

NEWSLETTER

June 2014

I. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CoNGO

Dear CoNGO Colleagues:

Here is the newest issue of the CoNGO E-NEWSLETTER, the last one that has been prepared by our Intern Jin Woo KIM of Kyung Hee University, Korea. Jin Woo is finishing his internship this week, and after returning to Korea he will continue his higher education later in the year in the Netherlands. I wish to here publicly thank Jin Woo for his several months of excellent service to CoNGO, not only in the sphere of information and communication, but also in researching and covering a series of UN and NGO events and activities.

In a period of financial stringency such as CoNGO has known during the first three years of my presidential mandate, the services of several interns and volunteers have been of great value. I particularly thank Kyung Hee University, which is a "regular supplier" of interns to CoNGO, thereby providing deeply appreciated support in the fulfilment of our mission of service to the members.

Among the items in this E-NEWSLETTER are, as usual, brief reviews of recent UN System and NGO events, meetings, decisions, statements or reports - always with the reference as to where to go to obtain fuller information. Upcoming events are listed either in the text or in the Calendar - also always with the link reference. I hear frequently that this is an information service that is greatly welcomed by many members. It is one of my priorities to provide members with such advance information, so that you can decide if and how to get involved from the earliest stages. Particularly so far as concerns UN System events (conferences, summits, fora...) the earlier in the process that civil society brings in its expertise and its contacts, the more our voices will be taken into account in the deliberative processes.

In 2015 the world will commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations Organization. As a committed and constructive partner of the UN for 66 (next year 67) of those years, CoNGO will play its part in celebrating the achievements of this indispensable organization, and in encouraging governments and citizens to make greater use of the UN's (still-unfulfilled) potential. Please let CoNGO know what your NGO/CSO will be doing to mark the UN's 70th Anniversary: we shall compile a compendium and use the information as a launching pad for broader international action to support the long-term goals and values of the United Nations.

Cyril Ritchie, President of CoNGO

III. SECRETARIAT

WSIS+10 High Level Event (Geneva, June 10, 2014)

Statement by Cyril Ritchie, President of CoNGO

1. From the time of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2003 and 2005, the WSIS process has been a remarkable and welcome illustration of the benefits to all parties - governments, intergovernmental organizations, business, non-governmental organizations and the broader civil society - of openness, inclusiveness, and willingness to take on board a diversity of perspectives and competencies. That is surely what the Information and Knowledge Society must mean, and all stakeholders have drawn sustenance from the richness of experience and knowledge brought to the debating table by the different partners. The WSIS Open Consultation Process and the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform have been successful in incorporating a multiplicity of inputs, thereby enhancing the ultimate output and making it more lasting.

2. I emphasize these << procedural >> aspects of WSIS because they are significant contributions to the policy-making of WSIS+10, and because they are significant models that could - and should - be common throughout the United Nations System. Just like the United Nations, the Information and Knowledge Society must be open and participatory if it is truly to contribute to Peace, to Sustainable Development, to the world's sustainable future, to the needs of future generations.

3. In this context I attach the highest importance to the contributions that WSIS+10 will and must make to the UN Post-2015 Agenda. The intensive planning process that is in place to construct that Post-2015 Agenda involves all the same stakeholders and more. Not only the WSIS+10 Outcome Document that we shall collectively acclaim later this week, but also the WSIS+10 collaborative spirit and inclusive mechanisms must inform and enhance governmental and non-governmental cooperation on the Post-2015 Agenda and therefore achieve a more lasting ultimate output. Let us build on the example and the inspiration of the WSIS+10 processes as we move forward TOGETHER towards not only <<The Future We Want>>, but <<The Future We Need>>.

III. CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

June 29 - July 2 2014: Social Work Education in Europe towards 2025 at Bicocca University in Milan, Italy

The Social Work Education in Europe will mainly discuss the following topics: knowledge, skills and values of social work; challenges and opportunities in developing social work curricula; reflecting on social work teaching methods; theory and practice relationship; towards generalist or specialist social work education; social work research on practice and education; international dimension in social work education; and teaching social work and social work education in time of crisis.

