hoped that it will display and sell the book as well.

In this concise collection of profiles, author Jack Ling presents portraits of 12 individual whom he found especially memorable, from his childhood days in Shanghai, to his years as a young reporter in Hong Kong and during some 50 years as a career international civil servant and consultant, which took him to some 90 countries around the world working for UNICEF and the World Health Organization.

Beginning with his two grandfathers, one a traditional Confucian scholar and the other a paediatrician with a revolutionary spirit, he goes on to introduce the reader to his mentor, Spurgeon (Sam) Keeny, one of the leaders who laid the groundwork for UNICEF's achievements, who gave him his first UN job. He then leads us through a mix of inspirational characters, both famous and unknown outside their immediate locales: award-winning UK science writer and nuclear disarmament advocate, Lord Ritchie-Calder; journalist/author Eve Curie Labouisse, the only non-science member of the distinguished Curie family of France, recipients of multiple Nobel prizes; Dr. Raden Kodiyat of Indonesia, the hero of the successful fight against the disfiguring and crippling infection, yaws; James P. Grant of the U.S., who made children's rights and welfare a political imperative; Marlon Brando, in his off-stage role as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador; two women in rural Africa who stood out as natural leaders in providing community service under harsh circumstances; and a young couple, teachers in Peru, who survived the horrendous Huraz earthquake and landslide in 1970 that buried their town, killing all but 92 of its 20,000 inhabitants, and whose courage and determination to carry on proved the resilience of the human spirit.

Unique in that the text is presented in English and in Chinese

in one volume, *The Memorable Dozen* should be especially useful to students trying to learn one language or the other – in addition to introducing them to inspirational people from various walks of life.

“As China is emerging rapidly as a global power, many more young Chinese aspire to pursue a career in international work, governmental, non-governmental and commercial,” Mr. Ling writes in his Preface. “For this book, I have chosen a dozen [interesting personages] whom I consider memorable; their life and work were so varied, each showing his or her unique strength. It is my hope that this book will encourage young Chinese to pursue a meaningful and enriching life working with people from various walks of life in different continents.”

MLH

ENCOUNTERS: A Memoir - Relationship Journeys from Around the World, By Sam Oglesby, Copyright © 2009 Sam Oglesby, Illustrations by Tobias Sugar, ISBN: 1-4392-6461-9, ISBN-13: 9781439264614, Library of Congress Control Number: 2009911574. Available on line through <www.amazon.com>, or through Barnes and Noble (through website or order at nearest store).

As in his first book, *Postcards from the Past: Portraits of People and Places* (which some readers of the *Bulletin* may already have borrowed from the AFICS library), in his second volume, *Encounters: A Memoir – Relationship Journeys from Around the World*, Sam Oglesby, formerly with UNDP and now a member of AFICS (NY) shares recollections of memorable locations, individuals and adventures of his varied and interesting life. The author's colourful prose immediately thrusts the reader into the centre of each dramatic situation, many of which may be recognizable to those who have travelled or worked outside their home countries.

Early on, Sam realized he was “an outsider.” The son of a U.S. Army man who, with Sam's mother, educated and from a good family, worked in Japan and travelled around investigating chemical and biological warfare, Sam spent most of his childhood in the segregated, World War II-era American South. There he lived on a small farm in tiny “Girdletree,” Maryland with his paternal grandmother, who favoured traditional modes of living rather than use of the electricity or indoor bathroom facilities with which Sam's father had

equipped her home. After dark kerosene was their source of illumination while meals were cooked and hot water heated on a wood stove.

Sam's first five years of life were spent almost exclusively in the company of women – his grandmother, occasionally her sisters and their aging daughters, and a few female neighbours. "Until I started first grade at the two-room school house a mile up the road, I almost never encountered a child my own age, let alone had a friend who was a contemporary," he remembers.

And while there were many African-American kids in the area, any contact with these children of tomato-pickers was taboo. An early photo shows Sam looking at three little black girls through a fence on which they had swung together for a few seconds, only to have the children run off when their parents moved to pick another row. "I never had the chance to speak to an African American socially until I went to high school twelve years later," he writes.

Understandably, these humble beginnings caused Sam some social adjustment problems when he finally went to school, making him a bit of a loner. Then, in 1948, he moved to Japan with his parents, returning to the U.S. years later for college. After some rocky years he finally got a degree from the University of Virginia in 1962.

Two weeks later, Sam was drafted into the U.S. Army. Ac-

counts of his military service in Libya and Viet Nam, as well as years spent teaching at an up-scale, co-ed boarding school in Switzerland, studying in Bologna for a Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies Master's Degree, and living and working in Paris, are enlivened with portraits of obstacles faced and people encountered, amusing, suspenseful and always entertaining. All the while, Sam notes, he was struggling to come to terms with his sexual orientation and to figure out what he really wanted to do in life.

