

AFICS BULLETIN

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ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS

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AFICS seized with spirit of rejuvenation.

**Efforts to strengthen Committees, expand activities and
recruit new members begin to pay off.**

"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."

AFIC/NY webpage: <http://www.un.org/other/afics>

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This spring the tree blossoms along First Avenue in front of the UN Building were especially welcome when they finally appeared after a long season of ice and snow, heralding a season of renewal.

AFICS, too, is seized with a spirit of rejuvenation, with efforts to strengthen our Committees, expand activities and recruit new members beginning to pay off.

By now, most of you have probably received a copy of our new "Directory of Members," published every two years. The final product is the result of the diligent efforts of our Membership Committee, recently expanded with several new members, and ably assisted by UN Staff Member Gregory Ogolla, who helped us link the Directory with our new database. Our sincere thanks to Greg for his invaluable assistance. While every effort has been made to insure accuracy – up to the 31 December 2010 cut-off date – changes occur daily as existing members move or switch an e-mail address, new members join, etc. So please check your listing in the new directory and let us know if and when we need to adjust our records.

Now the Membership Committee is working on a revised hand-out and application form that will give potential new members a better idea of what to expect from AFICS and encourage them to let us know how they might want to plug into our activities.

AFICS members also helped when the UN After Service Health Insurance (ASHI) system announced in January that it now requires ASHI participants enrolled in a Headquarters U.S.-based Plan to participate in Medicare Part B if they are aged 65 - 75 and lawfully resident in the USA. Several assisted ASHI in answering phones, responding to many questions and uncertainties.

The Committee on NGO Relations and Information continues its broad range of activities, covering and reporting on numerous UN meetings of interest to retirees, and including examples of advocacy around the world (see page 11). Also, discussions are underway within all Standing Committees, which are taking a new look at their activities to ensure that they meet the goals of AFICS/NY and the concerns and interests of its members.

On page 23 of this *Bulletin* you will see a "Letter to the Editor," calling for more information from members about their adventures and experiences in retirement. We agree! Everybody seems to enjoy reading what others are up to!

We welcome your input! Please let us know what we might do to make your AFICS experience more meaningful and enjoyable.



Linda Saputelli
President

UNITED NATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

UN CALLS FOR ‘NEW ERA OF SOCIAL JUSTICE’ FOR ALL WITH BASIC SERVICES AND DECENT JOBS

With 80 per cent of the world’s people lacking adequate social protection and global inequalities growing, top United Nations officials are calling for a new era of social justice that offers basic services, decently paid jobs, and safeguards for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized.

“Social justice is more than an ethical imperative; it is a foundation for national stability and global prosperity,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a message ahead of the World Day of Social Justice, observed on 20 February. “Equal opportunity, solidarity and respect for human rights, these are essential to unlocking the full productive potential of nations and peoples.”

UN International Labour Organization (ILO) Director-General Juan Somavia also highlighted the linkage between social justice and national stability, citing the protests in North Africa and the Middle East that have already driven Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak from office. “As Tunisia and Egypt are showing us, jobs and justice, bread and dignity, protection and democracy, national and global security are not unrelated demands,” he said in a message for the Day. “What happens in the future will very much depend on whether the connections are recognized and acted upon.”

Mr. Ban said the continuing fallout from the global financial and economic crisis makes achieving social justice more important than ever. “For the tens of millions who have lost their jobs since the crisis began, the global recession is far from over,” he noted, underscoring UN efforts to establish a global “social protection floor” to guarantee food security, health services for all and old-age pensions for the 80 per cent of the world’s people who now lack protection. “No one should live below a certain income level, and everyone should have access to essential public services such as water and sanitation, health and education,” he added. “The pursuit of social justice is crucial to maximizing the potential for growth with equity and minimizing the risks of social unrest. Together, let us rise to the challenge and ensure that our work for sustainable development delivers social justice for all.”

Mr. Somavia highlighted decent employment opportunities as a vital plank for social justice. “It is time to build a new

era of social justice on a foundation of decent work,” he said. “Women and men without jobs or livelihoods really don’t care if their economies grow at three, five or ten per cent per year if such growth leaves them behind and without protection. “They do care whether their leaders and their societies promote policies to provide jobs and justice, bread and dignity, freedom to voice their needs, their hopes and their dreams and the space to forge practical solutions where they are not always squeezed... Yet the world of work is in tatters today: more than 200 million people are unemployed worldwide, including nearly 80 million youth.” Both these figures are at or near their highest points ever, while the number of workers in vulnerable employment – some 1.5 billion – and the 630 million working poor living with their families on \$1.25 a day or less is increasing, he warned.

Among the essential stations on the path to social justice, Mr. Somavia cited the need to make job creation targets a central component of macroeconomic policy priorities alongside low inflation and sound fiscal accounts, and to provide fiscally sustainable social protection to the eight out of ten people who lack any form of social security in the world today.

Outlining the principles behind the social protection floor earlier this week, ILO Social Security Department Director Michael Cichon stressed the fact that it would only take two per cent of global GDP [gross domestic product] to basically give security systems to all the world’s poor.

Tripartite delegations of governments, employers and workers from all 183 ILO member States are due to meet in June to draw up a long-term strategy for the floor’s four entitlements that would guarantee basic income security for children; access to some social assistance for people of working age that prevents them from falling into absolute food poverty; a basic old-age pension for people over a certain age; and essential health services for all.

Reprinted from UN Website
Department of Public Information
News and Media Division, New York

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FORUM

INVESTING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS – ESPECIALLY THEIR EDUCATION – DRIVES DEVELOPMENT AND MAKES GOOD ECONOMIC SENSE, DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL TELLS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FORUM

Following are the closing remarks that UN Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro delivered to the Forum entitled “Investing in Women and Entrepreneurship: Solutions To Addressing MDG 3,” organized in New York on 8 March, International Women's Day, by the United Nations Office for Partnerships, and the Business Civic Leadership Center:

I congratulate all the participants in this forum for their contributions to the discussions today on how we can work together towards achieving Millennium Development Goal 3 on gender equality and women's empowerment.

As we celebrate the centenary of International Women's Day, our message is simple and clear: Investing in women and girls is not only morally right; it advances development and it makes good economic sense.

Evidence indicates that countries with greater gender equality are more competitive and have grown faster. And yet, our message still needs constant repeating if it is to be fully realized. Investing in women will require partnerships among governments, the private sector, civil society and the United Nations system. I am pleased that all those constituencies are represented here today.

The United Nations system's efforts will be led, coordinated and scaled up by the newly created United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women – UN Women – headed by my colleague Michelle Bachelet.

An example of its work is our expanding collaboration with the United Nations Global Compact on the Women's Empowerment Principles – namely, the Equality Means Business initiative. These Principles offer practical guidance on concrete steps that businesses can take to empower women in the workplace, the marketplace and the community. I thank those of you who have embraced the principles and urge others to follow that same example. Studies continue to show a strong correlation between the number of women in leadership and company boards and greater diversity, with improved performance.

Going forward, we need to build partnerships that will facilitate women's access to the labour market, especially in light of the on-going financial and economic crisis, which has cost more than 18 million women their jobs. We also need to explore how the private sector can integrate women in developing countries into global value chains. For example, how can women farmers in Africa connect with consumers and companies in the United States? How can the transport and construction sectors help build roads that meet the needs of rural women farmers? How can we build the capacity of women entrepreneurs so that they are aware of market demands and quality standards?

In some countries, the private sector has indeed played an important role in investing in solar energy and other renewable energy sources. In these countries, solar power has not only allowed women's businesses to grow, but has also helped to reduce the burden of women in meeting their household energy needs. We need to see more of this kind of progress.

The private sector can also promote gender equality and women's economic empowerment through the use of popular culture, media and positive role models. Geena Davis spoke persuasively on this earlier today.

Products and marketing strategies all shape perceptions about the role of women in the economy and other realms. Positive messages of women in non-traditional sectors and leadership positions can help eliminate persistent gender stereotypes.

Negative messages serve only to reinforce them. We have the power to choose what to show, as well as the power to choose what to say.

We cannot talk about investment in women's empowerment without focusing on investing in education. It has been well established over the past decades that as female education rates rise, fertility, population growth and infant and child mortality fall, and family health improves. Children of educated mothers, especially daughters, are more likely to be enrolled in school and to have higher levels of educational attainment. Educated women are also more politically active and better informed about their legal rights and how to exercise them.

We have seen important progress. In some countries, women's education levels now surpass those of men and boys. Yet women still find it difficult to attain decent work. Too often, what is being taught at school does not correspond to the demands of the labour market. Education systems need to do better at correcting this imbalance. For example, skills in information and communication technologies have become a critical

component in children's education. Without these skills, women's economic opportunities will remain limited.

I encourage you to work closely with the education system to better communicate the needs of your businesses so that investments in education lead to full employment and decent work for women.

Access to training at the workplace is also critical. Not only does it expand leadership opportunities, it also leads women onto a path of life-long building of knowledge and skills.

I thank the organizers for this successful Forum, and all the participants for their contributions. I look forward to our continued partnership as we pursue this important agenda.

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News and Media Division, New York

WORLD WATER DAY

URBAN WATER CRISIS ONE OF GOVERNANCE, WEAK POLICIES, POOR MANAGEMENT, NOT ONE OF SCARCITY, SAYS SECRETARY-GENERAL

*Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for World Water Day,
observed on 22 March this year:*

As the world charts a more sustainable future, the crucial interplay among water, food and energy is one of the most formidable challenges we face. Without water there is no dignity and no escape from poverty. Yet, the Millennium Development Goal target for water and sanitation is among those on which many countries lag the most.

In little over a generation, 60 per cent of the global population will be living in towns and cities, with much of the increase taking place in the inner city slums and squatter settlements of the developing world. The theme of this year's observance of World Water Day – "Water for Cities" – highlights some of the main challenges of this increasingly urban future.

Urbanization brings opportunities for more efficient water management and improved access to drinking water and sanitation. At the same time, problems are often magnified in cities, and are currently outpacing our ability to devise solutions.

Over the past decade, the number of urban dwellers who lack access to a water tap in their home or immediate vicinity has risen by an estimated 114 million, and the number of those who lack access to the most basic sanitation facilities has risen by 134 million. This 20 per cent increase has had a hugely detrimental impact on human health and on economic productivity: people are sick and unable to work.

Water challenges go beyond questions of access. In many countries, girls are forced to drop out of school owing to a lack of sanitation facilities, and women are harassed or assaulted when carrying water or visiting a public toilet. Moreover, the poorest and most vulnerable members of society often have little choice but to buy water from informal vendors at prices estimated to be 20 to 100 per cent higher than that of their richer neighbours, who receive piped city water in their homes. This is not just unsustainable; it is unacceptable.

Water problems will figure prominently at the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, in 2012 – Rio+20. My High-level Panel on Global Sustainability and UN-Water are examining ways in which we can connect the dots among water, energy and food security, with the aim of reducing poverty and inequality, generating jobs, and minimizing the risks of climate change and environmental stress.

On World Water Day, I urge governments to recognize the urban water crisis for what it is – a crisis of governance, weak

policies and poor management, rather than one of scarcity. Let us also pledge to reverse the alarming decline in per capita investment in water and sanitation. And let us reaffirm our commitment to ending the plight of the more than 800 million people who, in a world of plenty, still do not have the safe drinking water or sanitation they need for a life in dignity and good health.

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News and Media Division, New York

UN SEEKS \$498 MILLION FOR ANNUAL MINE CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES

The United Nations, on 18 March, appealed to the world community to make up a huge shortfall in this year's nearly half-billion-dollar programme to clean up mines and other remnants of war, which claim thousands of victims annually long after the conflicts that spawned them have ended.

“Remarkable progress has been made in eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war, but more work is required,” senior UN Development Programme (UNDP) official Neil Buhne said in launching the 2011 edition of the annual *Portfolio of Mine Action Projects*. The combined 2011 budgets for 238 projects in 29 countries and territories total \$498 million, of which only \$131 million have been secured as of last month, leaving a \$367-million shortfall.

Mr. Buhne, Director of the Geneva Liaison Office of the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, noted that more than 65 countries are affected by landmines or explosive remnants, which claimed nearly 4,000 casualties, a third of them children, in 2009. “Landmines and explosive remnants of war also take a heavy toll on people's livelihoods, countries' economic and social development, and international peace-building efforts,” he said.

UN support ranges from building the capacities of national mine action institutions to backstopping humanitarian relief initiatives and ensuring the safe deployment of peacekeepers and UN political missions. Clearance activities account for 36 per cent of this year's shortfall, while projects covering multiple elements such as capacity building and coordination amount to a further 55 per cent.

“With International Mine Awareness Day coming up on 4 April, the urgent and compelling need to protect civilians from landmines and explosive remnants of war is rightly attracting media attention,” UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) Director Maxwell Kerley said. “We must continue to raise awareness about the impact of these indiscriminate weapons.”