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

August 6-8, 2014: The Youth Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York

The Youth Assembly at the UN will focus on wrapping up the Millennium Development Goals and setting the scene for the role of young people in the post-2015 Agenda.

At the Summer Youth Assembly, attendees diversify their skill-sets and gain valuable insights, essential for their future career paths in global development. For nearly fifteen years, delegates have agreed that the UN experience, speakers, and related events at the Youth Assembly, have been life-changing.

Prior to the Youth Assembly at the United Nations, delegates have the option to enroll in a comprehensive, three-day course at Fairleigh Dickinson University. The certificate-based program will help prepare youth delegates for the events at the UN, while focusing on social venture business plan development. This will be valuable to all and particularly important to those who plan to enter the Social Venture Competition at the YA@UN through the Resolution Project. The competition at the YA can net up to \$3000 plus two years of active mentoring by Wall Street professionals (who were Model UN Youth in their past) for each winning contestant. All delegates are urged to join up!

The 2014 Summer Youth Assembly will take place on August 6 - 8, 2014 at United Nations Headquarters in New York City and the Pre-YA@UN course will take place on the FDU campus on August 2 - 5.

CONCEPT NOTE: Having reached 1.8 billion, youth now comprise almost 25% of the world population and the largest generation of youth that the world has ever known, facing unique challenges and opportunities. As we recognise youth-led development in support of MDG success and prepare for the post-2015 agenda, the question is clear: for whom would this agenda be if not for youth?

"I was once sitting in the same setting as you, not sure if I could really influence policies. The Secretary-General and the UN send a clear message with my appointment that all youth can contribute and nothing for youth should be done without youth involvement." - AHMAD ALHENDAWI, UN SG ENVOY FOR YOUTH

The 2014 Summer Youth Assembly applications at: apply4ya@faf.org

November 3-5, 2014: NGO Forum - Beijing+20 UNECE Regional Review

Background & Purpose

There are dates which mark history - the 4th World Conference on Women (4WCW), convened in Beijing in 1995, is one of them. On this historical occasion, UN Member States adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA), and through this milestone text for the advancement of women in the twenty-first century, committed to a decisive agenda for advancing women's rights and empowerment.

Subsequently, reviews and appraisal of progress made by Member States in the implementation of these commitments have been conducted every 5 years, each time identifying setbacks and new challenges, while providing recommendations on the way forward. In 2013, Member States adopted a resolution calling for a 20-year review of the BPfA to take place in 2015 during the 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, under the leadership of UN Women. As part of the process, the five UN Regional Commissions are to conduct regional reviews in 2014 to feed into the global review.

In collaboration with the UNECE, the non-governmental organizations (NGO) representatives to the United Nations, based in Geneva and assembled under the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva (NGO CSW Geneva), will contribute to this important review process by organizing an NGO FORUM that will bring together the voices of civil society representatives from the 56 countries of the diverse ECE region, and provide critical input to the ECE review.

The NGO Forum will take place on 3-5 November 2014, prior to the UNECE regional review meeting of 6-7 November, at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Objectives

1. To contribute to the Beijing+20 review process, both at the ECE regional level and globally, by providing vital perspectives, information and recommendations from a large base of NGOs and women's rights advocates who are active in Europe, North America and Central Asia. To this effect, the NGO Forum will examine selected issues from the 12 critical areas of concern of the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action to

- review progress made, remaining gaps and existing challenges
- seek government accountability for their commitments and obligations to women's human rights and gender equality

2. To identify emerging women's issues brought on by globalization, the fast development of the Internet and other new technologies, climate change and all of its consequences, migration and demographic changes, rising trafficking and violence against women, and more generally, the multiple crises affecting our increasingly interconnected world.