Finally, Sam found the UN! His descriptions of his living quarters, people encountered and adventures at his various duty stations are all loaded with vivid detail. Whether involving colourful characters like Bevis Bawa of Brief in Sri Lanka or difficulties with office colleagues, these encounters will be of special interest to anybody who has had experience "in the field" and/or with UN bureaucracy. His assignments were all in Asia, with UNDP in Thailand, Burma, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Indonesia. In the latter he met the man who would become his life partner, Ari, a rice farmer who had come to Jakarta to seek his fortune.

After giving us these adventurous grand tours of Asian and European countries, in the last two chapters of his book Sam brings us back to New York. Here, he lives in the South Bronx, gardens and sings in the shower.

MLH

WORLDWIDE REUNIONS

USA FLORIDA

The venue for the mid-year meeting of the Florida Chapter of AFICS (NY) was held on 12 June 2010 at Cedars Restaurant, famous for its Lebanese cuisine. Located on West Sand Lake Road, it is easily accessible to all members living in different parts of Florida.

As the meeting took place during the summer holiday season, the attendance was thinner than usual – but those present agreed that "small is beautiful!" A total of 11 mem-



bers attended the event and restaurant owner Charbel Saab provided us with personal attention; everyone could order from the à la carte menu and settle his/her own bill. (There is never any cover charge for our events.)

The agenda for the meeting was also very light. Madan Arora brought the group up-to-date on the status of the appeal to the UNJSPF initiated by some retirees from India and supported by several members around the globe.

Regarding plans for the cruise in 2011, it was agreed by all present that the trip should be undertaken during a “non-hurricane” season. Everyone’s choice was the largest ship of Royal Caribbean International. A follow-up message has already been sent to all members; anyone interested in joining the cruise on 14 May, 2011 can sign up by sending an email to <marora.afics@yahoo.com>.

Members took this opportunity to exchange notes about their recent travels. Analise Plaisant and her friend Jeemie Stevens briefed us about their trip from Beijing to Moscow. Elena Farina described her visit to India.

Hunter and Julia Chiang were attending our meeting for the first time. They had great memories to share from Thailand, where they were posted for several years. It turned out that Anelise Plaisant had also been posted in Bangkok and knew some of the close colleagues of Hunter and Julia. Madan and Kiron had also been posted in Bangkok. Several good old

stories came out and some were able to recall the Thai words “Swaadi Kraap” (greetings) and “Kraap Khun Maa” (thank you).

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the delicacies of Lebanon and left having had a very pleasant time.

Members were requested to mark the following dates on their calendars, and to be sure to attend the forthcoming events of the Florida Chapter, to which they are always welcome to invite friends and relatives:

04 September, 2010 – Mexican or Caribbean Lunch (members also requested to consider Chinese; French; German or Ethiopian food).

04 December, 2010 – Anniversary Lunch or Dinner

Madan Arora

WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

Several members of the Florida Chapter of AFICS (NY) are planning to go on a Western Caribbean Cruise, 14 – 21 May, and all AFICS members are invited to join them. The cruise, on Royal Caribbean’s “Oasis of the Seas,” will leave from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on 14 May, 2011, with landings at Labadee, Haiti; Falmouth, Jamaica; and Cozumel, Mexico, returning to Ford Lauderdale on 21 May.

Anyone interested is advised to make an individual booking on line at the cruise website: <www.royalcaribbean.com> (Tel: 1-800-465-3595). A deposit of \$250 is required to obtain your booking number. When you have it, kindly advise Madan Arora via e-mail: <marora.afics@yahoo.com> or telephone: 407-971-9259.

He can provide additional details.

CANADA

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

Tel: 1-250-370-2108 email: <gerrynye@shaw.ca>

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

OBITUARIES

RITA BRIGNOLI

Rita Brignoli was a fun-loving, theater-going former colleague and friend who dutifully attended every Off-Broadway play in which I appeared as I sought a new and different career after my retirement. I often thought that, having survived that experience, she was destined for eternal life. Alas, it was not meant to be; she succumbed to complications on August 17, 2010 after a gallant 20-plus year battle with Parkinsons.



Rita Brignoli joined the Radio Division of what was then the UN Department of Public Information in 1956 and several years thereafter, volunteered for duty in Gaza where she served proudly and happily for over a year. In the early 1960s, she joined the fledgling Information Center Unit that had been established in Field Service to provide administrative support from HQ to the then 51 Information Centers that were scattered around the world. In the

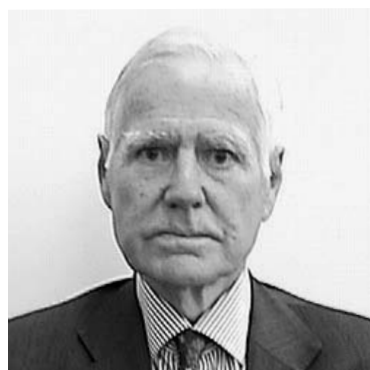
course of her 32 years at the UN, she moved up the ladder within Field Service and, at the time of her retirement in 1987, was an Administrative Officer responsible for ensuring that the logistical needs of the Peace-Keeping forces were met on a timely basis. In that capacity, she prepared submissions to the Contracts Committee based on information provided from the field and, whenever necessary due to the urgency of the needs, made oral presentations and responded to questions that arose during the committee's consideration of the request.

