



NELSON
MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL DAY



Take action
Inspire change
18 July

MEDIA ADVISORY

In recognition of Nelson Mandela's contributions to democracy, racial justice, and reconciliation, and his service to humanity, the United Nations General Assembly declared 18 July (his birthday) as Nelson Mandela International Day. Every year since 2010, on 18 July individuals around the world are encouraged to devote 67 minutes to helping others. The campaign – "Take Action, Inspire Change" – is based on people devoting one minute of their time for every year that Nelson Mandela devoted to public service, as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, an international peacemaker and the first democratically elected President of South Africa.

This year, UN staff around the world are once again engaging in public service activities, including in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, the Republic of the Congo, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, and Zambia.

The following United Nations events and activities are scheduled to take place in honour of Nelson Mandela International Day in New York on 18 July 2016:

UN General Assembly Meeting – with Stevie Wonder

The United Nations General Assembly will mark Nelson Mandela International Day with an informal meeting in the ECOSOC Chamber at UN Headquarters starting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will feature remarks by the President of the General Assembly, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the UN, and UN Messenger of Peace Stevie Wonder. The event will be webcast live at www.un.org/webcast.

Clothing donations from UN staff to New Yorkers in need

Senior UN officials will join UN staff in donating and delivering gently used professional clothing to *Dress for Success*, which empowers women to achieve economic independence, *Bottomless Closet*, which supports economically disadvantaged women in securing a job, and *Career Gear*, which helps men in poverty become stronger contributors to their families and communities. The hand-over ceremony is scheduled to take place immediately following the General Assembly meeting, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m., outside, in front of the UN Secretariat building.

Volunteering for Citymeals on Wheels and Safe Horizon

In addition to donating clothing, some UN staff will help out in a shelter for victims of domestic violence run by *Safe Horizon*, while others will spend time delivering meals to homebound elderly through *Citymeals on Wheels*.

On social media, follow the hashtags **#MandelaDay** and **#Time2Serve**.

More information, photos, videos and other resources: www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay

For media accreditation, please contact +1 212-963-6934 or 212-963-6937; email: malu@un.org

Media contact: Ms. Martina Donlon, e-mail: donlon@un.org, tel.: +1 (212) 963 6816