3. To provide input for the current discussions on the Post-2015 Agenda, on how a stand-alone goal on gender equality could be crafted and how women's issues could be best streamlined in all of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are expected to succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015.

Additionally, the NGO Forum aims to create a space for open dialogue among NGOs, civil society and other stakeholders from the 56 ECE member countries on the realities impacting women in this diverse region. The Forum will facilitate a candid exchange of views and information, the open voicing of concerns, establishment of common positions, sharing of best practices, and more.

Expected Outcome

The NGO Forum's expected outcome is a comprehensive report with a set of action-oriented recommendations that

- will be presented through oral interventions at the governmental Beijing+20 UNECE Regional Review meeting, taking place immediately after the NGO Forum, and
- will be included in the final ECE report.

The report will outline the issues, discussions and conclusions of the Forum; recommendations will focus on shortcomings of the implementation of the BPfA, current challenges and emerging issues facing women in the ECE region, as well as government accountability for commitments made to women's rights, equality and empowerment initiatives.

For more information, please visit: <http://beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/NGOForum-Beijing+20-concept-note-23-04-14.pdf>

IV. UN NEWS & UPCOMING UN EVENTS

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Appoints 19 human rights experts to report on wide range of themes and country situations

In May, the Human Rights Council appointed 19 human rights experts to serve as United Nations Special Procedure mandate holders tasked with reporting on a wide range of human rights themes and country situations.

At an organizational meeting of the Council held on May 8th, Council President Ambassador Baudelaire Ndong Ella (Gabon) announced his decision to appoint the following individuals to serve in these posts recently left vacant by previous mandate holders, with the exception of the newly created mandate on older persons authorized at the Council's September session:

Individual thematic mandates - Mr. Juan Bohoslavsky (Argentina) as Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt; Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte (Chile) as Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons; Ms. Leilani Farha (Canada) as Special Rapporteur on adequate housing; Ms. Urmila Bhoola (South Africa) as Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery; Mr. Philip Alston (Australia) as Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights; Ms. Hilal Elver (Turkey) as Special Rapporteur on the right to food; Ms. Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines) as Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples; Ms. Maud De Boer-Buquicchio (the Netherlands) as Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; and Mr. Michel Forst (France) as Special Rapporteur on the situation on human rights defenders.

These appointments by the President of the Human Rights Council are based on proposals put forth to him by members of the Council's Consultative Group and in compliance with the Council's institution-building package. The 19 new experts join the ranks of the 51 Special Procedures mandates which periodically report to the Human Rights Council on wide-ranging human rights issues around the globe. The Human Rights Council will hold its next session, the twenty-sixth regular session, from 10 to 27 June 2014.

THE UNITED NATIONS

Report from the UN RIGHT TO FOOD expert

Governments must exploit the full potential of public food purchasing in order to make food systems fairer and more sustainable, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier De Schutter, urged in a Report: The Power of Procurement: Public Purchasing in the Service of Realizing the Right to Food.

"Governments have few sources of leverage over increasingly globalized food systems – but public procurement is one of them. When sourcing food for schools, hospitals and public administrations, Governments have a rare opportunity to support more nutritious diets and

more sustainable food systems in one fell swoop," said the independent expert, as he published his report on public procurement and the right to food.

Noting that OECD countries spend an average of 12% of GDP on public procurement, and developing countries only slightly less, the United Nations expert identified five principles for using public procurement to support the realization of the right to food:

- 1) Source preferentially from small-scale food producers and help them to access tenders;
- 2) Guarantee living wages and fair prices along the food supply chain;
- 3) Set specific requirements for adequate food diets;
- 4) Source locally whenever possible and impose sustainability requirements on suppliers; and
- 5) Increase participation and accountability in the food system.

"It may cost Governments slightly more to source from a range of smaller-scale, sustainable operators than from major suppliers, but the investment is worth it. It will not only have positive outcomes in terms of health and education, but will also help promote a viable and sustainable small-scale farming sector," noted the United Nations expert. Data on United Kingdom school feeding programmes suggests a return of 3-to-1 for additional spending on sustainable and local procurement. Another study estimates that the total benefits of supplying 50 million African school-children with locally produced food could reach around \$1.6 billion per year.

The United Nations expert also welcomed recent progress in developing countries such as Brazil, where price premiums to organic suppliers have been put in place, and 30 per cent of the school feeding budget has been reserved for sourcing from family farms. Meanwhile, municipal and state governments, schools, producers, companies, parents and students have been brought into the design of school meals that now cover nearly 50 million children.

"Reliable demand at fair prices could provide a lifeline to the small-scale farmers in developing countries struggling to compete against transnational food producers, processors, traders and marketers. The full transformative potential of state purchasing must be exploited to drive a genuine transition to pro-poor food and farming models," concluded Mr. De Schutter.

To read the full document:

http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/otherdocuments/20140514_procurement_en.pdf

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

67th World Health Assembly, May 2014

WHO's annual assembly was held in Geneva, Switzerland from May 19 to 24. More than 3000 delegates attended the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly. In the opening statement, Dr. Shigeru Omi of Japan, President of the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly, challenged the Health Assembly to consider the potential impact on health worldwide of the changing poverty map - with 70% of the world's poor living in middle-income countries with emerging economies. "Will economic growth be accompanied by a proportionate increase in domestic budgets for health? Will countries put policies in place to ensure that benefits are fairly shared?" she asked. "If not, the world will see a growing number of rich countries full of poor people," the WHO chief added.

During the six days, high-level representatives from WHO's 194 Member States discussed and made decisions on key global health issues, including:

- efforts to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, cancers and chronic lung disease;
- a new global strategy and targets to prevent and control tuberculosis;
- proposals to improve the health of patients with viral hepatitis;
- a draft action plan for newborn health;
- progress on WHO's global strategy for maternal and young child nutrition;
- progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and the role of health on the post-2015 development agenda;
- ways to tackle antimicrobial drug resistance;
- efforts to improve access to essential medicines and strengthen the systems that regulate medicines;
- management of autism; and
- protecting more people from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Delegates also reviewed the progress the Organization is making on reform and then debated the relationship between climate and health.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Universal Health Coverage (UHC): towards a common framework for monitoring progress

A movement towards universal health coverage (UHC) – ensuring that everyone who needs health services is able to get them, without undue financial hardship – has been growing across the globe. This has led to a sharp increase in the demand for expertise, evidence and measures of progress and a push to make UHC one of the goals of the post-2015 development agenda. A WHO/World Bank paper entitled "Monitoring Progress towards Universal Health Coverage at Country and Global Levels" proposes a framework for tracking country and global progress towards UHC; its aim is to inform and guide these discussions and assessment of both aggregate and equitable coverage of essential health services as well as financial protection. Monitoring progress towards these two components of UHC will be complementary and critical to achieving desirable health outcome goals, such as ending preventable deaths and promoting healthy life expectancy and also reducing poverty and protecting household incomes.

UHC has been defined as the desired outcome of health system performance whereby all people who need health services (promotion, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliation) receive them, without undue financial hardship. UHC has two interrelated components: the full spectrum of good-quality essential health services according to need, and protection from financial hardship, including possible impoverishment due to out-of-pocket payments for health services. Both components should benefit the entire population.

The WHO/WB paper proposes a framework for monitoring UHC as part of a comprehensive framework for monitoring national health system performance. Monitoring UHC should be integral to tracking overall progress in health and performance, which requires regular assessment of inputs (finances, health workforce and medicines), outputs (service provision), coverage of interventions, health impacts and the social determinants of health. Within this overall context and in line with its definition, monitoring of UHC concerns two discrete

components of health system performance: levels of coverage with health services and financial protection, with a focus on equity. While progress in achieving UHC through these components is an important goal of health systems, it is not a substitute for other health goals, such as improved survival or healthy life expectancy.

To read the full document:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/112824/1/WHO_HIS_HIA_14.1_eng.pdf?ua=1

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

OHCHR Report 2013

The OHCHR Report 2013 presents results achieved under 11 expected accomplishments as set out in the OHCHR Management Plan(OMP) 2012-2013. It also provides information about OHCHR management, funding and expenditure.

Impunity and the rule of law

Accountability is vital to deterring rights violations and to rebuilding a sense of common destiny. In 2013 OHCHR helped States draft transitional justice laws in Libya, Tunisia and Yemen, among others. OHCHR supported inclusive and participatory transitional justice processes in Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia and Guinea. OHCHR also co-chaired an interdepartmental process to evaluate implementation of the UN Rule of Law Indicators Project, including a detailed review in Haiti, Liberia and South Sudan of data on the reform of prisons, the police and the judicial system. The outcome identified ways to help Member States use indicators to measure change in accountability, integrity and performance.

OHCHR also continued advocacy in favour of a moratorium on the death penalty, with the goal of its complete abolition. And, as Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group on Protecting Human Rights while Countering Terrorism, OHCHR developed a series of practical human rights reference guides on security infrastructure and the stopping and searching of persons. Further guides are under development on the conformity of national counter-terrorism legislation with international human rights law.

Poverty and economic, social and cultural rights

Human rights must be at the core of all development processes. OHCHR pursued this objective through research, expert meetings, consultations, advocacy and public events, and by developing methodologies and selection criteria for post-2015 goals, targets and indicators. So far, each of the key milestones in the post-2015 process has recognized the value and centrality of human rights. In May 2013, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights entered into force, reaffirming the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights. Two major publications on ESCR were issued in 2013: Realizing the Right to Development, which brings together practical guidance from more than 30 international experts; and Human Rights Indicators, a framework for improving measurement and implementation of human rights in local contexts.

Migration

Over the past four years, through its engagement in the Global Migration Group (GMG), the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and the High-Level Dialogue of the General

Assembly, OHCHR has advanced a strong human rights approach to migration. The Office produced an analytical report, "Migration and Human Rights: Improving human rights-based governance of international migration" and supported the development of a study on management of the external borders of the European Union and its impact on the human rights of migrants. The resulting report provides practical guidance on the implementation of a human rights-based approach to migration policies.

Violence and insecurity

OHCHR has assisted almost 40 commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions and in 2013 it issued a publication of practical guidance. Protecting civilians is a vital part of peacekeeping missions, and OHCHR cooperated with DPKO and DPA to develop a joint policy to improve coordinated responses to the risk of human rights violations. OHCHR also stands ready to assist in humanitarian catastrophes, as with the team that OHCHR sent to the Philippines to support the UN country team in the aftermath of typhoon Haiyan.

Supporting human rights mechanisms

OHCHR supported 51 special procedures mandates in 2013, as well as the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review. The Office also prepared a comprehensive assessment of the complexity, workload and full cost of the treaty body system, which in April 2014 led to a General Assembly resolution to streamline its structures and functioning.

To read the full document:

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/OHCHRReport2013/WEB_version/pages/downloads.html

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UN.PFII)

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues concluded its thirteenth session on 23 May 2014, sending nine draft reports to the Economic and Social Council containing proposals, recommendations and five draft decisions, including a call for the General Assembly President to act swiftly to ensure the fullest participation of indigenous peoples in all aspects of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples set for September 23, 2014.

"We know that, with Member State cooperation, with respect for and recognition of the minimum international human rights standards embraced by the Declaration, genuine good governance can become a reality," said Permanent Forum Chair Dalee Sambo Dorrough, as she provided an overview of the thirteenth session, held under the theme of "Principles of good governance consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: articles 3 to 6 and 46".