The portfolio is an annual snapshot of the impact of such weapons in countries or territories with mine action programmes, providing proposals for projects and detailing their costs. The biggest funding gap is for Sudan, which has requested the largest amount – \$71 million. The smallest amount requested is for the occupied Palestinian territories – \$494,000.

Seventy-one agencies, including UN bodies, governments and international or national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), submitted proposals. Many projects will help remove and destroy cluster munitions, teach people how to stay out of harm's way, and assist victims of these devices in countries such as Cambodia, Chad, Lao P.D.R., Lebanon, Tajikistan and Somalia.

Fourteen United Nations departments, programmes, agencies and funds are involved in mine action. The portfolio is published jointly by the UNMAS, UNDP and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

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WORLD HEALTH DAY

UN URGES ACTION AGAINST WORSENING DRUG RESISTANCE

A growing number of infections are becoming increasingly difficult to cure as a result of worsening drug resistance, the United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) said on 7 April, 2011, warning that the problem is forcing health professionals to resort to prolonged and expensive treatments, and to greater risk of death.

The report, unveiled to mark World Health Day, whose theme this year, “Combat Drug Resistance: No Action Today, No Cure Tomorrow,” calls for concerted action by governments, health professionals, industry and civil society, as well as patients to slow down drug resistance.

“The message on this World Health Day is loud and clear. The world is on the brink of losing these miracle cures,” said WHO Director-General Margaret Chan. “In the absence of urgent corrective and protective actions, the world is heading towards a post-antibiotic era, in which many common infections will no longer have a cure and, once again, kill unabated.”

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his message to mark the Day said drug resistance could reverse the gains already made in efforts to achieve the health-related aspects of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), saying some of the medicines that saved the lives of earlier generations have already been rendered useless. “Perhaps most disturbing is that the pipeline for new antimicrobial medicines to replace those that have been lost has nearly dried up,” Mr. Ban said in his message. “The emergence of antimicrobial resistance is a complex problem that involves a range of stakeholders. It needs to be urgently and aggressively addressed through a comprehensive response across sectors, within and across nations,” said the Secretary-General.

WHO also published a policy package that sets out the measures that governments and their national partners need to take to combat drug resistance. The recommended policy steps include: developing and implementing comprehensive and fully funded national plans; strengthening surveillance and laboratory capacity; ensuring uninterrupted access to essential medicines of assured quality; regulating and promoting rational use of medicines; enhancing infection prevention and control; and fostering innovation and research and development for new treatments.

WHO pointed out that the discovery and use of antimicrobial drugs to treat diseases such as leprosy, tuberculosis, gonorrhoea and syphilis changed the course of medical and human history, but warned that those discoveries, and the generations of drugs that followed them are at risk as high levels of drug

resistance threaten their effectiveness. Drug resistance is a natural biological phenomenon, through which micro-organisms acquire resistance to the drugs meant to kill them. With each new generation, the micro-organism carrying the resistant gene becomes ever more dominant until the drug is completely ineffective.

Inappropriate use of infection-fighting drugs, including under-use, overuse or misuse, causes resistance to emerge faster, according to WHO. Last year, at least 440,000 new cases of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis were detected and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis has been reported in 69 countries. The malaria parasite is acquiring resistance to even the latest generation of medicines, and resistant strains causing gonorrhoea and shigella are limiting treatment options. Serious infections acquired in hospitals can become fatal because they are so difficult to treat and drug-resistant strains of micro-organism are spread from one geographical location to another in today’s interconnected world, the UN health body noted, adding that resistance is also emerging to the antiretroviral medicines used to treat people living with HIV and AIDS.

“On this World Health Day, WHO is issuing a policy package to get everyone, especially governments and their drug regulatory systems, on the right track, with the right measures, quickly,” said Ms. Chan. “The trends are clear and ominous. No action today means no cure tomorrow. At a time of multiple calamities in the world, we cannot allow the loss of essential medicines – essential cures for many millions of people – to become the next global crisis,” she added.

Meanwhile, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which brings together 14 international organizations, including some UN entities, stressed the importance of forests in seeking cures and treatments for health problems. “Loss of species and decrease in biodiversity always imply a potential loss of health-related ecosystem services and genetic resources,” the CPF said in a statement. The conservation of the Earth’s biological diversity, of which a large part is found in forests, is increasingly recognized as an important goal,” it added. It gave the example of an on-going study on the root system of the common Scots Pine to identify chemical substances found in the microscopic fungi that live symbiotically with the tree, and test them against the age-related eye disease that is a major cause of vision loss in people of advanced age.

Reprinted from UN Website
Department of Public Information
News and Media Division, New York

AFICS (NY) IN ACTION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON AGEING

Annual Report (2010-2011)

The past year was a sad time for the Committee on Ageing; at the end of 2010 we mourned the loss of Helen Geffen Roht, who for so long was not only the Chairperson, but also the heart of the Committee.

Although activities were somewhat limited during this period, several members of the Committee worked together to compile a list of websites aimed at providing seniors with useful information. The listing, which is available on the AFICS webpage (www.un.org/other/afics), includes NY City and NY State government sites providing information on programmes and services for older people, information on health and wellness, Medicare and Medicaid sites and availability of care and caregivers for the elderly. The listing is intended as a starting point to assist in solving current problems or to help in planning for the future. (Members who would like to

see the list but are not computer literate are encouraged to have a family member or friend download it for them, and then access any sites in which they may be interested.)

After a preliminary survey of present members, the Committee is currently working on reinvigorating the group and is considering a range of possible activities, including a new series of presentations. Your ideas are always welcome! The Committee will also be seeking new members to help in this work.

Margaret Miles
Barbara Burns
Christine Smith- Lemarchand
Co-Chairs

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Annual Report (2010-2011)

Medicare Part B Rebate

The initiative taken by AFICS/NY in October 2006 to ask the UN Controller to consider rebating the Medicare Part B premiums of After Service Health Insurance (ASHI) participants who also participated in Medicare Part B was immediately accepted in principle by the Controller but implemented very slowly. Changes had to be made in the IMIS programmes to make it possible to implement such a rebate and changes were then made by Medicare, which introduced a means test to determine the premium to be paid by participants in Medicare Part B. That required further programming changes in IMIS. A delegation led by the President of AFICS had again visited the Controller in November 2009 urging the introduction of a rebate as early as possible.

The rebate was introduced with effect from 1 January 2011 by a memorandum dated 27 December 2010 from Christophe Monier, Chief, Insurance and Disbursements Service, UN Accounts Division, to all UN ASHI participants enrolled in

a HQ's US-based plan. When determining how and to what extent the rebate should be given, the UN administration decided that the advantage to be gained for these UN plans was so significant that all retirees in U.S.-based plans who were eligible should be required to participate in Medicare Part B as soon as they became eligible, normally at age 65. The administration also determined that retirees who had not yet reached the age of 75 by 1 January 2011 should also be required to participate in Medicare Part B, if eligible. They were required to enrol between 1 January and 31 March 2011 with their Medicare Part B coverage and the rebate to begin on 1 July 2011.

The administration decided to cover the whole cost of the Medicare Part B premiums, and that the waiver of deductibles and co-pays for ASHI participants in the HQ plans who also participated in Medicare Part B at their own expense up to now would be discontinued from 1 July 2011. Mr. Monier gave the assurance that the plans would be monitored carefully and the arrangements adjusted as required.

HQ's Health Insurance plans

From 1 July 2010 the premiums for the Aetna Open Choice PPO plan increased by 4.3%, for the Empire Blue Cross plan by 10.66%, for the HIP plan by 7.45%, and for the Cigna dental plan by 6.29%. A two-month premium holiday was given to all staff and retirees who were enrolled in the Aetna plan on 1 July 2009 – 2010, and a one month premium holiday for those in the Cigna plan on those dates. From 1 July 2010 all limits on outpatient visits and inpatient hospital days for mental health and substance abuse services were removed. At the same time the Aetna plan was changed to cover all prescription birth control devices in the same way as Empire Blue Cross. Previously Aetna only covered prescription oral contraceptives. From the same date Cigna reimbursed dental implants as well as bridges.

Van Breda plan for staff and retirees residing outside the USA

The premiums for the Van Breda plan were increased by 6.9% on 1 January 2010. From the same date, annual routine physical exams would be reimbursed at 100% and the ceiling raised to \$750.00; an educational programme was introduced to improve management of chronic diseases; HIV/AIDS tests would be reimbursed at 100% and the limit on the number of tests per year removed; the ceiling on optical coverage was raised to \$150.00 a year and lenses would be replaced whenever new glasses were needed.

O. Richard Nottidge, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Annual Report (2010 – 2011)

During the reporting period the Membership Committee strengthened its ranks with several new members and took up the following tasks:

a) Recruitment of new members. In late summer/early fall 2010, the Committee prepared a letter of invitation that was sent to all beneficiaries of a UN pension residing in the USA, thanks to the kind cooperation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF). This resulted in over 150 new membership applications. Other recruitment initiatives are underway with UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, as well as with the UN Secretariat's Human Resources Division, to apprise staff reaching separation from UN employment of AFICS/NY's services and benefits.

b) Preparation of the bi-annual *Directory of Members (1 Jan. 2009 – 31 Dec. 2010)*. This required intensive efforts, including liaising with a UN technical support expert; proofreading by Committee members; printing by the UN; and distribution by the AFICS Documents Dispatch Group. AFICS/NY members should have received a copy of the Directory in April and we thank all concerned for their contributions to this initiative. Please report any mistakes/discrepancies to the AFICS/NY office.

c) Preparation of a new Membership Application Form. The Committee decided it was time to update the Membership Application Form. A draft of the new version has been pre-

pared and a Committee member is discussing options for a new design with members of the UN/DPI Presentation Unit.

d) Changes to membership dues. The Committee considered the question of AFICS membership dues, both lifetime and annual, as well as conversions from annual to lifetime membership. It decided to recommend to the Governing Board that they be increased. With respect to conversions, the Committee felt strongly that flexibility was called for in order to encourage increases in conversions from annual to lifetime membership, for example a six-month grace period from 1 July – 31 December 2011 allowing members in good standing in 2009 and 2010 to convert to lifetime membership at the present \$300 rate. Discussions for other conversion possibilities will continue and a recommendation made to the Board and reported to the Annual Assembly.

e) Review of Application Forms. The Committee will continue to review all future application forms received to identify new members who might be interested in joining one or more of the various AFICS/NY Standing Committees. Information will be forwarded to respective Committee Chairs & Co-Chairs for follow-up.

Andrés Castellanos
Co-Chair

COMMITTEE ON NGO RELATIONS AND INFORMATION (CNRI)

Annual Report (2010 – 2011)

CNRI, in compliance with AFICS/NY's stated aims and purposes, is charged with supporting and promoting the purposes and principles of the UN. Working with other NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC and those associated with DPI, CNRI attempts to mobilize and build public opinion in support of the UN, primarily by alerting AFICS members to updates on matters of international concern, for use in their work related to global issues. It appraises both the AFICS/NY's Governing Board and the Council of the Federation of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS) on

ways to promote advocacy through NGO representation and advocacy involvement.

At the behest of FAFICS, which has NGO consultative status with ECOSOC, the Committee covers numerous UN/NGO meetings and events concerned with FAFICS-designated areas of interest: human rights, gender, ageing, health, human settlements, economic and social development, environment and peace:

- Days of Observance:
 - World Habitat Day
 - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
 - UN Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls
 - World Aids Day-Keep the Promise: Stop AIDS – The Search for a Vaccine
 - International Day of Older Persons
 - United Nations Day
 - International Women's Day
- Commission on Sustainable Development
- Commission on Social Development
- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and parallel meetings:
 - (Subcommittee on Women and Climate Change proposing amendments/additions for inclusion of women in final agreements)
 - (Subcommittee on Women and Climate Change hearing of testimonies from women affected by climate change)
 - (CSW Committee on Ageing & its subcommittee on older women re. "enabling older women through access to education, training and technology")
 - (International Association of Women in Radio and TV on "building capacities in respect to the new technologies")
- DPI/NGO Annual Conference (Melbourne) - represented by AFICS (Australia)
- ECOSOC Standing Committee on NGOs
- Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change
- DPI briefing -Crossing Boundaries/Protecting the Rights of Migrant Women Workers
- DPI/NGO Communications Workshop
- Ford Foundation Human Rights Day event with UNHCR
- DPI Briefing - Film on Understanding Islam as part of Human Rights Day
- Civil Society Forum (prelude to 3rd Conf. of States Parties to Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- Women and Climate Change sponsored by Women, Environment and Development
- Gender Perspectives on Climate Justice
- UNESCO's Forum on "Building Peace: Reconciliation through the Power of Education, the Sciences, Culture and Communication"
- DPI Communications Workshop "Attracting Media: What Makes NGO Stories News"
- CoNGO Assembly and Pre-Assembly meetings
- Invitation by U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN (showing documentary produced by Sweden's Kvinna Till Foundation, of Bosnian & Congolese women activists sharing sexual-violence experiences)
- UNOAC's meeting on "The Role of Faith-Inspired Organizations in Development"

It follows the sessions of the ECOSOC Committee on NGOs where FAFICS' Quadrennial reports are reviewed and reports thereon annually to the FAFICS Council. Likewise, it reports to the Council when it participates, on behalf of FAFICS, in

the proceedings of the Conference on NGOs (CoNGO), its Board and its Assembly whenever it meets in New York. CNRI submitted the following 6 reports to the July FAFICS Council meeting in London:

Under the Council's item **on representation:**

- a report on meetings relevant to the topics designated by FAFICS;
- a report on attendance at the CoNGO Board;
- a report on attendance at the ECOSOC Standing Committee on NGOs;
- a summary of the meetings covered by FAFICS sister associations.

