

<p style="text-align: center;">NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY SERVICE PROJECT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EVENT CONCEPT NOTE</p>

EVENT DETAILS:

Location: Randall’s Island in New York City. Meeting inside the front (east entrance) of Icahn Stadium [Park Maps](#)

When: Thursday, 18 July 2024

Time: 1:30PM-4:00PM

Attendees: Approximately 80-100 volunteers from the UN including dignitaries, staff, and additional members from the consular and diplomatic community. Sign up at <https://forms.gle/uwFMAE4WAsnstLWw7>

Entities: Co-organized by: NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs, UN Department for Global Communications, Office of the President of the UN General Assembly, the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the UN

In partnership with the Randall’s Park Alliance

Speakers: H.E. Mr. **Eward Memelstein**, NYC Commissioner of International Affairs (TBC); H.E. Ms. **Mathu Joyini**, the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in New York (TBC)

Setup: This visit will ensure proper precautions and protocol for this event. Randall’s Park Alliance representatives will be on-site to guide the volunteers during the event, and to liaise with the UN and NYP to prepare for the visit.

Press/Social Media Event highlights to be featured on social media platforms using the hashtag #MandelaDay and include the following handles on X (formerly Twitter):

UN Department for Global Communications - [@UN](#)
NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs - [@globalnyc](#)
Office of the President of the General Assembly - [@UN_PGA](#)
Permanent Mission of South Africa to the UN - [@SAMissionNY](#)
NYC Service - [@NYCService](#)
Randall’s Island Park - [@randallsisland](#)

The UN will also put out a press release in English and French about the community service project, as well as a call to volunteers and a short feature story on the internal news website, iSeek.

The UN is also cross promoting this event and encouraging UN staff to undertake additional service projects through the [ActNow campaign](#) app.

BACKGROUND:

The International Day, established by A/RES/64/13 in November 2009, celebrates, and promotes Nelson Mandela's values and dedication to conflict resolution, race relations, human rights, reconciliation, gender equality, the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, as well as the fight against poverty and the promotion of social justice. Mandela Day has been, and remains, focused on public service, as per Nelson Mandela's wish. Every year since 2010, individuals around the world are encouraged to act and inspire change by devoting at least 67 minutes to community service on 18 July. The number 67 signifies the 67 years that Nelson Mandela devoted to public service.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation has themed this year's call to action: "It's still in our hands to combat poverty and inequity".

This year thematic areas of focus on restoration of habitats following the COVID pandemic. In particular, rehabilitation of an area called Volunteer Hill. Volunteers will continue to remove invasive plants that have taken over the area to improve the health of the plants and introduce new native plantings. Teams will work to remove invasive plants and roots to establish new growth and protect the many apple trees that top this location.

EVENT FORMAT AND RUN OF SHOW:

Volunteers will wear Nelson Mandela t-shirts from previous years; some XL shirts are still available in advance of the event.

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1:00PM-1:30PM: Volunteers arrive by public and personal transport to the meeting spot inside the front (East entrance) of Icahn Stadium. The best address for GPS is 10 Central Road NY, NY. Limited parking is free by the Stadium. [Park Maps](#)

1:30PM - 1:45PM: Speaking Program. Welcoming remarks of 2 minutes or less:

- H.E. Mr. **Eward Memelstein**, NYC Commissioner of International Affairs (TBC)
- H.E. Ms. **Mathu Joyini**, the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in New York (TBC)
- Moderated by Deputy Commissioner **Aissata Camara**.

1:45PM-2:00PM: Photo Opportunity with High-Level Speakers and a group photo with all volunteers; volunteers are then split into groups and given instructions.

2:00PM-3:30PM: Volunteering activity.

3:30PM: Conclude and help clean-up.

3:45PM: Thank you and concluding remarks from Commissioner or Commissioner's representative (2 Min) and other VIPs, should they wish to speak. VIPs depart.

4PM: Volunteers depart by public and personal transport.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mandatory: All volunteers will have to sign a waiver of liability.

What to bring/wear: Dress depending on the weather, closed-toed shoes required, hat suggested, long pants suggested.

We Supply: Gloves, tools, water bottles, and light snacks will be provided. Sun Block and Insect Repellent are also available. Bathrooms are available.

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CONTACT:

To sign up for the event or other information, please contact Paulina Greer, UN Public Information Officer, kubiakp@un.org or 203-676-2333.

If you have difficulty finding the meeting spot at Icahn Stadium: Lyall at 617-686-0342.