



DPI/NGO Relations invites you to a

Briefing

“Social Justice for a Fair Globalization”

In Cooperation with the International Labour Organization

Friday, 20 February 2009

10:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

In
The Economic and Social Council Chamber*

Background Information

In November of 2007, the sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly (GA) declared 20 February to be the World Day of Social Justice, and Thursday, 20 February 2009 marks the first day of the implementation of this Declaration. Member states were encouraged to devote this day to the promotion of national activities and events in accordance with the objectives and goals of the World Summit for Social Development. The World Summit recognizes that social development aims at social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within and among countries, and is the fundamental value of all societies. Governments have made a commitment to promote social justice at intra and international levels, more equitable distribution of resources to ensure greater equity of opportunity for all, and a common respect for human rights and freedom. Additionally, at their ninety-seventh International Labour Conference in Geneva on 10 June 2008, the International Labour Organization (ILO) adopted the “Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization”. The governments, employers, and workers organizations which signed the Declaration, did so in order to achieve social justice and progress within our globalized community through the Decent Work concept, adopted in 1999. Together, DPI/NGO and ILO have organized this week’s briefing to observe the World day of Social Justice, and to help further efforts of the International community to advocate poverty eradication, promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and access to social well-being and justice for all.

All Briefings Begin Promptly At 10:15 a.m.

Moderator: Eric Falt, Director, Outreach Division, UN Department of Public Information

Opening Statements

Rachel Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General, DESA and Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women

H.E. Mr. Omurbek Babanov, Vice-Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan

Panel Speakers

Mary Robinson, Founder and President, Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, Member of The Elders and former President of Ireland

Thomas Pogge, Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University, author of "World Poverty and Human Rights"

Desta Raines, Jones Apparel Group

Radhika Balakrishnan, Professor of International Studies and Economics, Marymount Manhattan College

Georgina Amankwah, National Chairperson, Public Services Workers Union of Ghana

The panel discussion will be followed by a Question and Answer period.

Call to Action

Tahirih Naylor, Chair, NGO Committee on Social Development



* Please note that this Briefing will take place in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Those without yearly UN Ground passes (including guests) will need to RSVP by Tuesday, 17 Feb. Please call 212-963-7234 or 212-963-7233 or e-mail gillet@un.org, hu2@un.org.

For Briefing information please call the DPI/NGO Information Line at +1-212-963-7709 or +1-917-367-9380, or e-mail section1d@un.org. For information pertaining to UN passes, please call +1-212-963-7233 or e-mail hu2@un.org. To receive the Briefing information electronically and to be added to our e-mailing list, please e-mail dpingo@un.org. You can also visit the DPI/NGO Section website at www.un.org/dpi/ngosection, where an archived webcast of the briefings may also be available.

Should you require a guest pass to attend an NGO Briefing, please **fax** your name and affiliation to +1-212-963-2819 **no later than two days before a briefing**. All guest passes should be picked up **from the desk in the visitor's entrance between 9:30 a.m.-10 a.m.** Those who arrive after 10.00 a.m. will have to pick their passes up from the NGO Resource Centre. NGOs are reminded that Briefings start promptly at 10:15 a.m.