Following her retirement, she and her twin sister, Ann, spent their summers together in East Hampton and the rest of the year in NYC with a coterie of friends with whom they continued to share evenings at dinner and theaters until relatively recently. To her credit, Rita managed to keep active and involved during all the time that she was coping valiantly with the increasing limitations imposed by her physical affliction.

She is survived by her devoted sister, Ann Wolfe, plus loving nieces, nephews and their offspring.

Mel Silverman

MARRACK GOULDING, FORMER CHIEF PEACEKEEPER FOR THE UN



Marrack I. Goulding, who for seven years as an Under Secretary-General of the United Nations oversaw peacekeeping missions around the world – at times coming under fire himself – passed away on Friday, 9 July at a nursing home in Somerset, England. He was 73 and lived in London.

The cause was cancer, according to his daughter, Rachel Nickerson.

Mr. Goulding, a former British ambassador to Angola, led United Nations peacekeeping operations from 1986 to 1993. Before his tenure the peacekeeping office had a miniscule budget and employed only a handful of officials. By 1993,

when Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali transferred Mr. Goulding to the post of Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs – with a mission of “preventive diplomacy” to foster peace rather than monitor it – his department had 60,000 peacekeepers in the field, costing about \$2.8 billion annually and carrying out 13 operations from El Salvador to Angola to the former Yugoslavia to Cambodia.

Mr. Goulding also led the planning for a command and control centre at United Nations headquarters in New York to keep officials linked day and night with all peacekeeping operations worldwide.

Marrack Irvine Goulding was born in Plymouth, England on 2 September 1936, one of two children of Ernest and Gladys Sennett Goulding. His father was a High Court judge. Marrack Goulding was educated at St. Paul's School, London, and at Oxford, from which he graduated in 1959.

He then entered the British Diplomatic Service and, after learning Arabic in Lebanon, held postings in Kuwait, Libya, Egypt and Portugal. During the early 1970s he served as private secretary to three Ministers of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs – Joe Godber, Julian Amery and Roy Hattersley. He was in charge of the British Mission to the United Nations from 1979 to 1983. Then, after serving as ambassador to Angola and São Tomé and Príncipe from 1983 to 1985, he was named an Under Secretary-General at the United Nations.

In trouble spots like El Salvador, Namibia, Mozambique, Western Sahara, Angola and Cambodia, United Nations forces under his leadership found themselves disarming rebels, monitoring local police forces and organizing free elections. Like his troops, Mr. Goulding sometimes found himself in dangerous situations. In 1988, while investigating conditions in Palestinian refugee camps, he was caught in a hail of rubber bullets and tear gas as Israeli soldiers chased protesters. Four years later, despite a cease-fire, mortar shells landed within yards of Mr. Goulding as he left the headquarters of the United Nations peacekeeping operation in Croatia.

With the end of the Cold War and the crises that erupted worldwide thereafter, Goulding's responsibilities included Cyprus, Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran, Namibia, Angola, Western Sahara, Cambodia, Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the former Yugoslavia.

In Boutros-Ghali's restructuring of the Secretariat in 1992, the title of Goulding's post was changed to Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, and the following year he became Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, re-

sponsible for preventive diplomacy and peacemaking. By the time his tenure ended in June 1997, he was known as "effectively the second most powerful man in the UN" after Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

In his book, *Peacemonger* (2002), Goulding provided an incisive insider's account of life at the UN, describing its constant frustrations, as well as its achievements. Yet the paradox of his career was that an inherently combative man became totally committed to peacekeeping.

In 1997 Goulding succeeded Lord Dahrendorf as Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford, holding the position until his retirement in 2006. In 2004 he was one of 52 former British diplomats who signed a letter criticizing the Labour Government's policy in the Middle East, particularly the invasion of Iraq.

Marrack Goulding was appointed CMG in 1983 and KCMG in 1997. His first marriage, in 1961 to Susan d'Albiac, with whom he had two sons and a daughter, ended in divorce. In 1966 he married Catherine Pawlow; this marriage was dissolved in 2004.

Nicknamed "the schoolmaster" or "MIG" (after his initials), Goulding is said to have survived for so long at the UN because he was brilliant at his job. Former colleagues recall that he made it his business to become personally involved with the operations he supervised and that he was never happier than when out in the field.

Sources: *The New York Times*;
Telegraph Media Group Limited, UK

ROBERT MULLER

Robert Muller, a Life Member of AFICS (NY) passed away on 20 September. The following remarks in honour and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller were made in the U. S. House of Representatives by Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich of Ohio:

Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, a lifelong champion for peace who served humanity tirelessly throughout his life.