She highlighted discussions on the sexual health and reproductive rights of indigenous peoples, and more broadly, human rights. Such issues must be addressed in a substantive and "intellectually honest" fashion, she said, stressing: "Our common desire is to respect our past, gain recognition and respect for our present status and rights, and promote those rights to ensure our future."

UN Commission on the Status of Women

In its Agreed Conclusions, the UN Commission on the Status of Women had the following to say on civil society organizations; "The Commission acknowledges the major contributions made by civil society, including women's and community-based organizations and feminist groups, in placing the interests, needs and visions of women on national, regional and international agendas."

The Commission asked for "Increased resources and support for grassroots, local, national, regional and global women's and civil society organizations to advance and promote gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights of women and girls."

The Commission asked for "the effective participation of women's and youth and other relevant civil society organizations in the design, continued implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies to achieve the MDGs and take into account their views in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda."

UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

Launch of the State of the World's Midwifery 2014 report

The State of the World's Midwifery report, released by UNFPA together with the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners, reveals that major deficits in the midwifery workforce occur in 73 countries where these services are most desperately needed. The report recommends new strategies to address these deficits and save millions of lives of women and newborns.

When trained and supported by a functional health system, midwives could provide 87 per cent of the essential care needed for women and newborns, and could potentially reduce maternal and newborn deaths by two thirds.

To have more information:

<http://unfpa.org/public/home/pid/16021>

V. INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Labor Organization (ILO)

Report of the Director-General - ILO Programme Implementation 2012-13

The 2012–13 biennium has been one of reform and consolidation. A new Director-General took office on 1 October 2012; top management functions and structures at ILO headquarters were overhauled; the Strategic Policy Framework 2010–15 with the four strategic objectives and the 19 outcomes remained in place although initial work on areas of critical importance identified for 2014–15 was carried out in 2013.

Over the biennium the ILO delivered a series of significant knowledge products compiling original data on employment, social protection and fundamental rights, coupled with analysis of the policies underpinning these trends, and recommendations on what more could be done, drawing on ILO international labour standards and guidance from the governance organs.

The ILO has been actively involved in the global consultations on the post-2015 UN development agenda, in particular in discussions of the role played by employment and social protection policies in past and future poverty reduction.

To read the full document:

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_243312.pdf

VI. NEWS

Lessons learn from Typhoon Haiyan which struck Philippines

A field report from Refugees International

In November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan tore a path of destruction across the Philippines. While the emergency response was successful in providing life-saving assistance, humanitarian needs remain enormous, especially with respect to the restoration of people's livelihoods. A lack of robust early recovery programs has left hundreds of thousands of people reliant on aid, and points to a broader problem regarding the overall efficacy of the UN's early recovery approach to large-scale, sudden-onset natural disasters.

In addition, a proposal by the Philippine government to enforce "no build zones" in typhoon-affected coastal areas in the wake of the disaster has left thousands displaced and raised numerous legal and human rights concerns. Refugees International proposes several policy recommendations.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) should commission an assessment of the Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster's performance in the Haiyan response, and recommend ways to improve early recovery leadership, coordination, and effectiveness including through the use of early recovery advisors.
- The UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), with the support of the donor governments, should continue to advocate at the highest levels of the Philippine government for implementation of the recommendations contained in the Inter-Cluster Advisory on "no build zones" (NBZs). They should also provide the necessary technical and financial support to do so.
- The Philippine government, at both the national and local level, must develop laws, policies, and guidance regarding the imposition of "no build zones" (NBZs). Such instruments must include measures to ensure that enforcement of NBZs, and the relocation of people away from these areas, is undertaken based on scientific evidence, in compliance with national and international law, and in a manner that respects the rights of affected individuals.
- In future large-scale natural disasters, the Protection Cluster and the UN Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT), in cooperation with the Shelter Cluster, should

immediately establish a housing, land, and property (HLP) sub-cluster, and deploy more HLP advisors to provide guidance on the ground. Where relocation is likely to occur, protection and management issues must be integrated into the strategic plans of the protection, shelter, and early recovery clusters.

