

NEWSLETTER

October 2014, second issue

I. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CoNGO

Dear CoNGO Members:

I am pleased to send you the latest issue of the CoNGO E-NEWSLETTER, containing again a panorama of succinct information items and references, and a Calendar, to enable you to latch on to UN and Civil Society activities or events that may be – or could be – relevant to your programmes, outreach or contacts. Indeed I am glad to hear that some members find new contacts through the information provided in our communication services.

It pains me, however, to have to inform Members that CoNGO is again in a difficult financial situation, and for one simple reason: inadequate membership income. We are currently 80% through our financial (calendar) year, yet we have only received 32% of expected income from membership dues. Dues were payable when invoices were sent out in January/February 2014, and again when a reminder was sent around June. How can CoNGO pay its service running costs when so many members are so slow – indeed delinquent – in fulfilling this most elementary membership obligation?

To those to whom these remarks directly apply – including some Board members! – I urge you to meet your commitments without even waiting for the new round of invoice reminders that will be going out these next days. You already have had the necessary paperwork in hand for the past eight months: please take action.

This present E-NEWSLETTER is prepared by our Swiss intern Nathalie Schenker, and I recognize and thank her for her invaluable service for CoNGO.

Cyril Ritchie, President of CoNGO

II. CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

NGO Committee on Ageing, Geneva: International Day of Older Persons (1 October 2014)

On the 24th International Day of Older Persons, the Geneva NGO Committee on Ageing organized a panel discussion on the challenges we face in the realization of human rights for all. On that day, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon underlined the importance of older persons in society saying that: “Older persons make wide-ranging contributions to economic and social development. However, discrimination and social exclusion persist. We must overcome this bias in order to ensure a socially and economically active, secure and healthy ageing population”.

Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, the newly appointed Human Rights Council's Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, declared that ageing is an issue that concerns all aspects of society and which requires a global approach. "Ageing is democratic" as it is pertinent to all regions of the world. But older persons are not a homogenous group where everybody is affected in the same way (regarding their origin, gender, health, economic situation etc.). During the discussion it was also highlighted several times that the Post-2015 Agenda is a huge opportunity where older persons and their rights need to be included in order to "leave no one behind".

There has been an incredible demographic shift in the last years: by the year 2050 we will have more people that are older than 60 years than people under 15, old people are therefore the fastest growing age-group. Taking this into account, the right to social pensions needs to further increase because only 52% of older people benefit from a pension, even though already more than 100 countries acknowledge the right to social pensions. Access to social pensions is "not just a matter of older people, it's a matter of society" (Silvia Stefanoni, HelpAge International) that thus requires action.

The driving factors behind the Resolution 24/20 – which created the mandate of Rosa Kornfeld-Matte – were the governments of Argentina and Brazil. But their representatives underlined the crucial role and support of civil society on this topic: the independent expert needs civil society to tell her the real situation and needs on ground, but also needs NGOs to make research because there is a huge lack of a data when it comes to older persons.

Ageing is something that concerns all of us, not only the people that already are old. This leads to the concept of "active ageing" which is the process of staying healthy, active and involved and to thus being able to contribute to society and economy. This concept, among others, needs to be promoted more actively by states to create a "society for all". And in the end we all should not forget – as one of the participants formulated in a very nice way - "ageing is not only about care, it's also about caring"; we have to help older people to undertake their responsibilities so that they are not only benefiting, but also contributing to society – with the full enjoyment of all human rights.

Martin Ennals Award (7 October 2014)

The Martin Ennals Award is given to Human Rights defenders who show deep commitment and face personal risk. The aim of the award is to provide protection through international recognition. The 2014 winner, selected by a jury composed of the ten largest international NGOs that are active in the Human Rights domain, is Alejandra Ancheita from Mexico.

Ancheita is Founder and Executive Director of ProDESC. For over 15 years she has worked with migrants, workers, and indigenous communities to protect their land and labour rights vis-a-vis transnational mining and energy companies. These disputes have included violent attacks on those she is trying to protect. She is also one of the pioneers in seeking accountability for transnational companies in Mexican courts when local communities' rights are not taken into account. Martin Ennals Foundation Chair, Micheline Calmy-Rey, stated: "Alejandra Ancheita's selection by the jury highlights the array of forces facing human rights defenders. Local governments and courts in working with powerful economic interests have led to public defamation and physical attacks."