Born in Belgium in 1923, Dr. Muller was raised in the Alsace-Lorraine region of France where he experienced unrelenting political and cultural turmoil. During World War II he was a member of the French Resistance and was imprisoned by the Germans during the Nazi occupation. In 1948, he won an essay contest with his entry about how to govern the world. The prize was an internship at the newly created United Nations.

The internship set him on a life path that led to 38 years of work behind the scenes at the United Nations where he rose to the official position of Assistant Secretary- General, serving three Secretaries- General.

In 1986, Rodrigo Carazo, the President of Costa Rica, proposed that Dr. Muller become the chancellor of the UN University of Peace in Costa Rica of which he was the co-founder.

His deeply spiritual understanding of our planet and the life that graces it led him to create a "World Core Curriculum," which is taught at 34 Robert Muller Schools around the world. The Curriculum earned him the UNESCO Peace Education Prize in 1989 and the honorary title of "Father of Global Education." He also received the Albert Schweitzer International Prize for the humanities and the Eleanor Roosevelt Man of Vision Award.

He was a prolific writer, having published fourteen books in various languages, including *2000 Ideas and Dreams for a Better World*, in which he proposed concrete, visionary ideas designed to create a peaceful and harmonious planet.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, who will be deeply missed. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his entire family and to his many friends. Dr. Muller's life is one to celebrate, as he lived it with a generous heart, a true joy for living and unwavering love for his family, friends, colleagues and our beautiful planet.

(Appearing in the Congressional Record in September 2010; Vol. 156)

GFS

VALENTIN NIKIFOROV AND SANDRA CARMEN TOMAS

A few contemporary staff members may remember TARAS/DTCD, precursor of PPMTS, or TARS/OPS, as in the distant past. But they might be mildly surprised to discover that it was one of the offices of the UN Secretariat singled out for its outreach, as well as its contribution to decolonization and three decades of development. Very succinctly put, TARAS/DTCD and TARS/OPS/DAM recruited and administered many thousands of consultants, interregional advisers, technical advisers and experts, who implemented programmes of technical assistance in fields as far apart as public service reform, water resources management, large infrastructure establishment and economic planning. Consultants came and went. Advisers, on the other hand, often stayed around for years, in New York or the field, making long and rewarding careers in the service of the UN and the countries where they served.

Two stalwarts of TARAS, who channelled expertise to where

it was urgently needed and put a human face to the acronym, recently passed away: Valentin Nikiforov (on 29 April 2010) and Sandra Carmen Tomas (on 7 August 2010). I was privileged to know and work closely with both of them.

Valentin, a Russian national, served TARAS in two instalments: firstly in the 1970s, when it still formed a part of the Office of Personnel Services located, in those days, on the 36th floor of the Secretariat building; and later in the 1980s, when TARAS was absorbed into DTCD and moved across First Avenue, into the DC1 Building. Numbering around 120, its staff fully accounted for half of the aggregate outlays of the programme (more than US\$100m annually in the late 1980s).

One of the busiest sectors of the programme was Valentin's. A geologist by training, he recruited and administered members of his profession from several parts of the world. His

projects spanned the globe, from Asia to Latin America. His experts and consultants also were of many different nationalities. In those days of the Cold War, Valentin never once allowed himself to show the slightest bias, animosity or partiality; and was never suspected of any. Totally dedicated to the objectives of the programme and the United Nations, he treated all – colleagues, consultants and experts alike – in the same professional manner, which was invariably coupled with grace and personal warmth.

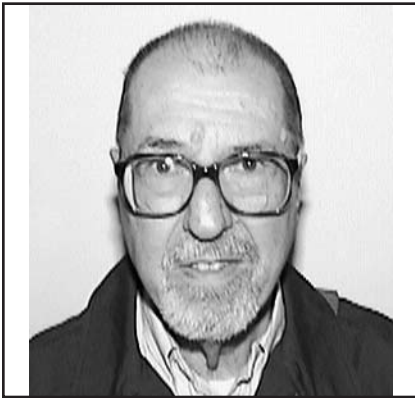
Like Valentin Nikiforov, Sandra Carmen Tomas might also be described as an exemplar of globalism at the UN. She was truly a devoted international public servant. Unlike Valentin Nikiforov, she travelled far and wide in her career, acceding to the Secretariat after years in other agencies and passing an exam to join the professional ranks. Her commitment knew no bounds. She worked from 9am to 7pm, almost without interruption and seldom took advantage of any leave entitlement. Remarkably, for a person so dedicated to duty and work, she never ceased to amaze us with her lively sense of humour and remarks that were expressive of the breadth of her education, an openness of mind, and feelings for those

whom she served.

Nikiforov and Tomas belonged to a category that marked a generation of UN employees. Their work for humanity at large and professional careers in the Organization completely filled their lives, giving them focus and purpose. They belonged to a category whose outreach to the world brought the United Nations to the farthest spots on the globe and touched the lives of millions. The reward to which they aspired was just to be in the service of a cause in which they believed. Neither Valentin Nikiforov nor Sandra Carmen Tomas made it to the highest grades. They gave of themselves selflessly and had the satisfaction of parting with their work and with the UN surrounded by the esteem of their colleagues, as well as those they served. Everyone will long remember them with genuine respect, affection and admiration.

Demetrios Argyriades
Former Chief, TARAS & PPMTS
Former UNDESA Consultant

MARVIN A. SCHLAFF (1926-2010)



Our friend and former colleague Marvin Schlaff passed away on 18 August at his home in Greenwich Village in Manhattan. It might be of some comfort to Marvin's friends to know that, although the cause of his death was cancer, he went, according to

his widow Marcia, quickly, neatly and without pain.

A true New Yorker, Marvin was born and raised in Manhattan, attended public and private schools in the city and graduated with a B.A. from Columbia University, but his interests and endeavours soon took him far and wide.

After service in the U.S. Army, he studied in Paris and worked for two years in the Labor Division of the Marshall Plan, before returning to the U.S. in 1952 to become an assembly line worker and then a communications equipment installer in California. His real interest lay in trade unionism and his intention was to become a union leader. But his plans did not develop as he had wished and two years later he was

back in New York, where he returned to Columbia University to obtain a Master's degree in international affairs. He did not abandon his unionist interests, however, and after serving in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions he joined the International Labour Organization, first in Geneva and later in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Marvin moved to the UN Secretariat in New York in 1965, beginning a two-decade career that would see him rise to the level of Director. As Executive Officer of the Department of Conference Services in the 70s and 80s, he was instrumental in the modernization of the document processing operations that began with the introduction of word processing. Later, as a Director in the Department of Administration and Management, he played a leading role in the creation of an integrated management information system.

After retiring, Marvin continued to work part-time for the joint appeals board (JAB) in the UN's internal justice system. Marvin's sense of justice and fairness, his sympathy for the underdog, his understanding of the intricate workings of the UN bureaucracy and his wit and humor were all in full display in the reports that he prepared for the JAB. The two-day-a-week JAB arrangement worked well for Marvin, as it gave him opportunities to work on his mind. After those two days of mental exercise in the City, Marvin would head out with Marcia for the weekends to his farm in Red Hook in Upstate

New York to work on his vegetable garden. This balanced life kept Marvin going mentally and physically for a long time.

No one who worked with Marvin could fail to admire his uncompromising integrity and his unswerving commitment to responsible and efficient administration. Perhaps because of the strength of his dedication, he could be impatient with incompetence and would not tolerate dishonesty. While he was always ready to give those who sought it the best advice his experience and wisdom could provide, he encouraged independent thinking in his colleagues and subordinates. When he thought someone's requests for guidance were going too

far, he would turn that person away gently with the line: "I'll let you make your own mistakes."

The Governing Board of AFICS (NY) extends its sincere condolences to Marvin's widow and his children and grandchildren.

F. R.

Adapted from *The New York Times*

Weicheng (Willie) Lin

Registrar, United Nations Appeals Tribunal

SAM SOBEL

Riverdale resident, active member and former president of the Conservative Synagogue Adath of Israel, Riverdale (CSAIR), and a lifetime member of AFICS (NY), Sam Sobel passed away from natural causes in his apartment on Riverdale Avenue over the weekend of 1 August 2010.



Sobel was considered a "chaver" (friend) at CSAIR, an honour given only to major contributors of service and support. "Sam was a representative of the person we look to for wisdom and knowledge in world events," said Irving Latimer, his friend of 15 plus years, "But I think he died of a broken heart."

Just a year and a half ago, Sobel's beloved wife, Edith Sobel, passed away. Edith was also very active in the community, and was the chair of CSAIR's social action committee. They were a loving and supportive couple who seemed to do everything together. (NB: Edith was also a life member of AFICS and a very active member of its Committee on Aging.)

A Holocaust survivor, Sobel came over to the United States

at the age of 12. He worked in the sheet metal trade until he injured his back on the job. This led him to a job as a librarian for the United Nations, and he proceeded to study library science at Rutgers University.

As a Riverdale resident, Sobel was very active in community organizations. He read to the blind, made sure that elderly CSAIR members made it to synagogue on time, and tended – financially and physically – to the Holocaust Garden at CSAIR. He was also a member of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale

Community Choir. Sobel and his wife organized a fund called the "Learning Disabilities of Young People" in honour of their only son, Herschel.

Adapted from an article by Laurel Nobel in *The Riverdale Review*, Thursday, August 12, 2010

(Our thanks to George F. Saddler for sending it to the *Bulletin*.)

