



Social Protection, Including Floors:

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



Friday, February 2, 2018

United Nations HQ, Conference Room 3

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 Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). This Forum has been organized to prepare civil society participants to engage at the 56th Session of the Commission for Social Development (29 January to 7 February 2018 at the 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, and to unify behind a common vision in furtherance of the Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, how social protection can help fulfil this objective. Following from last year, speakers are invited to address and critique the priority theme for the Commission: *Strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all*. The aim is for participants to develop concrete recommendations for the Commission, hone their understanding of the relationship between poverty eradication and social protection, see their efforts link with the HLPF focus on the SDGs, and to galvanize and engage meaningfully both with governments in New York, and at the grassroots.

In the final analysis, social protection is founded on the most basic and universal conceptions of human worth. While the specifics of its implementation and administration must be subject of rigorous, objective deliberation, the underlying premise is not controversial. It is a question of value, and it speaks to the sort of society which all fair-minded people wish to live in – one in which fears of being unable to even survive would no longer darken any person's horizons.



Friday, February 2

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Welcome

Mr. Daniel Perell, Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development

Ms. Thayvie Sinn, Co-Chair of the Civil Society Forum 2018, Founder and President of Save Cambodia

Special Presentations:

Mr. Nikulas Hannigan, Minister Counselor, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of

Iceland to the United Nations, Bureau Chair, 56th Commission for Social Development

H.E. Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary General of United Nations

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Juan Somavia, Former Director-General, ILO

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Panel and Interactive Dialogue

Leaving No One Behind: Best practices, examples, lesson learned from the field, and highlighted at the 56th Commission. How the work of the Commission is linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Moderator:

Ms. Winifred Doherty, Main UN NGO Representative, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shephard

Speakers:

Mr. Shaojun Yao, Counselor, Mission of China

Ms. Daniela Bas, Director, the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Ms. Chirlane McCraym, First Lady City of New York (Invited)

Mr. Ajaya Kumar Singh, Director, Odisha Regional Forum for Social Action

Ms. Kerry Gibson, President, EcoCentury Technologies

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

LUNCH (on your own)

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Discussion on Civil Society Declaration

What policy recommendations should be changed in this year's Civil Society Declaration?

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Regional Breakouts

Through the lens of Social Protection and Poverty Eradication, linking the global level to the grassroots level. Making the connection between the 56th Commission for Social Development and the High Level Political Forum (HLPF). Participants working in small groups will learn about the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs that will be reviewed in July at the HLPF and how this is relevant to leaving no one behind. In 2018, the theme is "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies, reviewing the following goals: Goal 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, and 17. Using lessons learned at the 56th Commission, hands-on experience and networking to develop policy recommendations and action plans.

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

End