The two other finalists of the award are Cao Shunli (China) and Adilur Rahman Khan (Bangladesh). As every year, the main statement was made by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein. In his speech he said that in times where violence still is the currency of human interaction, we need Human Rights defenders to achieve progress. "Because they are the best among us. "

For more information please visit: <http://www.martinennalsaward.org/>

Freedom Award 2014 goes to Maina Kiai

The this year's Freedom Award was granted to Maina Kiai, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Assembly and of Association, on 1 October 2014, in Washington DC. The Freedom House awarded this prize to him for his "invaluable contribution to the cause of freedom and democracy".

Maina Kiai was honoured for his work in Kenya as a prominent civil society leader and as an internationally renowned human rights defender. Although he has faced personal threats or intimidation in his career, he says "I am not in the business of being popular. My job is to push boundaries".

The co-foundation of the Kenya Human Rights Commission in 1992 marked the beginning of Kiai's prominence in human rights work. After a career as Director and Chairman of several institutions, he launched in 2009 – together with a journalist – InformAction, a unique new human rights method of using film and community discussions to encourage ordinary citizens to speak out and take action.

Previous recipients of the Freedom Award are (among others) Aung San Suu-Kyi, the Dalai Lama and Vaclav Havel.

For more information on the Freedom House: <http://freedomhouse.org/>

InformAction's latest activist film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0s7xrRSVp5s>

Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)

Public interest civil society organizations' statement to the ICN2 open ended Working Group

Public interest civil society organizations that are actively engaging in the ICN2 preparatory process prepared a document where they express the elements of common concern among a diverse group of organizations.

Governance, Agency and Fundamental Principles

- **Decade of Action on Nutrition:** They welcome the proposal for a Decade of Action on Nutrition because it would amplify the impact of the ICN2 outcome by promoting coherence. However, they see very limited articulation of what such proposed Decade would actually entail and how it would relate to other relevant negotiations, such as the

Post-2015 Agenda or the commitments of the UN Decade on Biodiversity (2011-2020). Additionally, the Framework for Action (FFA) and the Decade of Action on Nutrition should include a clear timeline of key moments in which progress will be reviewed that might include publicly available periodic reports to the UNGA and Committee on Food Security (CFS).

- **Governance and Accountability Framework:** They appreciate the efforts by FAO and WHO to coordinate their work plans in the light of the ICN2 outcomes and welcome the UNGA endorsement and oversight as proposed by the second draft of the FFA. However, they remain concerned that the governance and accountability mechanisms for the implementation of the ICN2 outcomes appear unclear, fragmented, disconnected and duplicative. They see it fundamental that Member States commit to develop a legitimate, coherent, accountable and participatory governance mechanism. To ensure coherence, coordination and integration with the broader development agenda, the implementation of the FFA must be led by Member States and facilitated by FAO and WHO under the overall umbrella of the UNGA. Member States should also request the CFS to address nutrition in all its discussions much more prominently than it did in its past proceedings which might include the stronger direct engagement of WHO. At the same time, it is fundamental that the ICN2 outcomes are coherent with the CFS Global Strategic Framework and other relevant CFS policy documents. It is equally essential that Member States establish a clear accountability framework – one based on principles of human rights, transparency, and democracy - that includes mechanisms for citizens' participation and the direct engagement of the populations and communities which are most affected by different forms of malnutrition. The accountability framework should also address private sector partnerships and transnational corporations.
- **Right-based Approach and Policy Coherence:** The respect for, protection and fulfilment of human rights (in particular, adequate food and nutrition, access to clean water and sanitation, health, sexual and reproductive, and women's rights), and the needs of populations and communities most affected by different forms of malnutrition must be at the core of policy-making related to the implementation of the FFA and the Decade of Action on Nutrition. In this respect, Member States should affirm their determination to ensure that national and international policies are coherent within and across sectors as well as in line with their human rights obligations, and that other intergovernmental organizations act in accordance with and promote the realization of the right to adequate food and nutrition.
- **The Key of Public Interest Organizations:** The role of civil society organizations and social movements needs to be highlighted as a clear and strategic component of the ICN2 outcome implementation. The active participation of those representing and/or working with communities which are most affected by malnutrition must be guaranteed and enhanced in both the implementation process and the formulation of subsequent policies and legislation.

