



# Up coming events organized by our partner CONGO

April 2009

*The CONGO update is produced by staff in New York, Geneva and Vienna,  
with contributions from members and affiliated partners.*

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▪ **CONGO Events and Announcements:**

▪ **CONGO Co-Sponsors World Civic Forum, 5 – 8 May 2009, Seoul.** CONGO agreed to partner with Kyung Hee University – one of its associate members – in holding the World Civic Forum in Seoul, Korea, from 5 to 8 May 2009. The Forum, with the general theme "Building Our Humanitarian Planet," is a joint initiative of Kyung Hee University and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA). As a major sponsor, CONGO is encouraging its members worldwide to attend the Forum. The President of CONGO, Mr. Liberato Bautista, will be a keynote speaker. CONGO will be leading a panel on one of the three themes, particularly "Civic Engagement in Public and Global Governance." More information about the Forum, including a TV interview by Korea's Arirang TV with CONGO President Liberato Bautista and Dr. Euiyoung Kim, Chair of the WCF 2009 Steering Committee, can be found at <http://www.wcf2009.org>.

▪ **CONGO Civil Society Development Forum 2009 – Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Commitments in regard to Global Public Health, 2 – 4 July 2009, Geneva.** CONGO's Civil Society Development Forum (CSDF) 2009 is scheduled from 2 to 4 July 2009 in Geneva. It will be held back-to-back with ECOSOC's High-Level Segment (6 – 10 July 2009), which will focus in 2009 on the theme "Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Commitments in regard to Global Public Health." More information about this event will soon be available on CONGO's [website](#). For information about ECOSOC and its Substantive Sessions is available [here](#). Information on the UN-NGO-IRENE Best Practices Network on Global Public Health is available [here](#).

▪ **UN Events and Announcements:**

▪ **Human Rights Committee, 95th Session – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 16 March to 3 April 2009, New York**

The ninety-fifth session of the Human Rights Committee will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 16 March to 3 April 2009.

▪ **UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, 14<sup>th</sup> Grant Cycle – Call for Applications;** The UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women is accepting applications for its 14<sup>th</sup> grant cycle from government authorities at the national and local levels, civil society organizations and networks—including non-governmental, women's and community-based organizations, coalitions and operational research institutions—and UN Country Teams in partnership with governments and civil society organizations. Applications should be centred on supporting the implementation of national and local policies, laws and action plans seeking to end violence against women. The deadline for submissions is on 7 April 2009 at 23:59 hours (New York time).

For full details about the applications process, please consult the [trust fund's website](#).

▪ **UNU Midday Forum: “Academics Under Threat – The IIE Scholar Rescue Fund World Report”, 14 April 2009, New York**

The United Nations University Office in New York, together with the Institute of International Education (IIE) and its Scholar Rescue Fund program, will present a UNU Midday Forum, “Academics Under Threat: The IIE Scholar Rescue Fund World Report”, from 13:15 hours to 14:45 hours on 14 April 2009 in Conference Room 5 of the UN Headquarters in New York. For more information and to register, visit the [UNU website](#).

▪ **Durban Review Conference, 20 – 24 April 2009, Geneva**

The Durban Review Conference will be held at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, from 20 to 24 April 2009. The process of preparatory meetings, also conducted at the United Nations in Geneva, started in November 2008. The first formal meeting was held on 27 November 2008, during which the working group elected its first Chair, Yury Boichenko, First Counsellor at the Russian Permanent Mission. Other meetings were/will be convened prior to the main conference at the UN in Geneva as follows:

- a) 19 to 23 January 2009 - First intercessional open-ended intergovernmental working group meeting
- b) 10 to 16 April 2009 - Next formal session of the intercessional open-ended intergovernmental working group
- c) 15 to 17 April 2009 - Final session of the Preparatory Committee
- d) 20 to 24 April 2009 - Durban Review Conference.

For more information on the Durban Review Conference please visit the following web-page: <http://www.un.org/durbanreview2009/>

▪ **Durban Review Process – OHCHR Guidance for Organizers of Side Events during the Durban Review Conference, 20 – 24 April 2009, Geneva**

In order to facilitate broad participation of governments, United Nations entities, inter-governmental organisations, national human rights institutions, civil society and other organisations accredited with the Durban Review Conference, the OHCHR has announced that meeting rooms will be made available for side events during the conference to be held daily from 09:00 hours to 18:00 hours from 20 to 24 April 2009. Side events should focus on the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. They should provide an opportunity to review progress made in the combat against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the actual implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels since 2001, as well as the sharing of best practices.

Organizers of side events are invited to submit their request to the Conference Secretariat through the appropriate inscription (registration) form with all the relevant information no later than 14 April 2009. The inscription form for side events can be found on the [Durban Review Conference Web Site](#).