Under the Council's item **on advocacy:**

- a report on how AFICS/NY fulfils its obligation in promoting the goals and ideals of the UN and its Programmes;
- a summary of how FAFICS' sister associations have fulfilled that same obligation.

The Committee is in the process of collecting and drafting material for the preparation of this year's reports for the upcoming FAFICS Council scheduled to be held in July.

Also this year, CNRI is preparing the substantive portion of FAFICS' Quadrennial Report to ECOSOC that must be submitted before 1 June 2011. AFICS/NY, designated as FAFICS' focal point on advocacy, relies on CNRI for collecting and summarizing information received on advocacy activities from FAFICS' sister associations – activities that demonstrate that FAFICS indeed is an organization working globally to promote the ideals of the UN.

As AFICS is the substantive arm of FAFICS in New York, CNRI follows the work of CoNGO's various committees (gender, ageing, human settlements, sustainable development, etc.) in the hope of including FAFICS among signatories to NGO joint statements that are often drafted in these committees. One CNRI member, who is also a member of the CoNGO Committee on Human Settlements, participated in the UN World Urban Forum (WUF-V), held in Rio de Janeiro (19-26 March 2010) and co-sponsored by UN-Habitat and the Government of Brazil on the theme "Bridging the Urban Divide." Attended by more than 10,000 people from countries worldwide, WUF-V's major outcome was the launching of the World Urban Campaign to promote Livable Cities with the aim of increasing partnerships among public, private and civil society sectors. The same member follows the Commission on Sustainable Development and attended several workshops on the implications of Climate Change.

CNRI alerted members, through the AFICS website, to the Women Ambassadors' Luncheon organized by the CoNGO CSW Committee in November. Several attended and heard first hand, high-level speakers and ambassadors – experiences that serve to enrich retirees' own speaking engagements. CNRI, working together with the newly-created CoNGO Sub-Committee to Utilize the Virginia Hazzard Legacy Fund, is helping to publicize plans for expanding the fund's resources. See the AFICS website and page 39 of the AFICS January *Bulletin* that calls not only for contributions but for names of worthy recipients (individuals or groups) to receive annual awards for their work in addressing concerns of the elderly – including those in developing and least developed countries. This is truly a tribute to the memory of an AFICS member who fought tirelessly to bring this issue to the attention of the international community.

CNRI completed the drafting of its Terms of Reference, and on 16 December, the AFICS Governing Board provisionally approved it, pending redrafting of its own Rules of Procedures. Last June, CNRI along with other Board members, participated in the annual Pre-Retirement Seminar organized by the UN.

CNRI, through AFICS/NY, replied to DPI's request for all associated NGOs to describe, through a newly-instituted annual review, how AFICS/NY, *inter alia*, publicizes and promotes the United Nations. CNRI reported that for the first time in three years, AFICS/NY was unable to be present at the DPI/NGO Annual Conference, which was held this year in Melbourne. AFICS (Australia) instead represented FAFICS. The next DPI/NGO Annual Conference will be held in Bonn and will have the cooperation of the UN Volunteers, headquartered there. It is hoped that AFICS/FAFICS will be represented. Although, for the first time in several years, a CNRI member is not serving on the DPI/NGO Executive Committee, one was nevertheless called upon to serve on a Communications Workshops and to participate in the DPI/NGO Nominating Committee for new members.

As can be seen on page 11, CNRI tries to be present at observances of numerous International days throughout the year. CNRI placed in the January Bulletin (pps. 22-23) a listing of all International days and challenged retirees to find innovative ways to include those days in their own activities. In reply to the FAFICS President's appeal that all associations celebrate UN Day, CNRI, through the AFICS President, reported that a member attended the Lake Success commemoration on UN Day and that several AFICS members had attended the UN Day Concert. It assured the FAFICS President that the S-G's statement had appeared in the *Bulletin* along with an excerpt on a CNRI member's UN Day initiative in promoting the ideals of the UN. (See p.19 of the October *Bulletin* where mention is made of a CNRI member persuading the mayor of her town to issue a UN Proclamation commemorating the Day, encouraging other retirees to do likewise.)

CNRI included two excerpts in the Spring Bulletin and on the AFICS website. One on page 19, invites AFICS members to utilize a UN website where members can click on the many professionally-produced short videos and radio programmes that demonstrate the positive work being done by the UN around the world. The other, on page 14, calls for volunteers to assist the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to expeditiously handle the various cases of staff appealing for resolution to their UN-related disputes.

Individual CNRI/AFICS members continue to promote UN ideals through their mentoring and public speaking. Many continue to participate in the work of the organization as volunteers, advisors and consultants and CNRI hopes to facilitate such collaboration by keeping both parties informed about opportunities to work together. For example, a CNRI member spoke to a group of 40 medical students at Leiden University, the Netherlands on "the role of the UN in dealing with global health crises, such as the H1N1 influenza, HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc." offering her the opportunity to ex-

pound on the role of UN agencies with health mandates. Another CNRI member, recognized for her work with Eleanor Roosevelt on the Declaration on Human Rights, was invited to a Lehman College Human Rights Day luncheon with His Excellency the Duke of Gloucester. Others teach about the UN at local universities, some give courses to UN Diplomats on UN/GA procedures, while yet others are called upon by DPI to speak to visiting groups. At the 55th session of the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW), 22 Feb. – 4 March, 2011, the CNRI member covering gender issues assisted the UN Secretariat in registering NGOs and served full time for a week as information officer, fielding questions in four languages from NGOs, Member States, Representatives and Panelists. She also assisted CoNGO's CSW Committee in distributing the secondary tickets required to attend the CSW caucuses.

Finally, CNRI is in the process of reviewing its own mandate and attempting to formulate a more focused approach to achieving its advocacy goals, including addressing global issues of interest to AFICS members. It has presented to the AFICS/NY President a list of ideas for possible activities related to advocacy, entitled "Things AFICS Can Do," as well as a paper suggesting ways to revitalize the work of AFICS, strengthen its role in the work of the UN system and enhance its responsibility for addressing issues of interest to AFICS members.

Lola Costa-Esnard
Frances Zainoeddin
Co-Chairs

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Annual Report (2010 – 2011)

During the year, the Social Committee continued to make all arrangements for the very popular annual fall and spring luncheons, choosing restaurants with delicious food, fine service and friendly ambiance. It has also organized the Annual Reception at the Ex-Press Bar that will follow the 2 June Annual Assembly.

For the coming year, the Committee is considering another of the Hudson River cruises that have proved to be so enjoyable in the past. If you have ideas for other events you would like to see planned – or if you would like to join the Committee – please let us know.

Barbara T. Linardo
Co-Chair

THE CHARITIES FOUNDATION OF AFICS/NY

Report of the President (2010)

The Annual meeting of the Charities Foundation was held on 9 December 2010. Five of the seven Directors whose terms expired at the end of 2010 agreed to serve another two years and were re-elected. They are: Andrés Castellanos del Corral, Edna M. Christie, Suzan Habachy, Irmgard Parker, and Christine Smith-Lemarchand. In addition, the President of AFICS/NY, Linda Saputelli, was elected to the Board as was Leon Thomas, the new AFICS Treasurer, and Puran Sharma, AFICS Deputy Treasurer.

The terms of the following Directors expire at the end of December 2011: Fernando Astete, Diana Boernstein, Leon Hosang, Louise Lahuerte, Margaret L. Miles, O. Richard Nottidge, and Edward Omotoso.

The December meeting was my first as the new President of the Charities Foundation and I was very pleased with the

level of professional input and cooperation at the meeting.

As stated in the report of the Assistance Review Committee in the Jan. 2011 issue of the *Bulletin*, the Foundation gave \$18,200 in grants in 2010. An amount of \$7,908 was received in donations. Because of a carryover of funds from 2009, the Foundation was able to give more in grants than it received in donations in 2010. I hope that, as a result of our 2011 Annual Appeal, we will be able to cover all grants from our yearly donations this year. To those of you who have been so generous with your donations to the Foundation in the past, we can't thank you enough.

At its spring meeting, the Foundation will review some of its procedures in issuing grants, particularly as they relate to humanitarian aid. The Board has always given priority to grants to individuals, even though its By-laws allow grants for hu-

manitarian causes. However, with so many disasters in the last few years, humanitarian aid frequently contends with grants to individuals.

Many thanks for Suzan Habachy and Louise Laheurte, Co-chairs of the Assistance Review Committee, as well as the other members of the committee – Joan Bunche, Jane Weidlund, Irmgard Parker, Edna Christie, Atanas Pumpolov – and the Board of Directors for their participation and dedication to the work of the Foundation. We are not large but we do make a difference in several lives each year, thus fulfilling

the purpose of the Foundation when it was established in the late 90s.

Dede Emerson

NB: In April 2011 the Charities Foundation decided to allocate \$2,000 for relief and rehabilitation in Japan in the wake of that country's unprecedented earthquake/tsunami/nuclear disaster. The funds were provided to UNICEF for its efforts on behalf of Japanese children.

CORRIGENDA

We regret that the following errors occurred in the January 2011 *Bulletin* during the editing process:

Page 3. This year is AFICS's 41st year of service to former international civil servants, not its 66th. (The UN is 66 years old this year; AFICS is only 41.)

Page 19. For 2010, you can give any individual up to \$13,000 without owing a gift tax. The donor is responsible for any tax on larger amounts given, not the recipient as was wrongly implied.

Sincere apologies to the authors and to readers for these mistakes.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN THE UNITED NATIONS

In New York, the small Office of Staff Legal Assistance, serving some 60,000 staff members, needs additional assistance to expeditiously handle the various cases that come before it. As it has no budget for additional staff, it is seeking volunteers to assist in its efforts to advise and defend staff who ap-

peal to the system for the resolution of disputes. UN retirees who have worked in human resources or have legal expertise would be most welcome.

If interested, kindly contact:

Mr. Brian Gorlick
Chief, Office of Staff Legal Assistance
2 UN Plaza, DC2-0645
New York, NY 10017
E-mail: gorlick@un.org
Tel: 1 212 963 6944

In 2009, a new system of administration of justice to handle internal disputes and disciplinary matters in the United Nations became operational. Based on action taken by the General Assembly in response to the recommendations of an external panel of experts and consultations with staff, its goal is to have a system that is independent, professionalized, expeditious, transparent and decentralized.

The internal justice system exists to address situations where staff members feel that their rights have been violated and/or that the rules of the Organization have not been respected. It serves both UN system staff members and retirees, generally dealing with work-related disputes concerning such issues as contract renewals, equity of treatment, promotion, harassment, or the imposition of disciplinary measures.

Pursuing informal resolution of a dispute is strongly encouraged through negotiation, mediation and other alternative means, though this does not prevent a staff member from also bringing a matter to the formal system of justice.

Ombudsman and Mediation services are available in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Bangkok, Santiago, Nairobi, Kinshasa and Khartoum.

MOVING?

When changing your address you should notify the following UN offices, giving them your new address, telephone number and (if any), fax number and e-mail address:

AFICS/NY

Address: Room DC1-580, United Nations, New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 963-2943; Fax: (212) 963-5702; E-mail: afics@un.org

UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND (UNJSPF)

Address: P.O. Box 5036, United Nations, New York, NY 10017
(1 Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza -- SW Corner of 48th St. & Second Ave. -- 37th Floor, should you wish to visit the office)
Telephone: (212) 963-6931 Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Fax: (212) 963-3146;
E-mail: UNJSPF@UN.ORG

The Pension Fund will provide a form for you to complete, sign and return. Your **original** signature is required.

UNITED NATIONS AFTER SERVICE HEALTH INSURANCE (ASHI)

Address: FF-300, 304 East 45th St., New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 963-5811; Fax: (212) 963-4222; E-mail: ashi@un.org

ASHI also handles Life Insurance. For that, be sure to provide the address of your beneficiary.

SECURITY & SAFETY

Address: 801 Second Avenue
Telephone (Planning Unit): (212) 963-7028

If your UN pass is about to expire, use the occasion of your move to renew it.

Editor's Note: With thanks to Ms. Jane Weidlund, who recently changed her address and was thoughtful enough to remind us that it would be useful for other retirees who may be moving to have the above information readily available.