Priority Recommendations on the Political Declaration and Framework for Action (FFA)

- **The imperative to end malnutrition in all its forms** including undernourishment, stunting, wasting, underweight and overweight and obesity. To that end, Member States should dramatically accelerate progress to achieve the World Health Assembly global nutrition targets for 2025 that were unanimously agreed in 2012. It is also imperative to recognize that malnutrition is a leading cause of death in children under-5 and ensure that both documents address the profound social, economic and political determinants of this

situation rather than purely propose treatment approaches that only address the symptoms of the problem. In this context, the FFA must urge countries to strengthen health and food systems. It is also equally important to acknowledge the many barriers that still remain with regard to the protection, promotion and support of optimal breastfeeding. They therefore call on Member States to ensure the implementation of existing resolutions and guidelines and further strengthen the rights of working mothers. Furthermore, Member States need to recognize the reality of overweight and non-communicable diseases as severe problems and to develop policies that encourage the consumption of nutritious, micronutrient-rich foods, discourage the overconsumption of sugar and saturated fats, and promote physical activity.

- **Human Rights as the central pillar:** The unambiguous affirmation of the human right to adequate food and nutrition, right to health, and women’s sexual and reproductive rights, among other rights, should be the rationale and central pillar of both the Political Declaration and FFA. Such articulation must include the profound interrelation, in real life, of nutrition with women’s and child’s rights and empowerment, and the recognition of adequate diet as the stepping stone to healthy lives across the lifecycle. They would like to express strong concern at the lack of reference to “rights” in the FFA section on reproductive health and family planning, while these are not mentioned at all in the current draft of the Political Declaration.
- **The full realization of women’s human rights** is central to the pursuit of the right to adequate food and nutrition for all. Despite all advances women have conquered in relation to past conditions, most women in the world today continue to remain subject to several layers of structural discrimination and violence, at societal, community and household levels. Not only has this negative implications for the full enjoyment of their human potential, it also leads to programs that tend to overburden women even more with additional responsibilities and promotes the intergenerational reproduction of malnutrition. Promoting and protecting women’s rights, including the social recognition of unpaid work and gendered redistribution of household tasks must therefore be integral part of an effective strategy for the reduction of malnutrition in all its forms.
- **Urgent action required on quality health systems** is needed in order to minimize and avoid the risk of death. In many developing countries, the majority of children who fall ill are never brought to health facilities. Strengthening and investing in health systems with the aim of achieving quality Universal Health Coverage is essential and will help improve the identification and targeting of malnutrition in all its forms. A focus on identifying the most vulnerable groups is welcome and the FFA should stress that improved nutrition services are free at the point of delivery. In this context, they would like to highlight WHO’s six building blocks for strong health systems, which are indispensable for adequate nutrition (service delivery, health workforce, information systems, essential medicines and supplies, financing, and governance).
- **Water and sanitation are critical:** Ensuring universal access to clean drinking water, basic sanitation and improved hygiene facilities and practices can promote healthy environments and reduce infectious diseases amongst infants and mothers. Repeated bouts of diarrhea, intestinal worms and fecal contamination – often contracted through open defecation or poor sanitation – can impede nutrient absorption and diminish appetite, resulting in stunting and undernutrition. This issue must be specifically mentioned and solutions must be prioritized in the FFA in line with UNGA strategy to tackle inequalities in access to services, also reflecting the established principles of the human right to water and sanitation.

source: <http://www.sidint.net/content/cso-statement-preparation-international-conference-nutrition>

Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (DOCIP)

Since 1 October 2014, the DOCIP welcomes visitors in its documentation and information centre on the rights of indigenous people. The centre was created in 1978 after the first International Conference on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 1977. Located in Geneva (route de Ferney 106), the DOCIP is generally open from Tuesday to Thursday.

Beside files, periodicals and monographs for instance on land rights, traditional knowledge or collective rights and self-determination, the centre offers online resources as well. Adding to this, also training courses and capacity-building programmes are organized.

For more information please visit: <http://www.docip.org/Home.9+M5870070ecf4.0.html>

Trust for Sustainable Living: International Schools Essay Competition

Under the topic "My Vision for Sustainability Education" the 2015 International Schools Essay Competition and Debate is inviting schoolchildren worldwide (aged 7-17) to share their ideas on the future of sustainability education. The topic was chosen with regard to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development which is ending soon.

Trophies will be awarded for the top five prizes in each category (primary and secondary school) and one overall Grand Prize winner will receive a free trip to the UK for up to three people. Schools are also invited to participate in the Schools Sustainability Challenge and submit a video featuring their best sustainability projects. The winning school will be awarded a special Challenge Trophy and £500 towards future projects.

At the 2014 competition ("What does sustainable living mean to you?") students from 73 countries participated and schools from 20 countries attended the International Schools Debates in the UK.

Online registration is now open until 23 January 2015 for the submission of essays and videos.

For more information please visit: <http://www.livingrainforest.org/explore/schools-debate/>

December 2014: Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC)

The CICC is planning to organize NGO planning/strategy meetings prior to the Assembly of State Parties (ASP) that will take place in New York from 8-17 December 2014.

Requirements for participation:

1. An NGO was invited to participate in the Rome Conference
or

2. An NGO was registered to attend any of the ten sessions of the Preparatory Commission held thereafter
or
3. An NGO has ECOSOC general or special consultative or roster status
or
4. By special invitation of the ASP

NGOs eligible for accreditation can submit a written request on official letterhead with the names of their representatives to attend the ASP by 17 November 2014 to the following address: Secretariat of the Assembly of State Parties, International Criminal Court, Room C-0458, Maanweg 174, 2516 AB The Hague, Netherlands. Or via fax to: +31-70-515 8376.

Requests for participation to the CICC can be sent until 3 November 2014 by e-mail to: asp@coalitionfortheicc.org

For further questions please contact: asp@coalitionfortheicc.org

III. UN NEWS & UPCOMING UN EVENTS

Statement on NGOs by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

At the NGO meeting of the 27th session of the Human Rights Council, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, said that "when we speak of human rights and we think of what are the fundamentals – what is the heart – it is clear that you, the NGO community, must be the heart". He also praised the work of many of the civil society actors which is done with "astonishing courage," particularly at a time in history when it seems that the right to exist as a human being is threatened. In front of the 260 NGO representatives, Al Hussein insisted on the importance of civil society making "the fundamental difference".

A number of participants were concerned regarding the protection of human rights defenders, children's rights and strengthening civil society engagement with existing human rights mechanisms. In his answer, Al Hussein admitted that he "can't guarantee protection" but that he is ready to fight.

"The fate of the planet relies on such a small number of people," he said. "You are a just a small fraction of humanity, and yet you do so much."

source: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/HCMeetsNGOs.aspx>

International Geneva Perception Change Project

Acting Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Michael Møller, launched in early 2014 a project to change the perception of International Geneva. The project aims to highlight the relevance and impact of the work done by the UN, international organizations, NGOs and academic institutions based in Geneva, which share very particular synergies.

Building on the three topics peace, rights and well-being, higher visibility of International Geneva is intended to be reached. The project therefore acts on the following main axes: media outreach (using traditional and non-traditional channels), academic evidence (to research the combined impact of Geneva's actors) and personal experience (addressing visitors' emotions). The project, managed by a small team, is working to raise awareness that "International Geneva is more than the sum of its parts" (Carolina Rodriguez, Head of the Project).

All entities that are interested and committed to the project can join the informal Geneva Perception Change Group. It is also possible to follow @GenevaImpact on Twitter sharing the common message using #GenevaMeans and #GenevaImpact.