IN MEMORIAM

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund has furnished AFICS (NY) with the following information, covering the period 1 June 2010 to 31 August 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

ECLA

Cabrera Rodriguez, Higinio 20.05.2010
Frings, P. 04.07.2010

UNECA

Amare, Negatou 26.04.2010
Jaehrling, Anneliese 01.06.2010

UNESCAP

Aromin, Elsie 29.04.2010
Daw, Aye 01.08.2010
Hein, Jeannine Emile 15.02.2010
Israngkura, Livit 12.2009
Kintanar, Agustin Jr. 10.08.2010
Ruenpituks, Swage 20.07.2010
*Sodhy, Jugender S. 13.05.2010
Suvaraja, Klorphan 09.08.2010
Thienrajki, B. 27.05.2010

UNESCWA

Radwan, Mohamed E. 21.05.2010
Touza, Suhalia Zaarura Unknown

UN/HQ

Alexeev, A. 31.12.2009
Al Khateeb, Falak 28.09.2009
*Antanacius, Vera 11.05.2010
Archer, Otha B. 14.02.2009
Balcazar-Aranib, Jaime G. 10.07.2010
*Brignoli, R.R. 17.08.2010
Calderon, Carlos W. 14.06.2010
Camolli, A. 22.06.2010
Carril, Odile 04.06.2010
Cellerier, Monique 14.07.2010
Chu, Bei Sun 17.08.2010
Chung, Hak Joon 30.05.2010
*Clifford, Margaret 16.07.2010
*Collins, S.F. Unknown
*De Reyes, J.E. 09.07.2010
El-Gendi, Saad A. 06.07.2010
Fadairo, James 17.07.2010
*Fortin, Petronella 06.07.2010

*Gabay, Mayer 03.2010
Goulding, Marrack Irvine 09.07.2010
*Gruszka, Robert 27.07.2010
Hilaire, Avis I.D. 05.08.2010
*Holmquest-Gotz, Barbara 24.07.2010
Hill, D. 02.08.2010
*Ido, Kassim 12.06.2010
Inggs, Patricia 16.06.2010
Katz, N. 18.07.2010
King, Benjamin 08.07.2010
Kramer, Svend Oluf 08.08.2010
Laflamme, J. 17.07.2010
*Lethi, K. 17.04.2010
Liconti, Lillian 11.04.2010
Lounev, Yuri 20.06.2010
*Lupo, Eugene 08.07.2010
Manchego, Anita Mildred 09.08.2010
Meierdierks, Paul Herman 08.08.2010
Miller, Richard 31.07.2010
Mora, Rubio R. 26.07.2010
*Naprstek, Vlasta 28.06.2010
O'Callaghan, J. 10.06.2010
Olie, Jacob R. 24.06.2010
Panayotakis, Nicolas 29.06.2010
Pearce, Gloria 09.06.2010
Petrie, Jessie Barrie 20.08.2010
Roberts, Norman 01.06.2010
Salducci, M. 26.05.2010
*Sauterot, J.F.F. 25.05.2010
Schellenberg, Helen 30.05.2010
Schenk, Leslie 06.04.2010
Schlaff, M.A. 18.08.2010
Seales, Vernon Fitzroy 21.06.2010
Smart, C. 18.08.2010
Tucker, Edward H. 14.05.2010
Valaoras, Photini 03.07.2010
Valle, Luigi 06.06.2010
*Van Heerden, J. 08.08.2010
Villacin, Loretta 08.06.2010
Wong, Pui 29.08.2010

