9 December 2008

Excellency,

With regard to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to be held on Wednesday, 10 December 2008, please find attached a revised and enlarged programme.

This supersedes the programme that was sent attached to our letter of 4 December 2008.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Norman Miranda
Ambassador
Chef de Cabinet

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
Commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Wednesday, 10 December 2008, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Tentative programme

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
Panel I  Theme:  Sixty years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: lessons learned

Moderator:  Ms. Julia Dolly Joiner (Gambia)
Panelists:  Ms. Carolyn Gomes (Jamaica)
           Ms. Mary Robinson (Ireland)
           Mr. Denis Mukwege (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
Panel II  Theme:  The full implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: challenges ahead and ways forward

Moderator:  Mr. Eduardo González (Perú)
Panelists:  Ms. Maude Barlow (Canada)
           Ms. Lauri Mälksoo (Estonia)
           Mr. Ghassan Salame (Lebanon)

3 to 6 p.m. (General Assembly Hall)
Plenary meeting  Opening statement by the President of the General Assembly
Message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations
Statements by:  President of the Human Rights Council
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Adoption of the draft declaration
Presentation of the Human Rights Awards (7 recipients)

Plenary meeting is suspended^{1}

Plenary meeting is resumed

Statements by:  Chairs of the five Regional Groups, African Union,
Group of Arab States, Non-Aligned Movement (NAM),
and Host Country

Conclusion of the Commemoration

^{1} Another plenary meeting will be held to take action on the recommendation contained in the report of the Third Committee (document A/63/435) regarding the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
Side Events

Presentation of the film "Flow" at 5pm in the Dag Hammarskjöld auditorium, with the participation of Ms. Maude Barlow, the President's Senior Advisor on Water Issues and Ms. Irene Salina, Director of the film, with the presence of the President of the General Assembly, His Excellency Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann.