Civil Society Forum  
Commission for Social Development

Inequalities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Rethinking and Strengthening Social Development in the Contemporary World

Monday, February 1 - Tuesday, February 2, 2016  
United Nations HQ, Conference Room 4

The Civil Society Forum has been planned by the NGO Committee for Social Development in joint sponsorship with UN-DESA Division for Social Policy and Development and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office. This Forum has been organized to prepare civil society participants to engage at the 54th Session of the Commission for Social Development (3-12 February, 2016 at UNHQ in New York) as well as in ongoing discussions related to the application and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Speakers are invited to address and critique the Commission’s two year focus on “Rethinking and Strengthening Social Development in the Contemporary World” and, specifically, its relationship to the theme of inequalities which is a distinguishing feature of the new development agenda. The aim is that, at the end of these two days, participants will have developed concrete recommendations for the Commission, honed their understanding of the relationship between CSocD and Agenda 2030, and been galvanized to engage meaningfully both with governments in New York, and at the grassroots.

Monday, February 1
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
Orientation to Agenda 2030 and its relationship to CSocD 
Ms. Margaret Mayce, Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
SDG Thematic Breakout Groups

- Ending poverty and hunger (e.g. Goals 1, 2, 3)  
  Facilitator: Cristina Díez  
  Rapporteur: Michele Morek

- Empowering women and girls, and leaving no one behind (e.g. Goals 4, 5)  
  Facilitator: Bette Levy  
  Rapporteur: Cecilia O’Dwyer

- Tackling inequalities (e.g. Goals 1, 10)  
  Facilitator: Justin Wedes  
  Rapporteur: Lyn Hensle-Hirsch

- Fostering sustainable economic growth & sustainable consumption and production (e.g. Goals 6, 8, 12)  
  Facilitator: Andrew Allimadi  
  Rapporteur: Sally Dunne

- Protecting our planet and combatting climate change (e.g. Goals 7, 13, 14)  
  Facilitator: Margaret Mayce  
  Rapporteur: Tori Larson

- Building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions; promoting peace and justice (e.g. Goal 16, 17)  
  Facilitator: Astrid Hurley  
  Rapporteur: Daniel LeBlanc

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Civil Society Declaration: Generate Recommendations  
Mr. Daniel Perell, Chair, Civil Society Forum; Vice-Chair NGO Committee for Social Development

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
Reception & Cultural Event (Church Center, 2nd Floor)
Tuesday, February 2

9:00 am – 10:00 am  Orientation to the Commission for Social Development
   Ms. Eileen Reilly, Executive Committee Member, NGO Committee for Social Development
   Ms. Margaret Mayce, Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development

10:00 am – 10:30 am  Welcome:
   Mr. Daniel Perell, Representative, Bahá’í International Community’s United Nations Office,
   Chair of 2016 Civil Society Forum, Vice Chair of NGO Committee for Social Development
   Ms. Bettina Luise Rürup, Executive Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office

Special Presentations:
Remarks from Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon delivered by H.E. Mr. Wu Hongbo
H.E. Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
H.E. Mr. Ion Jinga, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative,
Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations, Bureau Chair, Commission for Social Development

10:30 am – 11:00 am  Keynote Address
   Ms. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Professor at The New School, International Affairs Program

11:00 pm – 1:00 pm  Fishbowl style panel: “Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world”

Moderator: Ms. La Neice Collins, Communications and Advocacy Adviser at the United Nations

Speakers:
   Ms. Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN-DESA
   Ms. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Professor at The New School, International Affairs Program
   Ms. Maryann Broxton, Activist, International Movement ATD Fourth World
   Ms. Jasmin Burgermeister, German Youth Delegate for ECOSOC Youth Forum
   Mr. Michael Cichon, Professor of Social Protection, Graduate School of Governance, UNU MERIT

   First Respondent: Ms. Beulah Walker, Detroit Water Brigade

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  LUNCH

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm  Introduction to advocacy and presentation of CS Forum Recommendations
   To Be Determined

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  Regional Breakout groups to share learning and discuss advocacy
   Facilitated by attendees from the regions (determined on Day 1)