UN/GENEVA

Bakker, Cornelia Adriana 17.05.2010
Berset, Leonard 20.08.2010

Dziecielewski, Wladyslaw	06.06.2010	UNIC	
Ezzedine, Hana	17.04.2010	De Guttry, L.	02.08.2010
Germani, Marcelle	05.07.2010	Vassilief, B.M.	04.06.2010
Iyidogan, Nazife	05.12.2009		
Kian Nia, Manoutchehr	27.05.2010	UNICEF – HQ/INTL	
Kundaeli, John Nyka	28.11.2005	Denton De Mendoza, Norma	28.07.2010
Murcia, Odile	29.06.2010	*Helms, T.	24/05/2010
Natarajan, Ramakrishna	15.06.2010	Nowacki, Michel C.	02.06.2010
Naray, Peter L.	20.06.2010		
Neild, Roger	30.07.2010	UNICEF/LOCAL	
Palacios De Gonzalez, Agustina	28.06.2010	Abdi, Muctar Haji	20.05.2010
Parshina, Tatyana	26.05.2009	Chang, Andrew Kee Meng	02.05.2010
Patocchi, G.	05.08.2010	Honda, Kotaro	02.05.2010
Roulet, Suzanne M.	27.07.2010	May-Thein-Thein	27.06.2010
Roy, Madeleine	28.04.2010	Traore, Oumar	20.20.2010
Serifoglu, Muhammed	24.05.2010		
Sicilia Bolomey, Françoise Fernande	16.06.2010	UNIDEP	
Taizi, Sher Zaman	22.12.2009	Kubaka, Michel	30.06.2010
UNDOF		UNIFIL	
Moussa, Mahmoud	04.12.2009	Khallil Alam, Maryami	04.08.2010
		Sleiman, Adnan F.	07.08.2010
UNDP – H/Q & INT		UNMOGI	
Ceesay, Hassum	18.05.2010	Batt, Ahad	17.05.2010
Denes, Oto	03.07.2010		
Fawundu, Alfred Sallia	15.08.2010	UNON	
Gulilat, Taye	22.07.2005	Mutathi, James	22.05.2010
Sidell, Robert	06.05.2010		
Yenko, Emma	08.06.2010	UNOV	
UNDP – LOCAL		Kviecien, Susanne	20.06.2010
Al Dosary, Abdallah Nasser	12.07.2009	*Oppenheimer, T.M.	09.06.2010
Beye, Samba	28.02.2010		
Daoud, Jamal Musa	12.06.2010	UNRWA	
Del Rio, Sonja Olga	16.05.2010	Avery, Dennis	09.05.2010
Gittens, Velda Evadne	03.06.2010	Inggs, Patricia M.	16.06.2010
Gueye, Faly	01.05.2010		
Hardjono, Sugeng	21.05.2010	UNTCD	
Khan, Naimullah	21.12.2009	Ahmed, Shaikh Nasir	19.06.2010
Masengi, Christine St. Nurmala	Unknown		
Nsue-Nguema, Jesus	19.01.2010	SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	
Sangsook, Bumroong	15.05.2010	ILO	
Serrano, Hector	02.07.2010	Agostinone, Valerio	15.06.2010
Subba, Anju	15.05.2010	Alfonso Bernal, Luis A.	07.08.2010
Tome, N.	01.06.2010	Allen, Pierre William	20.06.2010
Ugbogu, Boniface	14.11.2009	Amiot (Servage), Jeanne Yvonne	20.06.2010
Unuavboroh, M.	30.07.2010	Asghar, Syed Ali	08.08.2004
UNEP		Boillat, A.L.	07.08.2010
*McDougall, C.	07.07.2010	Culik, Frantisek	21.05.2010
UNHCR		Favre, Jean-Jacques	18.07.2010
Lustosa Da Cunha, Guilherme	10.06.2010	Flottman, Frederick Ch.	19.08.2010
		Gehrig, André G.	02.06.2010
		Goddard, Thomas	11.07.2010

Haeuw, Jean A.L.	05.08.2010	Bhasin, R.L.	13.12.2009
Hellen, Eric	06.06.2010	Del Bigio, Sarah Anne	31.05.2010
Kitago, Takaaki	27.07.2010	De Mesa, J.	23.07.2010
Kroes, Willem	03.06.2010	De Vajay, S.	06.07.2010
Macaulay, George Glen	10.08.2010	Fernandez-Ramos, Merc	28.05.2010
Marthe, Raymond Aime	14.08.2010	Fomenko, Victor	30.04.2010
Mavrogiannis, Dionysos	07.06.2010	Lankford, Robert	23.05.2010
Mohanty, Benjamin	17.07.2010	Lebas, Pauline	05.05.2010
Ratajski, Aleksander Marian	10.07.2010	Lepine, Jean Claude	12.07.2010
Stefanovic, Simone	08.12.2009	Matalon, R.	10.05.2010
		Mendis, Vernon	23.06.2010
FAO		Munoz San Martin, Enrique	16.07.2010
Abdulhadi, Kinana Nazmi	14.07.2010	Piuzzi, Danyela	05.07.2010
Agarwal, Krishna Murai	04.07.2010	Rao, Putrevu	15.04.2010
Asghar, Ali	31.05.2010	Sossi, Maria	20.03.2010
Bachman, Audrey	20.06.2010	Vermaelen, R.	08.08.2010
Baldini, Bruno	05.05.2010		
Ban, Anastasija	28.06.2010	WHO	
Battistini, G.	20.07.2010	Ali, Katoum Agab	26.07.2010
Bedetti, Giuliano	20.07.2010	Andzotsolo, Catherine	09.07.2010
Capozza, Franco	05.07.2010	Arora, Janak	16.11.2009
Csavas, Imre	09.04.2010	Atallah, Sadok	06.06.2010
Desaunettes, Jean-René	29.07.2010	Atkins, Janet E.	09.06.2010
Dev, Vas	06.06.2010	Boschi, Luigi	15.08.2010
Drake, Malcolm Richard	23.08.2010	Boukar, Adda	26.05.2010
Giannini, Asunta	08.06.2010	Broccolo Tommasi, Umbe	29.06.2010
Groenewold, Heve	11.06.2010	Bubb, Barbara M.	27.05.2010
Hassid, M.	29.06.2010	Cheng, Yu-chien	28.05.2010
Hu, Sophie Swn Fen	17.06.2010	Chowdhury, Malabika	08.06.2010
Kapsiotis, G.D.	05.07.2010	Cohen, Joshua I.	06.07.2010
Lexander, Thyra Gunborg	12.06.2010	D'Emidio, Josphe	03.06.2010
Lisboa Ramos, Aguinaldo	14.06.2010	De Sotelo Figueiredo, Semira	30.07.2010
Matos Reategui, Marina Estrella	23.07.2010	De Vera, Aida Vidal	30.04.2010
Mihara, Tsunetoshi	19.02.2010	Emmanuel, Marie	16.05.2010
Milad, Thérèse	11.07.2010	Gopal, S.P.	06.07.2010
Milroy, Bandinelli Heathe	10.06.2010	Hubinois, Raymond V.F.	14.08.2010
Mujoi, Fernando	24.08.2010	Hutchinson, Joan	12.07.2010
Pansiot, Lydie Leonie	19.07.2010	Joseph, Georges R.	25.07.2010
Pujos, A.	16.07.2010	Kanakamba, L.R.	26.05.2010
Ramos, Collado I.	20.07.2010	Kaprio, Aini Maria	24.06.2010
Risi, M.	17.05.2010	Kmet, Jasna	31.05.2010
Ritter, Stuart	01.08.2010	Lekhal, Brahim	15.06.2010
Saetersdal, Julie Marie	28.01.2010	Maliouguine, Oleg V.	24.05.2010
Spinks, Gilbert Roy	18.05.2010	Marinoni, Marie-There	Unknown
Stapleton, Michael David	24.08.2010	Maretto, Dino	02.07.2010
Trojer, Hélène	26.07.2010	Mehta, Harkishan D.	13.06.2010
Tuck, Harley Hamilton	29.06.2010	Menna, Antonio	Unknown
Webber, C.M.	12.07.2010	Mpene, Pierre	03.07.2010
		Mujica Gonzalez, Maria	16.01.2010
UNESCO		Nogueira, Maria Vieira	15.05.2010
Al-Bukhari, Najati	15.06.2010	Noriega, German	22.07.2010
Alibazah, Wiendrati	Unknown	Ocano, G.	27.05.2010
Aujame, Roger	19.05.2010	Ouedraogo, Sibiri Joanny	13.04.2010
Bakti, B.	22.06.2010	Petridis, John	18.03.2010



Poulton, Delecia	07.08.2010	Lendvai, Otto	15.08.2010
Puyet, Jean H.	05.08.2010	Mehta, Madhukar Kapilrai	28.06.2010
Ragajaraj, Sarojini	20.04.2010	Trias, Cesar Morer	23.06.2010
Robinson, Geraldine M.	06.08.2010		
Romero, Arturu	15.05.2010	IMO	
Roviralta, G.	12.08.2010	Vago, B.	02.08.2010
Salas, Augustina Callejo	18.07.2010	Vijayagopalan, Palat	21.06.2010
Sampath, Sakuntala	22.05.2010		
Sampathkumaran, R.	04.07.2010	ITU	
Ten, Ham Martijn	28.05.2010	Bunter, L.	22.07.2010
Trnka, Zdenek	12.01.2010	Esposito, Dante	11.08.2010
Van Hoegaerden, Albert	05.03.2010	Fischer, A.	23.05.2010
Whalley, Barry William	31.03.2010	Laser, Hélène	04.06.2010
Wisniewska, Marianna	20.04.2010	Perotin, G.	13.07.2010
ICAO		ICGEB	
*Blythe, Keith I.	07.08.2010	Falascchi, Arturo	01.06.2010
Duba, Dusan	20.07.2010		
Geronimo, M.	11.08.2010	WTO-TOURISM	
Gopalakrishnan, Seetha	20.07.2010	Di Mambro, Nina	11.06.2010
Grainger, Doris	30.07.2010		
Gutierrez, Pablo Chavez	29.05.2010	WFP	
Major, Jean Paul	26.05.2010	Chariat, Paul Louis Marie	26.06.2010
Moustafa, Salah El-Deen	24.04.2010		
Saravia, Gonzalez Carlos	09.06.2010	UNIDO	
*Timmer, Roemi T. Weber	18.06.2010	Bishop, Leslie R.	03.07.2010
		Hopper, Ronald A.	14.11.2009
WMO		Iyer, Venkiteswar R.	07.07.2010
Elamly, A.	17.07.2010	Jordan, M.	28.07.2010
Gasparini, Daniel Jean-Marie	08.07.2010	Masens, Liana	10.05.2010
Gerbier, Jean-Jacques	26.06.2010	Pircher, Alois	07.08.2010
Schneider, Raymond J.	30.05.2010	Taler, N.	01.07.2010
		Tillette De Mautort, Roch	18.06.2010
GATT		Unis, Shafiq	12.08.2010
Dudas, Stephane	22.06.2010	Zadora, M. Konstanty	05.07.2010
		Zoch-Geysersmans, Lucienne	27.05.2010
IAEA			
Beetle, Jean	17.05.2010		
Czibulka, Astrid	15.07.2010		
Hudec, Zdenko	Unknown		
Jungmann, August	28.02.2010		
		* 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