MEMBERS' FORUM

MEMORIES OF DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD

By Mrs. Isabel S. Bautista



Since I am a surviving member of the staff on the 38th floor of the United Nations Secretariat building during Dag Hammarskjöld's time as Secretary-General, I feel I should also speak for those close to him, who were not only my colleagues, but my friends. They were Hannah Platz, his secretary; Bill Ranallo, his aide; and Loretta Cowan, receptionist.

Dag Hammarskjöld was a unique and unusual person – truly, a special human being. To the outside world, he appeared quiet, reserved – a very private individual. To us, he was very caring, witty and extremely intelligent. I've worked for many United Nations Secretaries-General, from Trygve Lie to Kurt Waldheim, and I believe that there has and will not be anyone like Dag Hammarskjöld – at least in my lifetime. He was a deep, thoughtful and caring individual.

My career at the UN began in 1945. While working for the United States Army Base X in the Philippines I received a special commendation, which helped me in my application for a job at the United Nations Secretariat in New York. I started as a clerk in the basement of the building where the guards reported for work. This afforded me an opportunity to meet and get to know them.

When the Executive Office of the Secretary-General sent a memo around to select a secretary of exceptional qualification, I was sent to the 38th floor for an interview. I was chosen and worked for the Executive Officer, David Blickenstaff. I took dictation from him and learned procedural matters for conducting and organizing the work of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, which were numerous and complicated. I became proficient in this area and later was sent to Africa, Asia and South America to assist in the organization of various conferences.

In the meantime, my son Gil was growing up. I had Vida who took care of him and my household, enabling me to work regularly and for long hours. I used to cover for Hannah Platz,

Dag Hammarskjöld's secretary, when she went to lunch. I recall one instance when I was looking over some children's books. The S-G stopped, stood across from the desk where I was sitting and proceeded to read upside down the book I was holding. I looked up, amazed, and asked: "Mr. Secretary-General; is there anything you cannot do?"

Shortly after the tragedy that took his life, I was brought to his quarters to pick up any gifts I had given him that I might like to keep. On his night table, next to his bed, I noticed a Bible and a small black prayer book. Dag Hammarskjöld, in his own way, was really a man of prayer.

Sadly, Bill Ranallo also perished with Dag Hammarskjöld in the plane crash. He was a dedicated, hard-working aide with utmost integrity in the execution of his job. When we received the news of the tragedy, I recall Hannah Platz running to my office, closing the door and both of us cried.

Loretta Cowan, our receptionist and telephone operator on the 38th floor, was another person closely associated with Dag Hammarskjöld. She was the one sent to represent the Secretariat at his funeral in Sweden.

Loretta was very dedicated to her job and a tenacious individual. Nothing stood in her way whenever and whatever she was called to do. I recall one night when the Secretary-General needed Brian Urquhart, Special Assistant to the S-G. Brian happened to be on vacation and purposely did not leave any information as to where he could be reached. Loretta, undeterred, was able to contact him with the assistance of the highway patrol. That was indispensable Loretta!

Loretta and I worked long hours. She often waited for me to drive home since we both lived in Stuyvesant Town in downtown Manhattan. Many times we would sit in the car reminiscing about the day's activities and exchanging views regarding our impressions of many diplomats who came to see the Secretary-General. We enjoyed doing just that!

These are my humble memories, which I treasure, when reminiscing once in a while and thinking of the United Nations and world events today.

DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD: FLOWERS OF JOY

By Katie Cangelosi

The UN Singers have warm memories of Dag Hammarskjöld, which have been handed down to members over the years. The Secretary-General, always keenly interested in the Singers, once asked them to memorize the Swedish folksong "Gladjens Blomster," roughly translated as "Flowers of Joy," which they performed several times for him, and have continued to perform, both inside and outside the UN.

In 1965, the UN Singers made a concert tour to Scandinavia, which included concerts in Denmark and Sweden. The Singers had the honour of performing in Uppsala, Sweden, the hometown of the former Secretary-General. In a cere-

mony to commemorate his tragic death during his UN service, each Singer laid a red rose on the late S-G.'s grave.

If you are aware of any events where we may be called upon to sing "Gladjens Blomster" and/or other songs to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his passing, we would be honoured to attend.

(Note: Katie Cangelosi is a current member of the United Nations Staff Recreation Council Singers and of AFICS /NY. She retired in September 2010 after 33 years at the UN, and almost as many with the UN Singers.)

REQUEST FOR MEMORIES OF DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD

DEADLINE EXTENDED

There is still time to submit your recollections of Dag Hammarskjöld for the special publication that will be produced to honour the 50th Anniversary of his tragic death. (See January 2011 *Bulletin*, Page 20.) We have extended the deadline for receipt of material to **1 July 2011**. Please send directly via e-mail to <mlhanley11@aol.com> with copies to <afics@un.org> and <diane.jumet@dhf.uu.se.>; or mail to AFICS/NY, Room DC1-580, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, Att: Mary Lynn Hanley, Editor

THIRTY YEARS AT THE UN AND THEN ...

By Christine Smith-Lemarchand

On 30 June 2000 I retired from the UN, having spent 30 years with the Secretariat following a stint with NATO and nine years as an academic assistant with a Junior year abroad programme in Paris, France.

Retirement sounded wonderful after 40 years of professional life. Vive la liberté! Now I could enjoy sipping a cup of tea while reading The New York Times in the morning and doing the crossword puzzles (Mondays and Tuesdays only, sometimes taking a chance on Wednesdays), taking strolls in Central Park, attending lectures at the NY Public Library or in some of the museums, reading books (and not magazines!) until one o'clock in the morning if such was my pleasure, without fear of being sleepy the following day. I tried to stay in good shape, joining Pilates and aquarobics classes. I even sorted out and organized cooking recipes collected over the years. One of my greatest joys was to visit museums and galleries. Wandering in the different galleries of the MET was like a treasure hunt. I spent time with my family and my grand-children continue to give me great joy.

Nevertheless I was still looking for some volunteer activities. I joined AFICS, was elected to its Governing Board and served as its Secretary for five years. I participated in the work of some of its committees, particularly the Information and NGO Liaison Committee. This gave me a chance to continue to follow the work of the United Nations, particularly in the fields of health and disability, and I hoped to bring some of this information to former colleagues, particularly through the AFICS *Bulletin* and the new AFICS website. I also enjoyed seeing former colleagues and meeting new ones.

In 2003 I found a wonderful volunteer activity. While a patient at NYU Langone Medical Center the previous year I had attended horticultural therapy sessions at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitative Medicine. Once I was finished with rehabilitation I volunteered to work at the Enid Haupt Glass Garden located on 34th street, between First Avenue and the FDR. One day a week I assist the horticultural therapists.

Rusk has a variety of programmes for children and adults. In the mid-1970s, one of the nation's first horticultural therapy programmes began in the Glass Garden. As part of their occupational therapy, patients of all ages work with trained horticultural therapists on activities that help to restore physical and cognitive functioning. These horticulture activities also help the patients to achieve a sense of personal accomplishment, productivity and self-reliance.

The Glass Garden is the only public botanical garden in Manhattan. It is a tropical oasis with extensive collections of succulents, ferns, bromeliads, caudates and insectivorous plants. It also has a pond with koi (carp), turtles and goldfish, plus tropical birds, a resident cat and two rabbits. Soft music fills the air. Outside the conservatory there is a play garden enjoyed by the children of the neighbourhood.

The hour break, which occurs within an often very demanding schedule of physical therapy, is a relaxing time that often affords a new experience that I really enjoy. Working with the patients has been extraordinarily rewarding. Seeing the smile of a child who, against all odds, has been able to plant a bulb or put together some decorative plants for a parent is a great pleasure. Helping adults of all ages participate in hor-

tical activities such as dividing or propagating plants, while encouraging them to socialize, is also very satisfying. I have also redone most of the labels for the plants in the conservatory and found the learning experience quite challenging. Along the way I have talked about the UN and its work, trying to dispel misconceptions and underline the work of agencies such as WHO, UNESCO or even ICAO or ILO. This has been and continues to be a very enriching experience.

Finally I work at my parish for Maureen's Haven, an organization that welcomes homeless men and women at participating places of worship throughout the North and South Forks of Long Island. Twice a month I help prepare and serve meals – another way to give back for all that has been given to me.

I now realize that you do not “retire” from the United Nations. Its goals to defend fundamental human rights and the dignity of the human person in particular remain with you. The UN will always be a part of your life even if you officially do not work one more day for the Organization once you become a retiree.

BREATHLESS...

By Horst Cerni

Breathing in and out is a routine – as long as everything appears to be functioning normally. Severe weather conditions can become a challenge, and, of course, impurities in the air. And even if sometimes the lungs and heart appear to be working somewhat irregularly, one hopes that everything will go back to normal.

That's the way it was for me in 2010. Even my physician didn't notice anything to worry about, and when I saw him on 15 January 2011, he diagnosed me with bronchitis. But the pills he prescribed didn't help, and the next day, 16 January, I had great difficulty breathing. In the Emergency Room of the Juan Luis Hospital in Christiansted, I was diagnosed with pneumonia, but more critically also with having an irregular heartbeat and – worse of all – my heart was working only at 20% capacity. It worked at a high rate, but was unable to do its job and get the liquid out of the lung. All of a sudden, I had deteriorated from a relatively healthy man into somebody no longer able to even walk a few steps.

My “vitals” were checked every few hours, and I was put on medications. Once the cardiologist had studied the various results of the X-ray, sonograms, CD scan, and lab tests, and determined that my heart needed help, he decided to install a

Defibrillator/Pacemaker into my chest in order to keep my heart rhythm under control and to prevent cardiac arrest. One more injection was needed, since my heart rate continued to be high and needed to slow down.

This combined intervention was successful and I was discharged from the Cardiac Center on 26 January. I have started Rehab and am on the road to recovery.

This experience has obviously taught me a powerful lesson: Enjoy each moment to the fullest, and as importantly, enjoy the presence and attention of your family and friends. My activities have been reduced, but I can breathe and I take pleasure in the trees and flowers, the birds and the pets. At the same time, this happening was a reminder to put all documents in order, to get rid of all those collectibles and papers that no one else will need or be interested in, and to try to make someone's day happier – especially that of the ones closest to you.

Yes, one needs to be prepared to say good-bye. But it's easier said than done – and so I try to keep smiling and live one day at a time!

ADVOCATES' CORNER

TAKE ACTION TO PROMOTE THE UN

Our AFICS/NY Committee on Information and NGO Relations has come up with some creative actions you can take to promote the work of the United Nations and its agencies. Here is one of them:

Follow UN meetings of interest and UN-supported activities worldwide without leaving home. Information on a variety of topics that may be of concern to you and your community can be found on line, right in your own living room.

Simply go to the UN Website, <<http://www.un.org/>>, and click on "Welcome." Go to the bottom of the column at the left and click on "Multimedia." A choice of videos, TV spots, radio programs and other media tools will come up. They cover a wide range of UN activities, including peace keeping,

relief and rehabilitation, electoral assistance, environmental protection and various types of economic and social development. Click on subjects that interest you for information to use when you are called upon to speak at UNA or civic association meetings, or to promote the UN through other means. The short videos and TV and radio spots are very professionally produced and can help you in your efforts to prove to others that the United Nations is doing great work throughout the world.

ACTIVITIES OF AFICS/THAILAND

Supporting Deaf Children in China

Some 40 AFICS/Thailand members visited the Deaf Children Rehabilitation Center in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China on 19 August 2010 bringing joy and laughter to 70 children with hearing disabilities. The visit was arranged by Ms. Michelle Lee, former UNESCAP Chief of Administration, who has been sponsoring 12 deaf children from extremely poor families since she retired from the UN in 2008.

The group brought gifts and contributions to the Center, including a personal donation from Mr. Vuthitsep Tanhongse, former President of the UNESCAP Staff Association. In return, under the guidance of their teachers, the children extended a warm welcome to the AFICS/Thailand members, performing a programme of songs and dances, and giving each member of the group a handmade craft item. The event was covered by local TV and two main local newspapers.

Established in 2002, the Center provides specialized full time

training to children mainly under seven years old. More than 200 children have been rehabilitated by the Center and they are now able to attend regular schools and live a normal life.

Donating to Refugees from Myanmar

AFICS/Thailand, working in cooperation with the Christian Organization for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR), and with the support of the ESCAP Administration and UNHCR, undertook a collection of clothing, blankets, shoes, toys and books for donation to refugees living in three camps near Myanmar. The total collection filled a large six wheel truck with a bed 6 meters long.

Speaking at Thai Universities

Thai Universities often call upon members of AFICS/Thailand to speak about the work of the United Nations.

Lola Costa-Esnard

U.S. ENVOY HITS BACK AT HOME CRITICS OF UN

The following points the U.S. Ambassador to the UN made earlier this year in a series of speeches around the U.S. will also be useful for your efforts to promote the UN:

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice, has condemned U.S. critics of the world body who have called for U.S. funds to be held back, while also attacking the UN for

picking up "bad habits" including mismanagement and corruption.