To read the full document:

<http://www.refintl.org/sites/default/files/Philippines%20Typhoon%20Survivors%20letterhead.pdf>

VII. CALENDAR

2014

International Conference on Population and Development+20

<http://icpdbeyond2014.org/>

International Year of Family Farming

<http://www.family2014.org/home.php>

June

10-27: UN Human Rights Council: 26th Regular Session (Geneva, Switzerland)

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/HRCIndex.aspx>

16: Fiftieth Anniversary of UNCTAD (Geneva, Switzerland)

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=437>

23-27: United Nations Environment Assembly (Nairobi, Kenya)

<http://climate-1.iisd.org/events/un-environmental-assembly-of-unepl/>

June - July

30 June - 9 July: Second Meeting of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development (New York, United States)

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1768>

July

8-9: ECOSOC - 2014 Annual Ministerial Review (New York, United States)

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/newfunct/amr2014.shtml>

10-11: ECOSOC - Development Cooperation Forum (New York, United States)

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/newfunct/2014dcf.shtml>

14-18: Open Working Group Negotiations on SDGs –Fifth Meeting (New York, United States)

<http://uncsd.iisd.org/events/open-working-group-negotiations-on-sdgs-fifth-meeting/>

August

27-29: UN Department of Public Information-NGO Conference(New York, United States)
<http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/conference/>

September

1-4: Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, SIDS (Apia, Samoa)
<http://www.sids2014.org/>

22: UNGA Special Session on ICPD Beyond 2014 (New York, United States)
<http://icpdbeyond2014.org/key-events/view/15-icpd-beyond-2014-review-timeline>

22-23: UN General Assembly High Level Plenary Meeting serving as a World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (New York, United States)
<http://wcip2014.org/world-conference-on-indigenous-peoples-september-2014>

23: 2014 Climate Summit, organized by UN Secretary-General (New York, United States)
<http://climate-l.iisd.org/events/2014-climate-summit/>

October

1-3: World Trade Organization: WTO Public Forum 2014; why trade matters to everyone (Geneva, Switzerland)
http://www.wto.org/english/forums_e/public_forum14_e/public_forum14_e.htm

12-16: Inter-Parliamentary Union: 131st IPU Assembly and Related Meetings (Geneva, Switzerland)
<http://www.ipu.org/Conf-e/131agnd.htm>

13-16: World Investment Forum 2014: Investing in Sustainable Development (Geneva, Switzerland)
<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=510>

October – November

20 October-7 November: International Telecommunications Union, Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, Korea)
<http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/Pages/default.aspx>

November

3-5: NGO Forum - Beijing+20 UNECE Regional Review (Geneva, Switzerland)
<http://beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/NGOForum-Beijing+20-concept-note-23-04-14.pdf>

10-12: World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, organized by UNESCO (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan)

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/events/calendar-of-events/education-global-conferences/>

21-24: CIVICUS International Civil Society Week (Johannesburg, South Africa)

<http://www.civicus.org/index.php/get-involved-128/2014-04-25-05-16-07/civil-society-week>

2015

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

150th Anniversary of the International Telecommunications Union (1865-2015)

World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995: Beijing+20 Campaign

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/intergovernmental-support/world-conferences-on-women>

World Summit on Social Development-Copenhagen+20

<http://undesadspd.org/CalendarofEvents.aspx>

April

4-15: Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (Geneva, Switzerland)

<http://www.cooperationinternationalegeneve.ch/meetings-conferences-parties-basel-rotterdam-and-stockholm-conventions>

12-17: 7th World Water Forum (Daegu · Gyeongbuk, Korea)

<http://worldwaterforum7.org/en>