



DPI/NGO LINK

NGO Section, United Nations Department of Public Information 2 February 2006

DPI/NGO Section invites you to an

NGO Briefing

on

The Role of the Media in Advancing
Cross-Cultural Understanding

on

2 March 2006

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

at the

Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium

Background Information:

Last year, the Secretary-General launched an initiative, co-sponsored by the Prime Ministers of Spain and Turkey, for an Alliance of Civilizations. The purpose of the initiative was to bridge divides and overcome prejudice, misconceptions, misperceptions and polarization of the world with a coordinated effort of the international community, both at the institutional and civil society levels. To guide this initiative, the Secretary-General established a High-level Group for the Alliance of Civilizations. The Group held its second meeting in Doha, Qatar, this past weekend.

Speakers:

During the panel discussion from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., **H.E. Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo**, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations; **H.E. Baki Ilkin**, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations; **Prof. Tomaz Mastnak**, Director, Office of the Alliance of Civilizations; **Ahmed Younis**, National Director, Muslim Public Affairs Council; **Martin Burchardth**, US Correspondent, Information (Danish newspaper); **Aberrahim Foukara**, United Nations Bureau Chief, Al Jazeera; and **Sr. Joan Kirby**, Temple of Understanding, and Chairman of the DPI-NGO Executive Committee, will look at how the media can contribute to promoting mutual understanding between different cultures and beliefs.

A World Chronicle interview with **Shamil Idriss**, Deputy Director, Office of the Alliance of Civilizations will be screened at 10:00 a.m.

An ad hoc briefing on the Human Rights Council by **Rachel Groux**, Counsellor, Office of the President of the General Assembly, will follow from 11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

A live webcast of the event may be available at www.un.org/dpi/ngosection and/or www.un.org/webcast

Preview of next week's NGO Briefing:

The theme of the NGO Briefing in observance of the International Women's Day is *Women in Decision-Making: Meeting Challenges, Creating Change*. This year's observance will take place on Wednesday, 8 March, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Conference Room 2. **Kofi Annan**, United Nations Secretary-General, will open the event, which will be moderated by **Shashi Tharoor**, Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information. Speakers include: **Honourable Baleka Mbete**, Speaker, National Assembly, South Africa; **H.E. Nabeela Abdulla Al-Mulla**, Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations; **Noeli Pocaterra**, President, Permanent Commission of Indigenous Peoples, National Assembly, Venezuela; **Devaki Jain**, author of "Women, Development and the UN: A Sixty Year Quest for Equality and Justice"; and **Anne Kathrine Slungård**, Chair, Statoil Board of Elections, Norway.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/2006/>

Briefings are held in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. UN videos relevant to the Briefing theme are usually screened at 10:00 a.m.

For Briefing information and to obtain a copy of a Briefing on audiocassette, please call the DPI/NGO information line: (212) 963-7232 or visit the DPI/NGO website: www.un.org/dpi/ngosection

To receive the *DPI/NGO Briefing and Events Calendar* and to be put on our e-mailing list, please e-mail dpingo@un.org.

For preparations of the 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, visit www.un.org/dpi/ngosection

For information regarding the Annual DPI/NGO Conferences, visit www.undpingoconference.org



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