On Friday, 11 February, Ambassador Rice gave the first of a series of speeches around the United States, two days after administration supporters defeated a House of Representatives bill demanding repayment of surplus contributions to a UN fund.

Republicans have singled out U.S. payments to the United Nations as part of their demands to get tough on cutting the massive U.S. budget deficit.

"Main Street America needs the United Nations," Rice told the Oregon World Affairs Council in Portland, saying that it would be "immoral" and "dangerous" to be indifferent to new cross-border challenges. "America can't police every conflict, end every crisis, and shelter every refugee. The UN provides a real return on our tax dollars by bringing 192 countries together to share the cost of providing stability, vital aid, and hope in the world's most broken places."

According to the ambassador, out of every dollar paid in tax by Americans 34 cents goes to Social Security and Medicare, 22 cents to national security and just one tenth of a cent to UN dues.

Rice said the UN has "taken on huge responsibilities" for peacekeeping, saving refugees and preventing disease but

also highlighted U.S. concerns about mismanagement and isolated corruption.

"The truth is, the UN has also picked up some bad habits along the way, and we must continue to be clear about its shortcomings," she said, but added that it would be "short-sighted" to hold back funds from UN programmes it does not approve of. "Great and proud nations like ours are judged by their example," she said. "When we shirk our responsibilities, our influence wanes, and our standing is diminished. We just cannot lead from a position of strength when we're awash in unpaid bills."

The United States is the biggest contributor to the United Nations, having paid more than 2.5 billion dollars to the UN peacekeeping and regular budgets last year.

President Barack Obama has vowed to pay all UN bills on time. However, in January a UN spokesman said that the United States owed about 736 million dollars in mandatory contributions at the end of 2010.

Adapted from AFP release, 12 February 2011
(With thanks to Edward Omotoso for forwarding it for the *Bulletin*)

UN AT WORK WORLDWIDE

UN ENVOY STRESSES NEED TO PREVENT CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE BEFORE IT BEGINS

It is critical to prevent conflict-related sexual violence before it happens, a top United Nations official stressed on 14 April, stating that the problem warrants continuous consideration by the Security Council as it deals with fighting in countries such as Libya, Côte d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

"Even in the 'tyranny of the emergency,' before hard evidence emerges, and though it may not be obvious what gender has to do with 'arms embargoes' or 'no-fly zones,' we must remember women," Margot Wallström, the Secretary-General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, said in her briefing to the Council. "Our endeavours to uphold international security will not be comprehensive unless they include efforts to end sexual violence before it has begun," she added.

In December 2010, the Council adopted resolution 1960 in which it stressed the need to end impunity and vowed to take "appropriate steps" to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict. "In one word, the promise of 1960 is: prevention," said Ms. Wallström, noting the resolution is oriented towards deterrence. "It sets out the elements of an accountability regime to influence the conduct of perpetrators, and would-be perpetrators."

However, she continued, recent resolutions on Libya, where on-going fighting between pro-and anti-Government forces has been raging for several weeks, makes no mention of the risk of sexual violence, which she described as a very real threat amid escalating unrest and mass displacement. Sexual violence warrants continued consideration by the Council, she stressed. "Otherwise, interventions on the frontlines may relegate women's security to the side-lines."

At the same time, the Special Representative noted that a resolution adopted last month to impose sanctions on Côte d'Ivoire, where "shocking" reports of sexual violence have emerged as part of the post-electoral crisis, did specifically mention sexual violence. "This is an encouraging sign that such violence is taken seriously and increasingly integrated into the Council's core business."

She urged the Council to use its influence to ensure that any ceasefire agreement reached in relation to Libya or Côte d'Ivoire entails the cessation of sexual violence as a tactic of war. In addition, commissions of inquiry must include dedicated expertise on this issue.

Ms. Wallström also provided details of her recent visits to the DRC and Angola, and her efforts to strengthen the prevention of sexual violence in those countries. She stressed the need to ensure that perpetrators are relentlessly pursued, noting that cases of sexual violence against vulnerable communities in DRC continue to be reported almost daily. She also noted

that serious concerns exist regarding sexual violence against Congolese women and girls in the context of illegal diamond mining activities and expulsions from Angola, and adding that the previously established Angola-DRC Mixed Commission should focus attention on the vulnerability of women and girls.

Ambassador Néstor Osorio of Colombia, which held the Council's rotating presidency for April, told reporters that the 15-member body welcomed the cooperation between Angola and the DRC to "address sexual violence occurring around their border region and to put in place measures to prevent sexual violence and impunity related to such violence." The Council also voiced full support for the Special Representative's efforts to prevent and respond to sexual violence in conflict, he added.

Adapted from UN Daily News
(With thanks to Lola Costa-Esnard
for forwarding it to the *Bulletin*)

WHO RELEASES LIST OF MEDICINES VITAL FOR SAVING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

The World Health Organization (WHO), on 21 March, released its first ever list of the most vital medicines for saving the lives of mothers and children, and stressed the need to ensure their availability in developing countries. The list of the top 30 medicines includes oxytocin, a drug used to treat severe bleeding after childbirth, the leading cause of maternal death, as well as simple antibiotics to treat pneumonia, which kills an estimated 1.6 million children under the age of five every year.

Access to appropriate medicines is vital to achieving global health goals, according to WHO, which noted that almost all of the maternal and child deaths occur in developing countries. "The vast majority can be prevented when the right medicines are available in the right formulations and are prescribed and used correctly," it stated in a news release. Other medicines on the list include those for treating high blood pressure and sexually transmitted infections among women, as well as diarrhoea, malaria and AIDS-related illness among children.

WHO added that most priority medicines are not available where needed, pointing out that surveys conducted in 14 African countries show that children's medicines are available in only 35 per cent to 50 per cent of public and private centre pharmacies and drug stores. The availability of medicines in developing countries for maternal and child health is compromised, the agency said, by poor supply and distri-

bution systems, insufficient health facilities and staff, low investment in health and the high cost of medicines.

"We know that basic, cheap oral rehydration salts (ORS) and zinc stop children from dying from diarrhoea, and we recommend that all countries make them accessible. But our surveys show that, at present, ORS is available in less than half of pharmacies and kiosks in African countries and zinc is not available at all in many places," said Elizabeth Mason, Director of WHO's Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health. "This list is designed to help countries prioritize, so that they focus on getting the most critical things available and save the most lives," she added.

WHO said that medicines appropriate for children are often not available, partly because of a lack of awareness that they need different medicines than adults. As a result, health workers are forced to adapt adult medicines for children. Tablets are crushed into imprecise portions and dissolved into unpalatable drinks that are difficult for children to swallow and are potentially ineffective, toxic or harmful.

The agency recommends that medicines for children should be provided in doses that are easy to measure and easy for them to take. For example, a newly developed artemisinin combination tablet for malaria is dissolved in liquid and is sweet tasting, making it easier for children to swallow and ensuring that they receive correct and effective doses.

The top 30 list also features five urgently needed medicines that do not currently exist for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis, particularly in HIV-infected children, and for newborn care. Treatment guidelines for tuberculosis in children have been developed recently by WHO but the recommended dosage requires a child to swallow many tablets a day over a long period of time. Combining the essential in-

gredients into one tablet results in a pill around the size of a one-euro coin – too large for a child to swallow. Therefore, WHO is calling for more research to develop appropriate, palatable formulations for children.

From UN Daily News

UN POPULATION PRIZE AWARDED TO IRANIAN DEMOGRAPHER AND AFRICAN INSTITUTE

An Iranian demographer who focuses on development and reproductive health and an African research institution that provides training in the field of sexual health and gender issues have won the 2011 United Nations Population Award.

Established by the General Assembly in 1981, the Award is given annually to individuals and institutions for outstanding contributions to population concerns and their solutions – this year to Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Chairman of the Division of Population Research at the University of Tehran, and the Cameroon-based L’Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographique (IFORD).

Mr. Abbasi-Shavazi has a long career in teaching, demographic research and advisory and policy services, focusing on population and development, reproductive health and fertility, immigration and refugees. He has contributed to the understanding of the dynamics of Iran’s fertility decline, which showed that improving women’s education and status and their access to reproductive health care led to smaller family sizes. He has promoted the view that social, economic and cultural differences among countries are more important than religion as explanations of fertility differentials, and has also been a bridge between international demographers and Iranian scholars to study the rapid Iranian fertility decline.

IFORD, established in 1972, has been a leading institution for training, research and technical assistance in the field of population, serving 26 countries in Africa and the Indian

Ocean. Its mandate focuses on offering technical support and training to African teams in the field of population and development, and on conducting research relevant to the understanding of African population issues. The institute has a continuous programme of research in sexual and reproductive health, gender and demographic issues, migration, and the linkages between population, the environment and development. It assists African countries in conducting population censuses, establishing local research activities, providing local training, creating and managing databases, and formulating and evaluating population policies. It has so far trained more than 500 African demographers.

The Award Committee, chaired by Egypt’s UN Ambassador Maged Abdelaziz, consists of 10 Member States, with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) as its secretariat. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) elects Committee members for three-year terms – currently Bangladesh, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, Jamaica, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Norway and Tanzania. Mr. German Bravo-Casas, a member of the AFICS/NY Committee on NGO Relations and Information, participated in the committee that reviewed the award candidates.

The award is scheduled to be presented on 16 June at a ceremony at UN Headquarters in New York.

From UN Daily News

HEALTHY LIVING

HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME AGE-FRIENDLY

A report sponsored by the MetLife MatureMarket Institute, *Aging in Place 2.0, Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge, September 2010* has been prepared with input from a consultant on Universal Design and Ageing in Place.

As people are living longer, the report acknowledges that many of us will need some period of extended care during our later years. Such care is very expensive, assuming it is available at all. While the increasing number of seniors will

increase demand for available institutional care, staying in one's home and receiving care there is increasingly going to be the default choice for retirement living. Not only will it be cheaper than institutionalized care, but it can afford a more satisfying experience as one ages.

The report suggests that sustained improvements in three areas are needed to help people achieve rewarding ageing-in-place experiences. First, the current array of medical, social service, and community support services should be unified in a coordinated network that can provide the right mix of services tailored to an individual's changing needs as they age. This will not only improve the quality of services but, if done properly, reduce costs.

Second, the home must be technologically equipped. The successful ageing-in-place home will feature remote sensing and communications tools, interactive testing and medical diagnostic devices, and online access to community support and social activities. (A telealarm is a good start!)

Then there is need for age-friendly housing that employs what are called "universal design principles." Without the right physical environment, all of the coordinated services and interactive technology in the world will not produce a good result. Fortunately, making your home ready for your "future self" is something you can begin doing now. And it needn't be done in hugely expensive chunks, either.

The report sets out three priorities for home modifications. The first priority, which it says should cost about \$1,000 or less to achieve, is to prevent falls. It sets forth six specific changes: removing throw rugs, especially in the bathroom; installing grab bars and grips in the bathroom; assuring sturdy handrails on both sides of steps; providing good lighting and switching, especially at stairs, halls, and entries; securing or removing carpets on stairs; and arranging for soft path lighting for night-time mobility.

The second priority is to make your home more accessible and easier to navigate, which can cost anywhere from \$5,000 to \$30,000, MetLife says. Here, a common objective is to remove raised entrances between rooms and to the house itself. This needs to be done not only for wheelchair access but for the safety of older occupants, who risk falls by tripping over raised thresholds. The cheapest changes involve common-sense relocation of furniture so people can have unencumbered pathways through their home. Easy access to bedrooms and bathrooms is particularly important.

Lastly, the report notes, are the more expensive changes that include bathroom and kitchen makeovers. These modifications include a no-step shower or even a lift to help people get into the bathtub. Other bathroom changes include a sitting space by the bathroom sink and extra space around the toilets so a caregiver can provide assistance if needed.

In the kitchen, a big focus of universal design changes is to lower work and storage areas so that wheelchair users and older occupants can prepare meals and have easier access to food, dishes, and cooking utensils. If you like to spend time outdoors, the report suggests providing coverings to protect you from the sun and rain.

Starting with a more modest set of objectives, however, the report says they make financial sense. Using \$10,000 as a sample cost for basic structural modifications is relatively reasonable compared to the cost of care in an institution.

Reference: *Aging in Place 2.0, Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge, September 2010*. Available from the MetLife MatureMarket Institute. Website: <www.MatureMarketinstitute.com>

Roger Eggleston
Adapted from AAFI-AFICS Bulletin,
January 2011, Vol. 70, No. 1

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

16 March, 2011

I just had a delightful lunch with George (Saddler) today and we reminisced a lot about amusing matters. I said, "I remember when you were President of AFICS/NY, it was a lot of fun to read the *Bulletin*; it included articles about personal

and personnel matters, travel reports, etc..." I am writing to ask that you include a "News You Can Muse" column....

Sam Chao

(Editor's note: Sam is right! In the past, Association members would send us comments and accounts of their travels and interesting experiences while at the UN or as retirees. But such contributions have become less and less frequent. Such articles are still most welcome! Please send them directly to the editor: <MLhanley11@aol.com> with a copy to AFICS/NY :<afics@un.org>).