The Conference Secretariat will review all requests for side events to ensure the broadest participation of stakeholders and a diverse range of themes and issues relating to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. Should the request be confirmed, the Conference Secretariat shall be in contact with the organizers concerning the next steps to take including possible time slots, rooms and services available.

▪ **World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2009, 18–22 May 2009, Geneva**

ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP will be holding the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2009 from 18 to 22 May 2009, at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva. This event builds upon the tradition of annual WSIS May meetings. The Forum will offer participants a series of high-level panels addressing issues critical to the WSIS implementation and follow-up in multi-stakeholder set-ups. Visit the [ITU website](#) for a draft agenda, invitation, and registration.

▪ **Eighth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), 18–29 May 2009, New York**

The Eighth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held from 18 to 29 May 2009 at the UN Headquarters in New York. Information concerning accreditation, NGO participation, side events and submission of written statements can be found [here](#) as well as a copy of the provisional agenda.

▪ **ECOSOC Innovation Fair, Call for Submissions, July 2009, Geneva**

In preparation for the upcoming ECOSOC Innovation Fair, to be held in July 2009 at the UN premises in Geneva, the NGO Section is promoting projects included in the "Global Public Health" network from the UN-NGO-IRENE Best Practices Network web portal. Log on to the [website](#) and submit your project today. Once logged in, click "Submit Now" and follow the instructions.

Please also visit the new "[NGO My Pages](#)". This was developed as an entry point for NGO participation with the United Nations – from there you will be able to see your previous pre-registrations, submit statements to the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC, view your uploaded projects and more.

▪ **Other Events and Announcements:**

▪ **Launch of "Countdown to Copenhagen"**

Church World Service has launched "Countdown to Copenhagen", a new campaign in preparation for the December 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen. Visit the [campaign's website](#) for more information and [how to take the campaign's pledge](#).

▪ **Launch of White Ribbon – Campaign Switzerland**

The Women's World Summit Foundation has launched its White Ribbon – Campaign Switzerland to encourage men of all ages to commit to create a world without violence against women. A similar campaign exists already in 47 countries with Switzerland joining the list on this past St. Valentine's Day. For more information on participating in the campaign, visit the [WWSF website](#).

▪ **Global Symposium on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality, 30 March – 3 April 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

The Global Symposium on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality will take place from 30 March to 3 April 2009, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Four hundred fifty participants from around the world will share their work in applied research, policy and programme development. Their work challenges rigid gender norms and engages men and boys in reducing violence against women and girls, promoting sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment and fatherhood and caregiving. For more information, visit the [symposium's website](#).

▪ **“Forging Interfaith Intercultural Alliances: Coordinated Action for Peace-building and Human Rights”, 3 April 2009, Geneva**

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF), Geneva Interfaith Intercultural Alliance (GIIA) and Women’s Federation for World Peace Int’l (WFWPI) are holding in joint sponsorship with the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia a conference entitled “Forging Interfaith Intercultural Alliances: Coordinated Action for Peace-building and Human Rights” on 3 April 2009, in Geneva. This event builds on the conference series held last year in Geneva, Bergamo, London and New York, which addressed the contribution of faiths and multiculturalism to peace and the protection of human dignity. The upcoming conference will include a session on the development of the youth councils as well as the broader aspects needed to move these critical issues forward. Visit the [IIFWP website](#) for a registration form.

▪ **“Violence Faites aux Femmes au Nom de l’Honneur” conference and concert, 4 April 2009, Geneva**

The Association Araignées Artisanas de Paix will present in collaboration with the Office of Human Rights, Geneva, a conference on “honour” crimes against women commencing at 14:00 hours on 4 April 2009 at the Théâtre de l’Alhambra, rue de la Rôtisserie 10, Geneva. Following the conference, there will be a Kurdish music concert, featuring musician Tara Jaff.

▪ **“Reconciliation and the role of Global Peace Festivals”, UPF conference, 8 April 2009, Vienna**

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) of Austria, in cooperation with Ambassadors for Peace, will host a conference entitled “Reconciliation and the role of Global Peace Festivals”, at the UN Vienna International Centre in the UN/UNIDO Board Room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of C building. The event will begin with registration at 13:00 hours and will be followed by sessions on the “International Year of Reconciliation 2009” and “Global Peace – A Dream of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”. Registration is mandatory and the deadline for registration is 2 April 2009 at [www.weltfried.at/registration.html](http://www.weltfried.at/registration.html).

▪ **“Equal Pay Day”, panel discussion, 15 April 2009, Vienna**

The international women’s network Business and Professional Women (BPW) will hold a panel discussion on 15 April 2009 at 18:30 hours on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Palais Eschenbach in Vienna. The event will focus on “Equal Pay Day” (EPD) through several events on the equality of opportunities and on income gaps. It will draw attention to the fact that this year women in Austria have to work until 16 April to earn as much as men who worked up to 31 December of last year.