For more information please contact: crodriguez@unog.ch

Cairo+20 / ICPD

General Assembly reaffirms UN goals on population, development

The UN General Assembly's special session on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) was convened on 22 September in order to look at how the implementation process of the ICPD's Programme of Action is advancing but also to renew its political support. 20 years after the Cairo Conference, where it was decided to place people at the centre of development, the General Assembly came to the conclusion that the pledge to protect women and girls needs to be renewed together with the commitment to stronger action.

The success of the MDGs, a fruitful Post-2015 Agenda as well as a meaningful climate change commitment all depend on the international community's efforts that need to be made remembering "the vision of Cairo" because "we cannot talk about sustainable development without addressing women's empowerment, gender-equality and discrimination and violence" (Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director UNFPA).

Since 1994, a lot of progress has already been achieved: almost a billion people have escaped poverty, maternal mortality has decreased by nearly 50% and there are more laws that guarantee human rights. Nevertheless, there are still millions of malnourished people that are deprived of their basic rights and that cannot find meaningful work.

"We have to remember the vision of Cairo – especially the priority it placed on reproductive health" but "we also have to be guided by the wisdom of the Cairo conference as we confront major demographic trends, including urbanization, migration, population ageing and the largest generation of young people in history" said Ban Ki-moon. This statement needs to be considered also knowing that the ICPD agreement emphasized that "population is not just about counting people, but about making sure that every person counts". With the awareness of these aspects the global community is now called upon for greater cooperation and global leadership.

For more information please visit: <http://icpdbeyond2014.org/>
source: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48777#.VCPRFPmSyRs>

IV. INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is one of the world's principal regional human rights bodies. Based in Warsaw, Poland, ODIHR is active throughout Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and North America. It promotes democratic elections, respect for human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination, and the rule of law.

ODIHR is the human rights institution of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), an intergovernmental body working for stability, prosperity and democracy in its 57 participating States. Spanning a region from Vancouver to Vladivostok, the OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization.

Human rights and democracy are a cornerstone of the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security. All OSCE States have agreed that lasting security cannot be achieved without respect for human rights and functioning democratic institutions. They have committed themselves to a comprehensive catalogue of human rights and democracy norms. These form the basis of what the OSCE calls the "human dimension" of security.

ODIHR is tasked with assisting governments in meeting their commitments in the field of human rights and democracy. To this effect, ODIHR observes elections, promotes and monitors respect for human rights, and runs democracy assistance projects throughout the OSCE region. ODIHR is mandated to assist OSCE participating States to "ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, to promote principles of democracy and [...] to build, strengthen and protect democratic institutions, as well as promote tolerance throughout society" (Helsinki Document, 1992).

For more information please visit: www.osce.org/odihr

V. NEWS

Regard de femmes: Asserting Women's Right to Register their Child at Birth – Ensuring the Right of all Children to a Legal Identity

The association "Regard de femmes" adopted the following declaration:

We the undersigned,

Concerned about the fact that one child out of 2 worldwide (60 million children per year) is still not registered at birth; despite international conventions and universal norms

Reporting

- *the serious consequences of the lack of birth registration, since they will have no legal status and no access to programs and services when growing up;*

- *that it is hard or even impossible for women to register the birth of their child in many parts of the world;*

Ask that

- *each woman irrespective of her marital status can be entitled to assert her right to declare the birth of her child;*
- *each State implements a public civil registration system, free of charge, mandatory and opened to all individuals living in the territory, irrespective of their marital status, ethnic origin, political opinions, economic status, language, place of residence;*
- *birth registration and issuance of birth certificate should be free of charge, birth registration process should be simplified and facilitated by all possible means of communications, through the adoption of national laws;*

And declare that

- *ensuring universal birth registration is essential for both the child and the nation. It must guarantee that each and every child enjoys their full right to an identity and citizenship.*
- *birth registration gives a child a recognized legal existence and identity. It is the sign that a child 'belongs' to a family, a community, and a nation. It shows that a child has a place and a stake at all three.*
- *it ensures that all individuals can fully participate in the social, cultural, civil life of their country*

Signed in 2014 by a large number of intergovernmental and nongovernmental representatives.