LATEST WRINKLE

THE IMPORTANCE OF POPULATION AGEING WORLDWIDE

In its January 2011 issue, AAFI-AFICS reports on a panel of eminent persons and representatives of NGOs that it organized to commemorate the UN International Day of Older Persons, 1 October 2010. The article lists major findings of the latest UN report on the current demographic revolution, predicted to continue well into the coming centuries:

One out of every 10 persons is now 60 years or above. By 2050, one out of five will be 60+ years. In some developed countries today, the proportion of older persons is already one in four. During the first half of the 21st century that proportion will be close to one in two in some countries.

The older population itself is ageing: the oldest old (80+ years) is the fastest growing segment of that population: 13% of the 60+ age group and will grow to 20% by 2050.

Centenarians: the number of centenarians (aged 100 years or older) is projected to increase 14-fold, from approximately 265,000 in 2005 to 3.7 million by 2050.

Women: The majority of older persons (55%) are women. Among the oldest old, 65% are women.

Adjustment: As the tempo of ageing in developing countries is more rapid than in developed countries, those countries will have less time to adapt their structures and functions to the consequences of population ageing.

Urbanization: Approximately 50% of the world's older population lives in urban areas. Thirty years ago, the proportion living in urban areas was about 40%. On average, about 70%

of older persons in more developed countries, but only 38% in the least developed countries are urban dwellers.

Over the last half century, 20 years were added to the average lifespan, bringing global life expectancy to its current level of 66 years. Large differences exist among countries, which reflect the high mortality in the active population. In the least developed countries, men reaching age 60 can expect 15 more years of life, women 17 more, while in the more developed regions the figures are 19 more years for men and 23 more for women.

Old-age dependency ratio: the number of working age persons (age 15 – 64 years) per older person (65 years or older) is used as an indicator of the 'dependency burden' on potential workers. Between 2005 and 2050, the old-age dependency ratio will almost double in the more developed regions and almost triple in the less developed regions. The socio-economic impact on society may well be intertwined with global crises.

Adapted from AAFI-AFICS Bulletin
January 2011, Vol. 70, No. 1

BOOK REVIEWS

SUDDEN DEPARTURE SYNDROME

TEN (10) TIPS FOR ORGANIZING YOUR LIFE BEFORE CHECKING OUT

By Muriel Glasgow

Published by Emgee Brochures, MG Associates, Inc., New York, NY 10022; Available from Amazon.com as an eBook (downloadable on Kindle) and in paperback format: Website:

<https://www.createspace.com/3493505>;

Also available from Barnes & Noble, at the UN Bookstore, and in the AFICS/NY Library, to which the author has kindly donated a copy.

Earthquakes ... tsunamis ... nuclear meltdowns! Whenever massive tragedy and loss of life occur around the world, we are prompted to consider a question that many of us put off thinking about: how prepared am I for my inevitable departure from this world? Have I left clear instructions for my survivors? Is everything in place so that my “final affairs” will be handled according to my wishes? Even the death of a relative or friend – or a personal medical scare (see below and page 18) – can serve as a wake-up call. **Now is the time to set down what we would like to be done with what we leave behind. And this information should be in addition to a last will and testament.**

AFICS/NY member, Muriel Glasgow, a UNICEF staff member for three decades, has prepared a comprehensive guide to help in what might seem like an overwhelming task. Titled *Sudden Departure Syndrome – Ten (10) tips for organizing your life before checking out*, it contains tips in 10 categories on how to organize our lives while we are still living and breathing, so that we can live a full life, free of worry of what might occur should we suddenly depart from the face of the earth.

This slim volume, a veritable personal disaster preparedness manual, is designed to guide those left behind through whatever they may be called upon to do with what we’ve left. A personal scare in 2000 – a diagnosis of breast cancer – prompted the author to write down the pertinent information for her family. After 9/11, she saw the need for a wider audience to do likewise and published a downloadable eBook to be of assistance. However, “The Haiti earthquake, which took the lives of many staff members, perhaps many of whom might not have left a roadmap for others, was the critical factor that motivated me to publish this book in paperback form,” says Ms. Glasgow.

The format is clear and simple, with information broken

down into tips in 10 categories: Organizing your life; Who to contact; Home information; Finances; Insurance policies; Business ownership; Legal Documents; Medical history; Listing and distribution of possessions; and Checkout arrangements. Throughout, it is punctuated with comments from those left unprepared by the death of a close relative or friend. There are also many pithy quotations on “living your dash,” the dash being your lifespan – the period between your dates of birth and death – from well-known individuals, including statesmen, philosophers, writers and sports figures. For example:

“You are what you repeatedly do. Excellence is not an event – it is a habit.” Aristotle

“The world cares very little about what a man or woman knows; it is what the man or woman is able to do that counts.” Booker T. Washington

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty,” Winston Churchill

Ms. Glasgow hopes that the book can be of support to staff and human resources departments, many of which are confronted with challenges affecting lives of staff and their families when deaths occur. For example, she suggests that Staff Unions of UN agencies around the world share copies of the book among staff so that each member can work on the tips, letting Human Resources department know where or with whom their personal information is stored.

Testimonials & reviews

“The booklet on Sudden Departure Syndrome (SDS) is an essential aid to all UN personnel, who may be assigned to situations and locations in many parts of the world at short no-

tice, where medical, legal and financial conditions may be deficient and international communications difficult to access. It would be especially useful if generous donors could be invited to fund translation into all the UN languages, at least, so that it could be part of a package of essential information given to all new staff members, both regular and technical advisers." N.T., former UN Executive, New York

"I had just seen my friend the day before and we had a great discussion going over old times. He was just settling down into retirement and was planning a trip to his country in three months. Imagine my surprise to learn the following day that he had died of a heart attack. And the drama was that he lived alone in Canada, his wife was in California and his daughter in New York ... and no one knew where he kept anything." G.M., Toronto, Canada

"I have read it from cover to cover and it is a great "little" book. I would like my loved ones to have copies. Most importantly, it reminds us that there is a dash between the year of birth, and the year of our possible transition, which no one knows with certainty when will arrive – a dash which represents the time we spend on earth. As Abraham Maslow, Psychologist said, "One can choose to go back toward safety or forward toward growth. Growth must be chosen again and again; fear must be overcome again and again." C.N., New York

"Complete the Ten Tips in this book – and once you've recorded the information, you'll finally be free to live your life!" Keith Leon, Visionary, Speaker and Best-selling author.

WORLDWIDE REUNIONS

FLORIDA CHAPTER of AFICS/NY

As per our 2010 calendar, the 4th Anniversary Dinner of the Florida Chapter of AFICS/NY was held on 4 December, 2010.

By popular demand, the venue was WANTILAN LUAU, the dinner show at Loews Royal Pacific Resort, Universal Studio, Orlando. All of the 15 members who had signed up for the event were present and it was encouraging to see attendance at 100%.

After registering, everyone assembled at the lobby of the Loews Royal Pacific Resort and Marie Mclean read out the Mission Statement of the Florida Chapter of AFICS/NY, which was re-affirmed by everyone present. All members were then presented with a draft proposal for our 2011 calendar, which contained two or three suggestions for all four events planned and also gave members the option to present alternatives.

Based on ballots cast, the following **Calendar for 2011** was adopted by majority vote:

(I) APRIL **Saturday, 30 April**

FRENCH LUNCH

Seminar with speaker: Pranayam/meditation/health

(II) MAY **Saturday, 14 May**

SEVEN-DAY CRUISE OF WESTERN CARIBBEAN (Departure on 05/14/2011 from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on "Oasis of the Seas," with stops at Labadee, Haiti; Falmouth, Jamaica; and Cozumel, Mexico)

(III) SEPTEMBER **Saturday, 17 September**

CHINESE LUNCH

Seminar with speaker on Life Insurance or Anger Management

(IV) DECEMBER **Saturday, 03 December**

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Lunch at Disney Resort or Day Cruise

(V) – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- (1) Visit to nearby Middle or High School to give lecture on UN or any of its agencies
- (2) Day trip to tour nearby Brewery

Considering the requests of various members who live far away from our venues, it was unanimously agreed that every event will be held at lunch time, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm (including the anniversary event)

After voting on the calendar, everyone enjoyed the punch offered at the reception area. Thereafter, we moved downstairs to enjoy the Wantilan Luau Dinner Show, where we were greeted by the dancers and offered Hawaiian traditional garlands.

Offering a great variety of exotic food from Hawaii, the buffet dinner highlighted an entire roast suckling pig and a whole salmon plus a variety of greens. After enjoying the sumptuous meal and drinks, the stage was set for the Luau show.

The dancers presented Polynesian dances (traditional wedding, Christmas, Tahitian), during which they invited audience members to join them on stage, giving them tips on dancing style. Some 15 people accepted, among them Madan Arora, who represented our group. Later, all those participating were called upon individually and offered one-on-one

dance lessons, and after performing with the dancer, requested to leave the stage.

For reasons best known to the management, the last lesson was given to Madan Arora and so he was the 15th to learn the dance and perform with his instructor. He came across like a star performer and received very long and loud applause!!! It was heartening to note that the entire audience (about 150 persons) acclaimed Madan's dance to be the best!

Finally, everyone gathered near the Christmas tree for a group photo session and, as all good things must come to an end, it was time to say goodbye and wish each other happy holidays.

Madan Arora



WASHINGTON, D.C. CHAPTER OF AFICS/NY

A main component of the Washington, D.C. Chapter's activity has been cooperation with retirees from other international organizations in the D.C. area.

Workshop of Associations of Retirees/Alumni of International Organizations

A second annual meeting of associations of international retirees was held on 10 November 2010 by the 1818 Society, Association of World Bank Group Alumni at the World Bank. The general coordinator of the event was Jean-Yves Maillat. The meeting was attended by representatives of ADB, AFICS/NY Headquarters, AFICS/NY (Washington, D.C. Chapter), AROAS, IMF, PAHO/WHO and the 1818 Society.

The Workshop centred around two working groups, one on **Health Insurance**, in which Tom Bieler of AFICS/NY Headquarters and Paul Belanga and Dr. Andrei Filotti of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of AFICS/NY participated; and the other on **Communications**, with Dr. David Waugh and Lucio d'Andrea of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of AFICS/NY taking part.

In the Health Insurance Group the discussions centred around three main topics: Health Care Reform, Medicare Part B Participation, and Development of a Joint Health Care Matrix.

On Health Care Reform, alignment with the new U.S. health law varied among organizations, with some fairly far along and others just beginning to adopt provisions to align themselves. Retirees from institutions with headquarters based in other countries were uncertain whether their institutions would adopt provisions of the new health care law.

The way different organizations deal with participation in Medicare Part B was presented: most U.S.-based organizations require U.S. residents to join the national health plans for which they are eligible. For U.S. residents this means that Medicare Part B enrolment is compulsory or recommended.

The procedures for reimbursement of the Part B premiums were also discussed. Two issues on which all organizations were interested in exchanging views were singled out: first in order of priority, Medicare; and second, governance arrangements for retiree medical insurance plans.

In the Communications Group four topics were covered: Pre-Workshop Survey Results, Complexity of Communications, Website Effectiveness, and Challenges Ahead. Results of a survey on the various forms of communication used by retiree organizations were presented, showing a pronounced shift from postal communication towards e-mail and web-

sites. Among the related topics touched upon were membership issues, the effectiveness of various tools (websites, electronic vs. print publication, and the new social media), and the likely significant impact that changes in staff tenure (short-term rather than career service) will have on retiree organizations.

Most retiree groups have regional sub-groups with their own communication needs. It was agreed that although websites are a key ingredient in any communication strategy, they are only as good as they are sustainable, up-to-date, and used. Some organizations are still building their sites and valued Workshops as a means to learn from the experience of others with their websites. Remaining relevant is a perennial concern for retiree organizations. For the near term, there will need to be continued efforts to bridge generational, income, regional, and cultural issues. Retirees have a continuing interest in pension and health care issues. They also want to stay in touch with their former colleagues and know what they are doing. There was a consensus, however, that retiree associations should do more to gauge and meet members' needs and to better communicate what they have to offer. Participants concluded that such workshops are useful for all associations and that similar ones should be organized in the years to come.

Annual Meeting of the Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff (AFSM)

The Association of Former PAHO/WHO staff held its annual meeting on 2 December 2010, chaired by its President, Nancy Berinstein. The Washington, D.C. Chapter of AFICS/NY was represented at the meeting by Dr. Andrei Filotti. Presentations were made by the Health Insurance Office and the Pension Office of PAHO/WHO. There was also a presentation with slides of the PAHO reunion in Lima, Peru. A new Executive Board of the Association was elected.

Other activities of the Washington, D. C. Chapter of AFICS/NY

The Washington, D.C. Chapter held its annual Christmas Luncheon at the Alfio Restaurant on 8 December 2011. The luncheon was attended by members and invitees and participants were informed about AFICS activities.