▪ **Civil Society Forum for the Durban Review Conference, 17-19 April 2009, Geneva**

The Civil Society Forum for the Durban Review Conference will be held from 17 to 19 April 2009, in Geneva, as a peoples input and preparation for the Durban Review Conference. The forum has been organized at the request of NGOs and Civil Society organizations from all parts of the world and with their active participation in the development of the programme. Most of the activities for the forum will take place in meeting halls around the Place Plainpalais area in Geneva. The planned programme of the Civil Society Forum is as follows:

17 April, Friday  
19:00 Opening Plenary

18 April, Saturday  
9:30 – 11:30 Plenary  
12:00 – 14:30 Group Meetings  
15:00 Demonstration in Support of the Review Conference Organised by Geneva NGOs

19 April, Sunday  
9:30 – 13:00 Group Meetings  
14:00 – 16:30 Concluding Plenary

For more information, consult the [Geneva Forum website](#) which will be regularly updated.

▪ **The Geneva Summit for Human Rights, Tolerance and Democracy, 19 April 2009, Geneva**

One day before the Durban II conference opens, on 19 April 2009, human rights activists will meet in the Geneva International Conference Centre for the Geneva Summit for Human Rights, Tolerance and Democracy. Organized by a global coalition of human rights organizations—and dedicated to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention Against Genocide—the Geneva Summit will hear prominent human rights, activists, legal scholars and statesmen. [Register on the Geneva Summit website](#). Priority will be given to applicants with demonstrable interest or background in human rights, as well as to students.

▪ **World Telecommunication Policy Forum 2009, 21 – 24 April 2009, Lisbon, Portugal**

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF) is a high-level international event where ITU members from government, industry and the global regulatory community exchange views on the key policy issues arising from today's fast changing information and communication technology (ICT) environment. The 2009 event will take place from 21 to 24 April 2009, in Lisbon, Portugal. The forum is open to ICT professionals from all sectors, as well as interested members of the general public. It is not designed to produce prescriptive outcomes with the binding force of an international treaty, rather, it strives to foster productive debate and build multi-stakeholder consensus on constructive ways forward. For more information, visit the [forum's website](#).

▪ **“1000 Femmes autour du Prix Nobel de la Paix”, Exhibition and Training Seminar, 23 April – 9 May 2009, Kinshasa and Matadi, Congo**

The exhibition “1000 Femmes autour du Prix Nobel de la Paix (1000 Women around the Nobel Peace Prize)” will take place from 23 April to 9 May 2009 at Kinshasa and Matadi in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The idea behind the exposition is to present pertinent information surrounding the struggle of Congo women for peace. The exposition will be held in Salle Mgr Luc Gillon at the Université de Kinshasa from 21 to 25 April 2009 and at the Centre des Jeunes de Mikondu in Matadi in the province of Bas-Congo from 5 to 9 May 2009.

A training seminar on “Femmes: Paix, bonne gouvernance et développement (Women: Peace, Good Governance and Development)” will also be held at the Université de Kinshasa from 22 to 23 April 2009 and at the Centre Culturel Français de Matadi from 6 to 7 May 2009.

▪ **World Civic Youth Forum 2009, 5–8 May 2009, Yongin-si, Republic of Korea**

Kyung Hee University will host World Civic Youth Forum 2009 (WCYF 2009) on "Global Issues of the 21st Century and the Role of College Youth". The WCYF is held as part of, concurrently with, the World Civic Forum jointly initiated by Kyung Hee University and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). The WCYF 2009 will be held at the Global Campus of Kyung Hee University in Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea, from 5 to 8 May 2009.

The WCYF is an intellectual and cultural global event where college youth gathered from around the world discuss and share their views and perspectives on global issues such as peace, development, environment, human rights, gender equality, and culture. The primary goal of WCYF is for college youth to give a voice on global issues by gathering together, discussing on the global agendas, and searching for the solutions. For more information, visit the [WCYF website](#).

▪ **World Creative Youth Forum, 5 - 10 May 2009, Manila, Philippines**

The World Creative Youth Forum (WCYF) will be held from 5 to 10 May 2009, at the University of the Philippines - National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG) in Manila. The theme of the Forum is “One Life, One Earth”. It will focus on peace and human rights, climate change, sustainable lifestyle, entrepreneurship, ethical living and technology and advocacy for sustainable development. For more information, please visit the [WCYF website](#).

▪ **Junior 8 Summit – call for submissions of teams, early July 2009, Sardinia Italy**

UNICEF is calling for submissions of teams of young people aged from 14 to 17 years to participate in the Junior 8 Summit, a youth event convened this year in Sardinia, Italy, and linked to the annual Group of 8 (G8) Summit.