For further information please visit: www.regardsdefemmes.com

Children of parents sentenced to death or executed

A programme of the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

A death penalty does not only punish the prisoner on death row, it also punishes the family of the condemned. Especially children of prisoners have been invisible and neglected for a long time; we now have to safeguard their rights and bring the child perspective into our considerations.

"The loss of a parent is traumatic and irreversible but, unlike a natural death, when it is officially performed by the authorities of a country, it becomes particularly confusing and frightening for a child. Children find it hard to explain their situation, and are increasingly tempted to deny it and hide their feelings. Children feel invaded by anger and a deep sense of uncertainty. Traumatized and with low self-esteem, they have constant nightmares or loss of sleep, and eating disorders; they lose concentration and interest in school, as well as interest in playing. Post-traumatic stress disorder, self-harm and aggressive behaviour often go hand in hand. Overall, children endure this experience in deep loneliness and hopelessness." (Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children)

Furthermore, in most countries children don't, or only partially, benefit from assistance of care and protection institutions. They don't have anyone to talk to or a person of trust who could make them feel safe. For these children even visiting a parent in prison is frightening: strip searches and

shouting make them feel anxious. As a consequence, the risk of becoming homeless, victim of violence and following a criminal path increases only because there is a lack of caregivers for these children.

The situation in countries is very diverse, while Japan does not even notify the approaching death to the prisoner nor the family – which is illegitimate as it constitutes inhumane or cruel treatment – Mexico disposes of a consular network that provides assistance to procure visits of family members to prison or sends office supplies and stamps that the prisoners sentenced to death can stay in touch with their family.

From a human rights point of view, a child has the right to have his or her best interest taken as a primary consideration (CRC's General Comment No. 14, 2013). But in reality, children of parents sentenced to death penalties are invisible in statistics, in policies and programmes. The discrimination of a child is even doubled because the death penalty disproportionately affects the poor, and certain racial, ethnic and religious minorities.

"States that use the death penalty also need to consider how to address the consequences of its use on society at large, in particular on the families of individuals sentenced to death or executed" (Zaved Mahmood, Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights). The best solution to do so would be the abolition of the death penalty. But as this is not the case yet, the harm suffered by the children needs to be minimized. This becomes even more important knowing that the use of violence to respond to violence does not help but is actually creating even more violence.

It is of highest importance that the situation of children of parents facing the death penalty is given urgent attention and action. National human rights institutions can thereby play an important role in various ways, including by facilitating visits to prisons and monitoring human rights violations suffered by those children.

source:

http://quno.org/sites/default/files/resources/Children%20of%20Parents%20Sentenced%20to%20Death%20or%20Executed_DGPandNS.pdf

VI. CALENDAR

NOTICE:

1. The CoNGO Calendar is a service to the NGO constituency to enable each individual organization to determine, in good time, its possible or desired involvement in the event mentioned, in accordance with the organization's own statutory or programmatic focus.
2. The conferences and meetings listed in the CoNGO Calendar are not under the convening or invitational or access responsibility of CoNGO. They are listed for the information of readers, and any queries about any event should be addressed solely to the organizer of the event, not to CoNGO.

Cyril Ritchie, President of CoNGO

October

October 27-29: UN ESCAP: First Expert Group Meeting on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (Sendai, Japan)
<http://www.unescap.org/events/first-meeting-expert-group-disaster-related-statistics-asia-and-pacific>

October 31-November 1: UN ESCAP: North-East Asia Development Cooperation Forum (Seoul, South Korea)
<http://eneap.unescap.org/meeting/2014/North-East-Asia-development-cooperation-forum.html>

November

November 3-5: NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva: NGO Forum for the Beijing+20 UNECE Regional Review (Palais des Nations, Geneva)
<http://beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch>

November 10-12: UNESCO: World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan)
<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/events/calendar-of-events/education-global-conferences/>

November 12: Alliance for Health Promotion: 4th Global Forum on Health Promotion - "Innovation and New Approaches for Health Promotion" (Biotech Campus, Geneva)
<http://www.ngos4healthpromotion.net/>