At its following meeting the Board of the Washington, D.C. Chapter decided to extend its social activities, and organize a visit to the Hillwood Estate Museum and Gardens in Washington, D.C. before the next luncheon of the Chapter. The event is planned for the end of April 2011.

Andrei Filotti

OBITUARIES

CHARLES EDOUARD BOURBONNIERE



Charles Edouard Bourbonniere passed away in Montreal on 2 December 2010. Prior to joining the UN Secretariat in April 1969 he had served at a number of duty stations with the Department for External Affairs, Canada.

His first assignment at the United Nations was with the newly formed Centre for Economic and Social Information in the then Office of Public Information (OPI) New York, where he served as Deputy Director. When the unit was moved to the Office of the Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Charles Edouard moved with the unit to DESA,

In 1971 he transferred back to OPI as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary-General. In 1974-75 he served as

Chief of the Special Sahelian Office, in the Office of the Secretary-General, Office of the Under Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs.

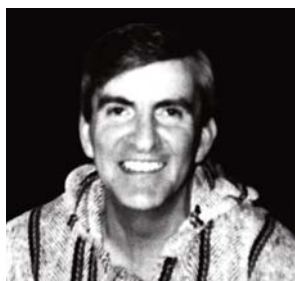
In 1975 he transferred to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) where he served as Director of the UN Information Service. In 1978 he transferred to the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) to serve as the Director of the UN Coordination Office, a position which he held until he returned to New York in 1982 to serve as Director, Communications, Records and Commercial Services Division in the then Office of General Services. He remained in that position until he retired in July 1986.

On the professional side, Charles Edouard was admired and respected for his professionalism, diligence and ability to successfully tackle difficult assignments. On the personal side, he will be remembered as a highly intelligent and loyal colleague with a keen analytical mind and a great sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by his many friends.

Dick Foran

PAUL D. BOYD

Paul D. Boyd passed away on 23 February 2011 after a long illness. He had lived in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey since the mid-1980s and was a member of AFICS/NY.



Paul grew up in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1940. He earned a B.A. from Middlebury College in Vermont and then a Master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of

Journalism/International Fellows Program. In 1963 he joined the public information section of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), where he remained for over 30 years, as Deputy to the Director of Information, Senior Policy Officer for public affairs and Senior Technical Editor. During his long UNDP career, he was involved in all aspects of public information and education about development – from policy design and planning, to conception, management, production and worldwide distribution of numerous publications and audio-visual materials in several languages. In the

late 60s and early 70s he worked intensively on promoting “Development Support Communication” to ensure that the goals of development programmes were communicated to and supported by their beneficiaries. Throughout his long UNDP career, he cooperated extensively with many UN agencies and NGOs on major development information campaigns and supervised up to 30 staff members.

Among Paul's many achievements, he co-produced a film on women in development, *Into the Mainstream*, which won a Silver Venus Award, and served as UN Executive Producer of *Journey for Survival*, a film on drinking water, nominated for an Oscar in the short documentaries category in 1981.

A tireless worker, often found at his desk far into the night, Paul is remembered by colleagues as a mentor and true friend, principled, creative and dynamic, with a great sense of humour, insatiable curiosity, and the courage of his convictions.

“What I remember most about him was his extraordinary openness to people and ideas, as well as his generosity of

spirit,” says one writer he supervised. “For years after leaving his post in DOI, he served as UNDP’s unofficial ‘resident’ editor. Though he had his own work to attend to, people from around the house would drop in on him for all kinds of editorial help. I did the same, finding it hard to wean myself from his unflinchingly critical eye. ... He had an uncanny ability to present things in an interesting and unusual way, which he used, among other things, to convince public officials and others in his town about the pitfalls of poorly planned development and to take action to preserve their environment and cultural heritage. I know I am just one of many who will miss him dearly.”

She remembers that Paul was the only person who agreed to meet with her as she meticulously went through the UN phone book seeking someone to speak with about employment. “He offered me a three-week assignment, which turned into a lifelong career,” she recalls.

“He was a brilliant editor,” agrees another writer with whom he worked. “No matter how heavily he might mark up your copy, you loved him for it, because he always respected your core message and just found ways to express it with more punch.”

After his retirement from UNDP in 1994, Paul earned a Ph.D. in Geography from Rutgers University, focusing on the history, environment and culture of the Atlantic Highlands region of New Jersey. He became an expert on the culture of the Lenape American Indian tribe in Monmouth County, writing a book about their language and culture, *From Lenape Camps to Bayside Town (NJ) – Making of America*, which can be purchased from Amazon.com.

Paul also served as Director and Historian for the Atlantic Highlands Historical Society, about which he wrote another book. As Chair of the Atlantic Highlands Environmental Commission, he was responsible for creating the borough's environmental resource inventory, remediation of contaminated sites, and the creation of greenways and bike trails. He was also Co-founder and Co-Chair of the Lanapehoking Festival, a Native American Celebration at Sandy Hook, and Co-Chair of the Lenape Woods Coalition, comprised of 12 neighbourhood associations campaigning to conserve open space for community use on 250 acres of forested slopes in the Navesink Highlands.

Ever a lover of music and a talented pianist, Paul wrote a history on the evolution and restoration of antique square pianos and helped an acquaintance build a square piano repair shop. Genealogy was another interest; shortly before his death he completed a 700-page Boyd family history, exploring its roots in Scotland and elsewhere in Europe.

A packed memorial service for Paul took place on Sunday, 17 April at 1:00 p.m. at the home of the Atlantic Highlands Historical Society: Strauss Mansion, 27 Prospect Circle, Atlantic Highlands, NJ. Through personal recollections, many family members, local public officials, friends and neighbours celebrated Paul’s multi-faceted life and the very significant contributions he made to his community in retirement.

MLH

(With thanks to Judith Brister, Lois Jensen, E. Fauvette van der Schoot, and Mallica Vajrathon-Childers)

GERTRUDE (KIT) MCKITTERICK

Gertrude (“Kit”) McKitterick, age 91, of Hamden, Connecticut, passed away on 29 January 2011.

Born on 24 December, 1919 in Milton, Massachusetts, Ms. McKitterick was a WWII U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

Ms. McKitterick had a 37-year career with the UN, with UNESCO in Paris, and with the UN Development Programme,

serving as resident representative in Tanzania in 1968. She was also a Life Member of AFICS/NY.

A Memorial Service for Ms. McKitterick was held on 19 February at Grace & St. Peter’s Church, Hamden. Contributions may be made on her behalf to the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Adapted from The New York Times

ARTHUR JOHN RAMSDELL

Arthur John Ramsdell, age 87, died on 20 March 2011. He was born in Queens, NY, the son of Arthur and Margaret Lawlor Ramsdell, who predeceased him. Arthur was a com-

bat veteran of World War II, having served in Italy with the 10th Mountain Division.

A graduate of Pace University, Arthur was one of the original employees of the United Nations, which he joined in March 1946, and from which he retired in March 1982 as Chief of Energy Statistics in the Department of Economic Affairs, after 36 years of service.

Arthur's last home was in Florida, where he was an avid golfer and a member of the East Lake Woodlands Country Club. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Quail Forest Homeowner's Association, a Eucharistic Minister at St. Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church in Tarpon Springs, and a member of AFICS/NY.

For over 64 years, Arthur was the loving husband of Dorothy

Ramsdell and the loving father of two sons, Robert, a Viet Nam veteran, who pre-deceased him, and Brian of Vancouver, WA. He had a sister, Ruth Murphy of Spotswood, NJ; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

After a Mass of Resurrection at St. Ignatius of Antioch, he was buried with honours at the Florida National cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any gifts of love be sent to Suncoast Hospice, Brookside, 164 West Lake Rd., Palm Harbor, FL 34684.

Dorothy Ramsdell

RUBY TIGLAO



Ruby Tiglao passed away in New York on 5 March 2011 after a long illness. Having served the UN for more than 26 years, she retired on 31 March 2010.

Ruby spent most of her long UN career in the Water, Energy

& Strategies Branch, Division for Sustainable Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. She served briefly and proudly in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) during its election in 1992.

Ruby was a long-time member of the UN Women's Guild. She served as Treasurer and worked tirelessly organizing functions and raising funds for support projects all over the world to improve the lives of women and children. In particular, she was devoted to the St. Martin de Porres project, home for wayward children in crisis, located in Bulacan, Philippines.

A memorial service was held at the Peter Deluca Funeral Home in NYC on 9 March 2011.

Milagros Villanueva

RIVINGTON R. WINANT

Rivington R. Winant, affectionately known as "Riv," passed away suddenly on Thursday evening, 3 February, after courageously fighting a prolonged illness.

A graduate of Balliol College, Oxford University, England, Mr. Winant served in the Marine Corps in the South Pacific during WWII, fighting in the Battle of Okinawa. He then spent six months in China with a detachment of the 6th Marine Division.

At the United Nations, Mr. Winant was a financial analyst and long-time Treasurer. After retiring he was a Life Member of AFICS/NY.

He is survived by his spouse Joan O'Meara Winant, and nephews Charles Velando, John G. Winant, Jr., and Marion Eppley Winant.

Riv is remembered with great love by his many in-laws, friends and colleagues around the world.

A memorial service was held at the Church of the Epiphany, 1393 York Avenue at 74th Street, NY, NY on Saturday, 26 February

Joan O'Meara Winant

IN MEMORIAM

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund has furnished AFICS /NY with the following information, covering the period 1 December 2010 – 31 March 2011, concerning the passing of former staff members and their surviving spouses. We extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased.

UNITED NATIONS FAMILY

ECLAC/MEXICO

Harming, B.	08.09.2010
Mendigocha, Carlos Edmun	09.01.2011
Rios, Enriqueta	27.12.2010

ECLAC/MEXICO

Bozzolo, A.	28.08.2010
Castro, Luis	12.01.2011
Frugone, Anita	02.08.2010
Marinakis, T.	12.01.2011
Sordelli, Veronica	24.01.2011

UNECA

Asrat, Gizaw W.M.	24.12.2010
Getachew, Ayele	02.09.2010

UNESCAP

Inayatullah, C.	05.11.2010
Nakagawa, Koji	23.11.2010
Reyes, Filisa Z.	07.12.2010
Sarkar, Leela	10.02.2011
Van Mao, Nguyen	29.01.2011

UNESCWA

Dodd, Peter Carter	25.11.2010
Jute, Yvonne	08.01.2011
Radjai, Ahmad A.	15.12.2010
Smirnov, Georgy M.	22.01.2011

ICCROM

Torraca, Giorgio	25.09.2010
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UN/HQ

Abdel-Wahab Sherif, Insherah	31.01.2011
Anagnostou, George C.	11.12.2009
Araujo, Lia Cunha	05.02.2011
*Badawy, Abdel-Latif M.	27.01.2011
Baptist, Dorothy R.	21.12.2010
Baraona, R.	25.09.2010
Barbosa, Roca C.	12.02.2011
Batovrin, Youry	20.08.2010
Baum, M.	16.02.2011
*Bjune, G.	12.02.2011
*Chan, Michael Hing Sang	30.12.2010

*Chenier, J.R.	27.01.2011
Comendador, C.	23.12.2010
Craddock-Turnbull, Thelma	16.01.2011
Croatto, Dora	10.30.2010
*Dabezies, C.A.	23.11.2010
De Moscarella, Beatriz Bermudez	22.01.2011
De Silva, Malani M.	17.01.2011
De Tuddo, Alma A.	20.12.2010
Di Paola, Giovanni Mario	05.12.2010
Dijkerman, Henriette	11.12.2010
Donghi, Maria Luisa	21.12.2010
Drechsler, Susanne	19.12.2010
El Rashidi, F.	26.10.2010
*Falzon, Norbert	06.12.2010
*Geffen-Roht, Helen	01.12.2010
Giffon, P.M.	09.12.2010
Greatsinger, Charles	22.12.2010
Halbert, B.	04.01.2011
*Hamann, Bente	16.01.2011
Heppling, S.	13.12.2010
Honnold, J.	21.01.2011
*Kalman, Helvi	18.12.2010
Knwzevic, Meleva	17.01.2011
*Kondratiev, Chantal	25.11.2010
Kyjovska, M.	03.06.2010
Liu, Lora	06.01.2011
Macchione, Salvatore	08.12.2010
*McCusker, Paul D.	23.11.2010
*McNeill, Kathleen	Unknown
*McNerney, Florence	14.10.2010
Morales, Alberto Juan	20.11.2010
*Munch-Petersen, Finn	02.12.2010
Murphy, Geraldine	03.12.2010
Niyogi, Mollie Katherine	03.12.2010
*Obolensky, Lev	07.12.2010
Ozgun, Ozdemir	29.01.2011
Patel, C.C.	04.02.2011
Polyakov, Vladimir S.	Unknown
Puglisi, Joseph	18.10.2010
*Ram, Vangala Jaya	13.12.2010
Recalde, Sarah	01.01.2011
Recalde, Sarah	01.01.2011
*Robinson, Miriam	15.01.2011
Shen, Chang-Jui	23.12.2010
Smirnov, Georgy	22.01.2011

