



Monthly service of UN DESA NGO Branch | CSO Net – csonet.org

Welcome to the UN!

Below is a brief summary of news and upcoming intergovernmental meetings of interest to NGOs with ECOSOC consultative status. For upcoming events, make sure you have registered your organization's participation with the organizer.

News

26 Oct: SG meets representatives of NGOs (Video)

Today Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met with representatives of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC or associated with DPI in a special briefing, which will focus on his vision and priorities for the second term. The Secretary-General made a brief opening statement, which was followed by a question-and-answer period. The event was webcast and can be retrieved from the link below.

<http://bit.ly/uUKzRU>

25 Oct: @Rio+20 ... Messages of the World

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on June 4-6, 2012 – 20 years after the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development – people from all over the world will gather and discuss how to best manage our common future in a sustainable and lasting way. What message would you like to echo to the world? Write your own message on the UN CSD 2012 website. Maybe your idea will catch on?

<http://bit.ly/ogWvph>

21 Oct: Delay in Implementing LDC Programme Risks Exacerbating Lives of World's Poorest People

While hailing last May's adoption of the Istanbul Programme of Action as a feat for the world's poorest countries, many delegates in the Second Committee warned today that further delaying its practical implementation would lead to a further deterioration in

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CHOOSE YOUR LANGUAGE :

ENGLISH

<http://csonet.org/content/documents/lateste.pdf>

AUSSI DISPONIBLE EN FRANÇAIS :

<http://csonet.org/content/documents/octf.htm>

TAMBIEN DISPONIBLE EN ESPANOL :

<http://csonet.org/content/documents/octs.htm>

the lives of hundreds of millions of people. As the Committee continued its general discussion on groups of countries in special situations, representatives from least developed and landlocked developing countries, as well as small island developing States, also stressed the vital importance of fair trade, greater investment in infrastructure, and increased aid flows.

<http://bit.ly/qkzjz2>

21 Oct: Migrant Rights Are Human Rights, Says United Nations Expert in Third Committee

Although xenophobic discourse had elevated the anti-immigration agenda in countries around the world, migration remained a common human endeavour and migrants' rights were human rights, a top United Nations expert on those rights told the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) today. "Migration is how we cope with environmental threats, with political oppression, but also with our desire to create a meaningful future for ourselves and our children," the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, François Crépeau, said, as the Committee wrapped up its first week devoted to the promotion and protection of human rights and also heard presentations from experts on the rights to adequate housing, freedom of expression, and the independence of judges.

<http://bit.ly/s1GZqH>

More News

11 Oct: World must welcome 7 billionth citizen with sustainable future, says SG

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon kept up his drum beat for sustainable development today, warning a high-level public-private forum in Denmark that the world must do much more than sing "Happy Birthday" when its 7 billionth citizen is born later this month. "We have to give this child – and its whole generation – a sustainable future," he told the 3G Global Green Forum, bringing together leaders from government, business, finance and civil society to accelerate 'bottom up' country- and business-led progress on climate change and other environmental challenges.

<http://bit.ly/qXQsH7>

6 Oct: DESA releases new brochure on consultative status

The DESA NGO Branch launched a new brochure "Working with ECOSOC – an NGOs Guide to Consultative Status" today. The brochure, available for free download, provides essential information on how to obtain consultative status, UN grounds passes, events participation, as well detailed information on the application process. Download a PDF version on the link below.

<http://csonet.org>

Upcoming Events

Ongoing: Second Committee of the General Assembly

The General Assembly's Second Committee will deal with issues relating to economic growth and development such as macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system, and external debt sustainability), financing for development, sustainable development, human settlements, poverty eradication, globalization and interdependence, operational activities for development, and information and communication technologies for development, among other issues. At the sixty-fifth session, the Second Committee took action on 44 draft proposals. A number of side events is available here.

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/>

Ongoing: Third Committee of the General Assembly

The Social, Humanitarian Cultural Affairs Committee (Third Committee) of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, is chaired by H.E. Mr. Hussein Hannif of Malaysia. Agenda items relate to a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people all over the world. As in previous sessions, an important part of the work of the Committee will focus on the examination of human rights questions. Last year, at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee considered 56 draft resolutions, more than half of which were submitted under the human rights agenda item alone. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/>

31 Oct: 7 Billion People | 7 Billion Actions

The world's population will top seven billion people in October 2011. This unique moment in human history represents both an achievement and a challenge, and will have an impact on every single person on the planet. A world of seven billion has implications for sustainability, urbanization, access to health services and youth empowerment – however, it also offers a rare call-to-action opportunity to renew global commitment for a healthy and sustainable world. The campaign's key launching activities will take place in September and October, culminating on 31 October, 2011).

<http://7billionactions.org/>

31 Oct: Launch of the International Year of Cooperatives 2012

The International Year of Cooperatives was mandated by the General Assembly to increase public awareness about cooperatives and their contributions to socio-economic development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and to promote the formation and growth of cooperatives worldwide. To commemorate the launch of the International Year of Cooperatives, a series of events will be held throughout the day.

