

Social Protection, Including Floors:

A preeminent strategy to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development for all

Monday, January 30 - Tuesday, January 31, 2017

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. This Forum has been organized to prepare civil society participants to engage at the 55th Session of the Commission for Social Development (1-10 February, 2017 at UNHQ in New York) as well as in ongoing discussions related to implementation of social protection, including floors, at national and local levels. This space is to create an inclusive dialogue to foster cooperation between Member States, Civil Society and the United Nations. Speakers are invited to address and critique the Commission's two-year focus on "Strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all" and, specifically, how social protection can help fulfil this objective. 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 poverty eradication and social protection, and been galvanized to engage meaningfully both with governments in New York, and at the grassroots.

Monday, January 30

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Welcome and Introduction

What is the Civil Society Forum?

How does it support and advance the UN Commission for Social Development?

What is the Civil Society Declaration?

What is Social Protection?

3:45 pm – 6:00 pm

Regional Breakout Groups

What experiences and examples can you see regarding social protection in your region?

What strategies have worked for impacting policy and implementation of social protection in your region?

What hopes and aspirations do you have for social protection in your region?

Please strategize for engagement with Member States from your region during the CSocD:

What messages do you hope to convey?

Who will approach which countries?

What resolutions do you wish to follow?

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Reception and Cultural Event (Church Center, 2nd Floor)

Alfred James Band providing Cello Driven Acoustic Rock

Alfred James Goodrich, Cellist and Vocalist

Valerie Vuolo, Violinist

Ismail Abdus-Salaam, Guitarist



Tuesday, January 31

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Welcome

Ms. Thayvie Sinn, Chair of the Civil Society Forum 2017, Founder and President of Save Cambodia

Special Presentations:

H.E. Mr. Lenni Montiel, on behalf of H.E. António Guterres, Secretary General of United Nations

H.E. Mr. Philipp Charwath, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations, Bureau Chair, Commission for Social Development

10:30 am – 1:00 pm

Fishbowl Panel

What good examples, lessons learned, and models can be highlighted at the Commission?

Moderator: Mr. Paul Ladd, Director, UNRISD

Speakers:

Ms. Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN-DESA

Mr. Sergei Zelenev, Executive Director of International Council on Social Welfare

Mr. Joshua Boschee (via webcast), Representative, North Dakota House of Representatives

Ms. Yasmina Escudero, Spanish Youth Representative, SOS Children's Villages

Ms. Diana Mao, Co-Founder and President of The Nomi Network

Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Special Representative to the UN and Director, ILO

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

LUNCH

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Report Back from Regional Breakouts

What are your plans? What decisions have you taken? What have you learned? What policy recommendations have emerged?

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Civil Society Declaration and Next Steps (policy recommendations)

What policy recommendations should be included in next year's Declaration?

What process should we use to ensure the Declaration is strong and represents our voice?

What can we do during the year to ensure we stay engaged?

Sponsored by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development