*Sobel, S.L.	02.08.2010	Aslam, Mohamed	26.01.2011
*Sobin, Lee	19.12.2010	Banzragch, Davaagin	04.12.2010
Taylor, Richard A.	Unknown	Harney, Neville Cyril	24.01.2011
Thompson, Miles C.	28.12.2010	Inayatullah, Chaudhry	05.11.2010
Valzone, Estelle C.	27.12.2010	Jaghury, Abdul Malik	22.01.2011
Van Bellinghen	08.12.2010	Jenkanying, A.	28.09.2010
*Vanneck, Janetta Lois	01.02.2011	Kaba, Moussa	23.10.2010
*Wagenseil, Arthur	08.01.2011	Kanu, Kadiatu	Unknown
Wapenyi, Freda N.	14.12.2010	Sithideth, Boun Manh	31.01.2011
Warren, Louise Francesca	04.01.2011	Zahra Mohammed, Imam Al-Deen	02.03.2010
*Winant, R.	03.02.2011		
Zebre, Zdenka	20.01.2011	UNEF	
		Samaan, Mary Michael	14.11.2010
UN/GENEVA		UNEP	
Anderson, Vera	24.12.2010	Nielsen, Bent H.	31.10.2010
Bissat-Campbell, Dorothy	18.12.2010		
Blaffard, Robert	14.01.2011	UNHCR	
Brun, Andrée	13.01.2011	Limbu, Kaziman	06.12.2010
Burill, Margery	10.02.2011	Mohideen Bawa, Seinulabadeen	08.09.2010
Burrows, H.S.	17.12.2010	Natar, Noubaisse Masrangar	11.07.2006
Caboussat, Mary	15.02.2011	Wondemagegnehu, Tadesse	21.09.2010
Campbell-Smith, Paule	18.12.2010		
Crouzier, L.	10.02.2011	UNIC	
Das, Jean Kitty Marie	04.02.2011	Bobb, Jeanne-Claire	29.11.2010
Debiez, Alain	06.12.2010		
Echard, Claude	10.01.2011	UNICEF – HQ/INTL	
El Fahal, Hussein	21.01.2011	Lehmann-Halens, Sybille	26.01.2011
Favre, E.	29.01.2011	Narula, Hans Raj	14.12.2010
McGrath, John	23.02.2011		
Mouchet, Marie-Jeanne	22.12.2010	UNICEF/LOCAL	
Osmers, Ralph	01.11.2010	Beon, M. Yves	01.02.2011
Oudot, P.	19.11.2010	Frederico, Isabel da Conceicao	01.07.2007
Parrato (Rosay), Danielle Yvonne M.	15.01.2011	Hla-Tin, Bonventure C.	23.09.2010
Pelizzo, A.	18.11.2010	Mwase, Oscar Cullen	Unknown
Roos, G.	18.02.2011	Pinto, Gerald Jacob	04.02.2011
*Rossborough, Robert J.	16.01.2011	Prem Kumar, Damara	31.12.2010
Vidal, Elena	06.01.2011	Venkataraman, G.S.	02.11.2010
Vislykh, Victor	21.01.2011		
Volkova, Marianne	20.12.2010	UNIFIL	
UNDOF		Essa, Ali H.	1.02.2011
Farha, Khalil	12.09.2010	Jeres, Jeries N.	04.01.2011
UNDP – H/Q & INT		UNOV	
Awale,Abdirazak	23.12.2010	Manueco-Jenkins, Luis	2.01.2011
Boorsma, Sjoerd	24.11.2010	Vislykh, Viktor A.	21.01.2011
Kunitzberger, Johannes	27.10.2010		
Pereira, Lidwin P.	05.01.2011	UNRWA	
*Springer, Katherine	17.12.2010	Fishmore, Mary E.	28.12.2010
Vandepoortae, Daniel D.	28.11.2010	Holdaway, Peter	18.12.2010
		Wiring (Rehmann), Ilse Erna	07.11.2010
UNDP – LOCAL		UNCTD	
Adhikari, Dhruva Prasad	24.10.2010	Reed, Lilia Esther	17.10.2010
Aqrabi, H.	Unknown		

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

ILO

Artzy, M.	12.01.2011
Baille, S.M.	17.02.2011
Caballero, X.T.	16.02.2011
Camacho, Pardo Alfonso	06.01.2011
Canales (La Rosa), Zoila M.	13.01.2011
Cunin, R.A.	24.01.2011
Fonseca, Rocha E.	24.12.2010
Herrera de Difrieri, Wilma	22.12.2011
Knayer, Roswitha	10.01.2011
Lang, Gabor Frigyes	20.01.2011
Mathe, J.	30.12.2010
Nassar, Mona M.	16.01.2011
Perez, Georges E.	15.01.2011
Petitpierre, J.L.	18.12.2010
Shakkour, Habib Sulaiman	07.11.2010
Silete, Adogli Hogniguede	10.12.2010
Steiner, I.E.K.	15.02.2011
Swedlow, Anne	30.01.2011
Szer Stahli, Dwojra Dora	22.12.2010
Tony, Martha M.	08.02.2011
Zoumut, H.	11.01.2011
Zoumut, Habeeb Fuad	11.01.2011

FAO

Abercrombie, Christine M.	10.01.2011
Alikunhi, K.H.	26.09.2010
Al-Jaff, A.	21.11.2010
Almagia, L.F.	19.12.2010
Amble, Venkatesh Narasimh	17.02.2011
Anticoli, Vincenzo	23.01.2011
Aracil-Martin Vietri, Pilar	08.12.2010
Augsburger, Herman K.	11.01.2011
Banerji, Ranu	20.12.2010
Battocchia, Caterina	07.12.2010
Berardi, Anna	28.12.2010
Bildesheim, Monique	12.01.2010
Calderoni, Roberto	15.02.2011
Cuomo, Lirica Nelida B.	28.11.2010
Daka, Matilda	Unknown
Diamantini, Emilio	17.11.2010
Duarte Burbano, Jaime E.	29.11.2010
Eyben, Gaston Fernand J.	02.01.2011
Galletti, Arthur David	22.12.2010
Gnany (Di Giusto), Ginette	24.11.2010
*Goddard, Frederick Spence	21.11.2010
Goodwin, D.	22.12.2010
Hablutzel, H.	22.01.2011
Holliman, Elisabeth S.	20.01.2011
Hoyrup, Else	18.11.2010
Husbands, Selina Albertha	15.11.2010
Islam, Tarafder R.	04.01.2011

Jewell, Fred	24.12.2010
Jones, Emil	01.12.2010
Jovane, D.J.	31.01.2011
Jul, Anna	07.10.2010
Kahane, Anne	21.01.2011
Khattar, Elias Hanna	31.12.2008
Lee, Robert Edward	06.12.2010
Levie, E.L.	02.10.2010
Loroch, K.	08.12.2010
Mahadevan, Kanagapooshani	23.12.2010
Michetti, Laura	19.11.2010
Montaner, Hermione Ester	15.01.2010
Morrison-Tixi, Rosemary	25.11.2010
Munoz-Alaba, Manuel	12.11.2010
Ozbilen, E.	02.01.2011
Perfumo, Raul	13.11.2010
Peters, Ake F.	31.01.2011
Picard, Arnaud	16.01.2011
Righi-Malebra, Filomena	22.12.2010
Saunders, J.H.	17.11.2010
Siripala, Wickremasinghe	14.11.2010
Smyth, Joyce Winifred	12.01.2011
Sogaro, Mario	01.01.2011
Sorricchio, Anna Maria	14.01.2011
Steppe, Herman	03.02.2011
Tossavi, John Aboki	29.09.2010
Vasconcelos, Luiz Flipe G. Leite	23.12.2010
Wadhwa, Radha Krishan	10.12.2010
Wrisley, D.D.	27.01.2011
Zaremba, Jacek	03.12.2010

UNESCO

Al Shaabi, Mohamed Ali	03.12.2010
Bubtana, Abdalla	23.11.2010
Capron, Clara	06.01.2011
Christofides, Ica	Unknown
Conde, Almamy	31.01.2011
De Franz, Marie Anne	15.01.2011
Delavenay (Musson), Katharine Margaret	27.11.2010
Diatla, Fatoumata	22.06.2010
Fernandez, P.	01.04.2010
Figuroa, Margarita	04.12.2010
Giarratano, Louise M.J.	16.01.2011
Lambert, Barrau	18.01.2011
Lecuyer, Denise Marthe Marie	25.12.2010
McKitterick, G.	29.01.2011
Miller, A.	25.12.2010
Ortega, Cardenas Carlos	03.01.2011
Ott-Dequatre, Jacqueline	17.02.2011
Rasch, Sidsel	27.12.2010
Salas, Esther	18.09.2010
Salem, Adnan	04.02.2011
Shen, Richard T.	10.11.2010



Terenzio, Pio-Carlo	14.11.2010	Geronimo, Guadalupe Layson	17.01.2011
Velez, E.	05.01.2011	Gonzalez, M.	11.11.2009
Vouillemont, F.	15.11.2010	Johnson, Arthur	17.12.2010
Zachau, W.	21.01.2011	Sjuve, Ragnar H.	16.11.2010
Zaniewicka, Margaret	30.01.2011	Temple, Mavis Vera	26.11.2010
WHO		WMO	
Acuna, Hector R.	07.02.2011	Kienitz, Gabor	30.12.2010
Bantou, Anne	31.01.2011	Le Flem, Jean-Jacques	02.02.2011
Boden, Ines	22.01.2011	Rajendram, Gnanalakshmi	15.12.2010
Borge, Carlos Araya	29.11.2010		
Dalston, Bianca	14.12.2010	IAEA	
Dhir, Savitri	26.12.2010	Freeman, S.	07.01.2011
Diallo, Yaya	24.11.2010	Muendl-Teichmann, Elfriede	Unknown
Fattorusso, Vittorio	02.01.2011	Steidl, Judith	24.01.2011
Garcia, Amezquit	28.12.2010	Van Der Keemel, Nancy	16.05.2010
Genoud, François M.	08.02.2011	*White, Margaret	24.01.2011
Guld, Ritta	01.12.2011	Wienke, Harm	04.12.2010
Handler, Edith	26.01.2011		
Hashmi, M.K.Q.	01.12.2010	IMO	
Heinze, Ingeborg E.A.	03.12.2010	Belamaric, Zdravko	19.01.2011
Ivanov, Vladimir	10.12.2010	Moat, Eric	03.12.2010
Kattan, Sylvia	15.01.2011		
Khalil, Abdel Salam M.	20.12.2010	ITU	
Le Berre, René F.M.	06.12.2010	Bergman, Bo Erhard	02.01.2011
Malhotra, Kashmiri L.	05.12.2010	Bosson, Michele	16.12.2010
Mann, Donegan	17.01.2011	Canales, Zoila Maria Josefa	13.01.2011
Matos, Rosali Freitas de	30.12.2010	Garetto, Denise	04.01.2011
Mehta, Raj Kumar	15.01.2011	Kingston, Kardos	15.02.2011
Moreau, Yvetter	17.01.2011	Kisrawi, Nabil	29.01.2011
Ozorio, Edmund Peter	31.12.2010	Lamazouade, A.	21.02.2011
Papp, Eugene	18.01.2011	Mackie, James Robertson	16.02.2011
Paredes, Yolanda Hurtate de	Unknown	Prelaz, René	07.12.2010
Pastorini de Coll, Judith	Unknown	Wright, Cyril Oliver	04.12.2010
Petersen, Erlinda	21.02.2011		
Prejsman, Hedda	11.12.2010	WIPO	
Ravin, Carsten	22.12.2010	Konrad, Heinz Rudolf	15.01.2011
Sanoussi, Hamidou	24.10.2010		
Segarra, Maria Mercedes	18.05.2010	UNIDO	
Simpah, Joshua	04.08.2010	*Brinkman, Gerardus	01.12.2010
Smith, Ian C.	25.11.2010	Gronier, Françoise	26.01.2011
So Udorn, Samarn	29.12.2010	Hasbani, Nadia	17.01.2011
Sperindei, Elsa	12.01.2011	Ivan, Endre George	06.10.2010
Toni, Roukie	13.04.2010	Mytsyk, Luyudmyla	23.04.2010
Toni, Roukie	13.04.2010	Roche, Edith M.	01.12.2010
Uribe, Luis Jorge	03.01.2011	Rog-Swiostek, Barbara	14.09.2010
Valdes Pinilla, Raul	10.11.2010		
Vilas Boas, Maria	02.01.2011	WFP	
Williams, Ronald André	26.01.2011	Burberry, Keith	06.12.2010
ICAO		* Member of AFICS (NY)	
Cabral, Jeanie	28.12.2010		
*Fitzgerald, Jacqueline	17.02.2011		

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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!***

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