<http://social.un.org/coopsyear/global-launch.html>

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More Upcoming Events

2 Nov: Civil Society and enhancing the work of the Human Rights Council

A panel discussion on “Improving by doing: The role of civil society in enhancing the work of the Human Rights Council”, co-organized by the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica and the Albert Schweitzer Institute, Quinnipiac University, will be held on Wednesday, 2 November 2011, from 1.15 to 2.30 p.m. in Conference Room C (NLB). All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Ms. Adriana Murillo, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica (e-mail adrianamurilloruin@yahoo.com; tel. 1 (212) 986-6373).

9 Nov: Justice and Accountability after the Holocaust

The roundtable discussion, organized by the Department of Public Information and the International Bar Association, will focus on the role of the German judiciary under Nazi rule, and the establishment of the international justice system in the aftermath of WWII and the Nuremberg Trials. The event will take place at the ECOSOC Chamber at UN Headquarters from 630 to 830 pm.

http://csonet.org/content/documents/Programme_9_November.pdf

5 Dec: International Year of Volunteers +10 (IYV+10)

Volunteering empowers people to take an active part in development, to take responsibility for the needs of others, and to make an impact in their own lives. Volunteering often starts at home: but together, volunteers can change the world. In commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year for Volunteers, two plenary meetings of the 66th session of the General Assembly shall be devoted to follow-up to Year on 5 December 2011.

<http://www.worldvolunteerweb.org/iyv-10.html>

7–8 Dec: Fifth GA High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

The fifth High-level Dialogue of the General Assembly on Financing for Development will be held in New York on 7 and 8 December 2011.

<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/>

15–16 Dec: Second Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

The Second Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development will take place on 15 and 16 December. See link below for more details on all preparations for the Conference.

<http://www.uncsd2012.org>

30 Jan–8 Feb: 2012 Regular session, Committee on NGOs

The 2012 Regular Session of the Committee on NGOs will take place from 30 January to 8 February 2012. The session is expected to consider 177 new applications for status by NGOs as well as 153 more applications deferred from earlier sessions. It will also review over 300 quadrennial reports of NGOs in general or special consultative status. The Committee is expected to meet again on 17 February 2012 to adopt its report of the session. The session's recommendations will be sent to the Economic and Social Council for its approval in July of 2012.

<http://csonet.org>

1–10 Feb 2012: Commission for Social Development, 50th session

The Commission for Social Development (CSocD) has been in existence from the very inception of the United Nations, advising the Economic and Social Council and Governments on a wide range of social policy issues and on the social perspective of development. Functioning under a broad mandate, the Commission for Social Development, formerly the Social Commission, has met at various intervals and at different locations. The fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development will be convened from 1 to 10 February 2012 in New York. The priority theme this year will be poverty eradication.

<http://social.un.org>

27 Feb – 9 March 2012: Commission on the Status of Women, 56th session

The fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 27 February to 9 March 2012.

<http://www.unwomen.org>

Looking further ahead...

- 23–27 April 2012: Commission on Population and Development, 45th session**
 The Commission on Population and Development will hold its forty-fifth session from 23 to 27 April 2012 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The theme of the session is "Adolescents and Youth".
http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/ngopart_45.htm
- 7–18 May 2012: Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 11th session**
<http://social.un.org/index/IndigenousPeoples.aspx>
- 21–30 May 2012: 2012 Resumed Session, Committee on NGOs**
<http://csonet.org>
- 4–6 June 2012: Rio+20 Conference**
 NGOs and other major groups' organisations that are NOT yet accredited to the United Nations and wish to participate in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Conference (Rio+20) will be offered a one time opportunity to become accredited to Rio+20. The General Assembly will deliberate during the month of November and agree to open an accreditation process in line with established procedures for UN Conferences. More details will be made available as the inter-governmental process finalises its decision on arrangements for accreditation and participation in the preparatory process and in Rio+20.
<http://www.uncsd2012.org>

Useful Links

DESA NGO Branch | CSO Net

<http://csonet.org>

NGO Liaison Office, United Nations Office at Geneva

<http://unog.ch/ngo>

UN–NGLS (United Nations Non–Governmental Liaison Service)

<http://www.un-ngls.org>

UN Department of Public Information, NGO Relations

<http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection>

OHCHR Civil Society Section

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/AboutUs/Pages/CivilSociety.aspx>

OHCHR Civil Society Update Subscription

<http://conta.cc/can6Gf>

At Your Service

How to Apply for Consultative Status

csonet.org/index.php?menu=100

How to Submit a Quadrennial Report

<http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=99>

Committee on NGOs Home Page

<http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=80>

How to obtain a UN Grounds Pass

<http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=86>

Ask a question on my organization's status

<http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=82>

ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31

<http://csonet.org/content/documents/199631.pdf>

Learn how to participate in the work of the United Nations

<http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=113>

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