In its fifth year, the UNICEF-organized Junior 8 Summit will bring the winning teams from G8 countries together with participants from eight non-G8 countries—including Brazil, China, India and South Africa—to send a clear message to leaders that children from all over the world are equally affected by G8 decisions. Participants will discuss topics on the G8 agenda ahead of the summit and will take their recommendations to the leaders. The primary focus of this year’s Junior 8 will be on climate change, HIV/AIDS and poverty and development in the face of the global financial crisis.

For more information, visit the [Junior 8 Summit’s website](#).

▪ **Coping and Resilience 2009 International Conference, 3 – 6 October 2009, Dubrovnik-Cavtat, Croatia**

The Coping and Resilience 2009 International Conference will be held from 3 to 6 October 2009, in Dubrovnik-Cavtat, Croatia. The conference will present the cutting edge knowledge and practices on coping and resilience in response to a variety of adverse life circumstances that individuals and communities face. Visit the [conference website](#) for programme topics and registration and submissions guidelines.

▪ **International Peace Bureau Annual Conference, 12 - 18 November 2009, Washington D.C.**

The International Peace Bureau Annual Conference will be held from 12 to 18 November 2009, in Washington D.C. The provisional title for the conference is "Rolling back militarism: a task for the global movement".

The programme will include a central event (the weekend conference) and additional activities before and after, depending on the wishes of partners and participants. Suggestions are welcome. This is intended to be a participatory event, including a top-class range of speakers, cultural presentations and opportunities to interact with key people in Washington, D.C. and beyond. Check out the [IPB initial announcement](#) for more information.

▪ **"The Forgotten Children: A major European Conference addressing the subject of Children of Parents with a Mental Illness", 26 – 27 November 2009, Vilnius, Lithuania**

The European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI), in association with Lietuvos Sutrikusios Psichikos Žmonių Globos Bendrija (LSPŽGB), its Lithuanian family member association, will host "The Forgotten Children: A major European Conference addressing the subject of Children of Parents with a Mental Illness" from 26 to 27 November 2009 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Details of the conference programme, registration and accommodation can be found on the [conference website](#).

▪ **2009 Parliament of the World's Religions, 3 - 9 December 2009, Assembly Meeting, Melbourne, Australia**

The Parliament of the World's Religions will hold its 2009 assembly from 3 to 9 December 2009 in Melbourne, Australia. The gathering will bring together more than 8,000 people of faith, spirit and goodwill from around the world. For more information about the upcoming 2009 assembly , visit [the Parliament of the World's Religions website](#).



## ▪ ***Campaigns and Initiatives:***

Decent Work Decent Life Campaign: [www.decentwork.org](http://www.decentwork.org)

Global Campaign against Poverty: [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org)

Appeal and Petition for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World:  
[www10.plala.or.jp/antiatom/en/WC/e07wc/e-20070902\\_dec\\_riso.html](http://www10.plala.or.jp/antiatom/en/WC/e07wc/e-20070902_dec_riso.html)

Launch of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's Human Rights Prize – Call for Nominations: [www.assembly.coe.int/Committee/JUR/HumanRightsPrize](http://www.assembly.coe.int/Committee/JUR/HumanRightsPrize)

Gender Training Community of Practice (GT CoP) – UN-INSTRAW:  
[www.un-instraw.org/en/community-of-practice/general/gender-training-community-of-practice-gt.html](http://www.un-instraw.org/en/community-of-practice/general/gender-training-community-of-practice-gt.html)

International NGO Journal – Call for Papers: [www.academicjournals.org/INGOJ](http://www.academicjournals.org/INGOJ)

## ▪ ***NGO Resources:***

Integrated Civil Society Organization System – UN/DESA Civil Society Participation Database:  
<http://esango.un.org/civilsociety>

UN-NGO-IRENE Best Practices Network: [www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/irene](http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/irene)

First Committee Monitor – Resource on the General Assembly's First Committee on Disarmament and International Security:  
[www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/FCM.html](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/FCM.html)

Globethics.net Library – A Global Digital Library on Ethics: [www.globethics.net](http://www.globethics.net)

Resources and Calendar for Peace Issues – International Peace Bureau: [www.ipb.org](http://www.ipb.org) and  
[www.ipb.org/i/newsletters-and-publications/VI-A-ipb-newsletters-and-calendars.html](http://www.ipb.org/i/newsletters-and-publications/VI-A-ipb-newsletters-and-calendars.html)

Internet Governance Caucus Website: [www.igcaucus.org](http://www.igcaucus.org)

2009 UNDP Procurement Training Calendar: [www.undp.org/procurement/training.shtml](http://www.undp.org/procurement/training.shtml)

International NGO Journal: [www.academicjournals.org/INGOJ](http://www.academicjournals.org/INGOJ)

African Journal of Political Science and International Relations:  
[www.academicjournals.org/ajpsir](http://www.academicjournals.org/ajpsir)