November 17-21: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): Board of Governors (Vienna International Centre, Vienna)
<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/46102/Board-of-Governors-incl-Technical-Assistance-and-Cooperation-Committee>

November 18-19: OiER and UNECE: Urban Future global conference (Graz, Austria)

<http://www.urban-future.at/>

November 19-21: FAO: Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) – “better nutrition, better lives” (Rome, Italy)

<http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/en/>

November 21-25: Civicus: International Civil Society Week - “Citizen Action, People Power” (Johannesburg, South Africa)

<http://civicus.org/ICSW/>

November 25-27: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO): Industrial Development Board, 42nd Session (Vienna)

<http://www.unido.org/idb/42.html>

December

December 1-3: UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights: UN Forum on Business and Human Rights (Geneva)

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Forum/Pages/ForumonBusinessandHumanRights.aspx>

December 3: UN enable: International Day of Persons with Disabilities - “Sustainable Development: The promise of technology”

<http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1620>

December 4-5: UNODC: Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice - Reconvened 23rd Session (Vienna)

https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_23/ECN152014_AUV_13June2014.pdf

December 4-5: UNODC: Commission on Narcotic Drugs - Reconvened 57th Session (Vienna)

https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/session/57Reconvened_Session_2014/57-reconvened.html

December 8-17: International Criminal Court: 13th Session of the Assembly of States Parties (UN headquarters, New York)

http://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/asp/Pages/asp_home.aspx

December 12: UNOG: Civil society forum on disarmament (Geneva)

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/\(httpHomepages\)/6A03113D1857348E80256F04006755F6?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/(httpHomepages)/6A03113D1857348E80256F04006755F6?OpenDocument)

2015

70th Anniversary of the United Nations Organization (1945-2015)

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48149#.U9oWsvl_vTo

150th Anniversary of the International Telecommunications Union (1865-2015)
<http://www.itu.int/en/council/150committee/Pages/default.aspx>

World Summit on Social Development-Copenhagen+20
<http://undesadspd.org/CalendarofEvents.aspx>

March

March 9-20: UN Commission on the Status of Women: CSW59 / Beijing+20 (2015) (UN Headquarters, New York)
<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw59-2015>

March 14-18: UNISDR: 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai, Japan)
<http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/wcdr>

April

April 4-15: Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (Geneva)
<http://www.cooperationinternationalegeneve.ch/meetings-conferences-parties-basel-rotterdam-and-stockholm-conventions>

April 12-17: World Water Forum: 7th World Water Forum (Daegu and Gyeongbuk, South Korea)
<http://worldwaterforum7.org/en>

April 12-19: UNODC: 13th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice - "Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider UN agenda ..." (Doha, Qatar)
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime-congress/13-crime-congress.html>

April 27-29: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom: WILPF 2015 Conference – "Women's Power to Stop War" (The Hague, Netherlands)
<https://wilpfact.wordpress.com/category/wilpf-history/>

June

June 7-9: Organization of American States (OAS): General Assembly (Haiti)
<http://www.oas.org/en/default.asp>

June 22-24: Deutsche Welle (DW): Global Media Forum – "Media and foreign policy in the digital age" (Bonn, Germany)
www.dw-gmf.de

July

July 13-16: UN: 3rd International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2014/gaab4115.doc.htm>

2016

UN Commission on Human Settlements: Habitat III
<http://unhabitat.org/habitat-iii/>

UNODC: Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the World Drug Problem – “Achieving the 2019 Goals – A better Tomorrow for the World’s Youth”
www.ungass2016.org

May: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs: UN World Humanitarian Summit (Istanbul, Turkey)
<http://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/>

May 23-27: UN Environment Assembly: Second Meeting of the UN Environment Assembly (Nairobi, Kenya)
<http://uncsd.iisd.org/events/second-meeting-of-the-un-environment-assembly/>

2018

UN General Assembly: UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament
<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/action-alerts/high-level-nuclear-disarmament-conference.html>

2019

100th Anniversary of the International Labour Organization (ILO)
<http://www.ilo.org/century/lang--ja/index.htm>