



Up coming events organized by our partner CONGO

• April - September 2008

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

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Special procedure mandate-holders, 18 April, Geneva

At the request of the Human Rights Council President, in consultation with the Consultative Group, the deadline for the submission of nominations in relation to Special Procedures mandate-holders set at 11 April 2008 has been now extended to 18 April 2008, 18:00 Geneva time. More information on the OHCHR website: <http://www.ohchr.org>

Preparatory Committee on the Durban Review Conference, 21 April – 2 May, Geneva

The Durban Review Conference will hold the 2nd session of its Preparatory Committee on 21 April – 2 May 2008 and begin consideration of substantive issues. All NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC can participate in the Durban Review Process, as well as NGOs accredited to the Durban Conference in 2001 if they have not received any contrary information from the PrepCom Secretariat. Other NGOs willing to request accreditation to the Durban Review Conference process should fill in the questionnaire for accreditation. More information on the Durban Review Conference process is available on the OHCHR website: <http://www.ohchr.org>

Geneva Environment Network (GEN), 22 April, Geneva

Breaking the link between economic growth and its environmental impacts is one of the key challenges facing economies in South-East Europe, Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia - more now than ever before. How economic restructuring in these regions can offer a unique opportunities to leapfrog towards greater sustainability ? The GEN roundtable "[Can legacies of the past offer opportunities for a sustainable future?](#)", to be held on 22 April, 13h00-15h00, Palais des Nations Room VIII, will address the issue with a focus on the above mentioned regions. 2

UNU Forum "Breathe OR Die or Breathe AND Die! Air Pollution the Unnoticed Global Threat", 23 April, New York

The United Nations University Institute on Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the United Nations University Office in New York (UNU-ONY) are inviting you to a forum scheduled to take place on the 23rd of April, 2008, from 3:00 to 5:30 pm in Conference Room 7, at UN headquarters, New York, entitled: Breathe OR Die or Breathe AND Die! Air Pollution: the Unnoticed Global Threat. More information on the UNU website: <http://www.ony.unu.edu>

Inaugural Lecture by UN Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon, 29 April, Geneva

The United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) will be organizing a series of open conferences dealing with global challenges. The UNOG/UNITAR joint lectures will be held on a regular basis, 2 to 4 times per year, and will feature internationally recognized leaders from the world of politics, business or civil society, each one discussing a specific subject at a time. The inaugural lecture will be delivered by the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. BAN Ki-moon on the topic, "*Are the development goals doomed to fail?*" and will take place on 29 April 2008 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Palais des Nations in the Assembly Hall. Registration is compulsory for all, including those already in possession of an access badge for the Palais des Nations. We invite you to register online at www.unog.ch/gls by 24 April 2008 the latest. The Conference will be broadcast live at www.un.org/webcast

Alliance of Civilizations Youth Solidarity Fund, 30 April

The Alliance of Civilizations (AoC) places great emphasis on funding projects that have long-term outcomes and that connect youth from previously unconnected communities with a view to overcoming perceived or real cultural and religious divides. To support youth-led initiatives that promote long-term constructive relationships between young people from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds, the AoC launched last month a Youth Solidarity Fund. The Fund will provide seed funding in amounts up to 20,000 USD to a very small number of outstanding youth-led projects in the following areas: Intercultural and Interreligious Exchanges, Youth Leadership Training and Youth Voices in the Media. The AoC will only fund projects that are entirely managed by youth for the benefit of youth. The age definition used by the AoC is persons between 18 and 30 years old. More information on the Alliance of Civilizations website: <http://www.unaoc.org>

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, deadline 1 May

WWSF is inviting organizations to join the 2008 international coalition that marks and supports the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse on 19 November. Launched in 2000, the World Day aims at creating a global culture of prevention of child abuse worldwide. Every year, more and more Governmental and Non Governmental organizations join the campaign to help make prevention of child abuse a global priority. For more information please visit the WWSF website: <http://www.woman.ch>

Commission on Science and Technology for Development, 26-30 May, Geneva

The 11th Session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is to be held at the Palais des Nations in conference room XVIII, from 26 to 30 May 2008. The session will represent the second official United Nations review of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) at the regional and international level. It also aims to identify achievements, gaps and challenges, as well as future actions needed to further implementation. More information on the UNCTAD website: <http://www.unctad.org>

61st DPI/NGO Conference, 3-5 September 2008, Paris

The 61st DPI/NGO Conference will be held 3-5 September at UNESCO in Paris, France under the chairmanship of Shamina de Gonzaga. The deadline for providing input on the topics of round-tables and break-out sessions is now extended to **18 April 2008**. Comments should be sent to 2008.dpi.ngo.conference@gmail.com. In addition to these main roundtables, it should be noted there will be space for side events to be proposed at a later stage through a bottom up approach by NGOs participating in the Conference. The deadline for submitting the Speaker Contact Information Form is **18 April 2008**. Completed forms should be sent to: advisorsubcommittees08@yahoo.com.

Campaigns and Initiatives:

Decent Work Decent Life Campaign: <http://www.decentwork.org>

Global Campaign against Poverty: <http://www.whiteband.org>

Other events:

16-18 April: 8th Info-poverty World Conference, New York
<http://www.infopoverty.net>

20-25 April 2008: Twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Accra, Ghana
<http://www.unctadxii.org>

21 April – 2 May 2008: Substantive Session of the Preparatory Committee on the Durban Review Conference, Geneva.

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/racism/groups/prep_committee_durban

23-24 April: Forum on Sustainable Urbanization in the Information Age, New York

<http://www.un-gaid.org/fr/node/1346>

24 April 2008: Linguistic Rights in the World: A Symposium to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 100th Anniversary of the Universal Esperanto Association (UEA)

<http://www.linguistic-rights.org>

19-23 May 2008: 61st World Health Assembly, Geneva

<http://www.who.int/governance/calendar/2008/en/index.html>

25-28 May 2008: Geneva Health Forum, Geneva

<http://genevahealthforum.org>

26-30 May 2008: 11th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, Geneva

<http://www.unctad.org/Templates/meeting.asp?intlItemID=1942&lang=1&m=15018>

10-11 June 2008: UNGA High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, New York

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

17-23 August 2008: World Water Week, Stockholm, Sweden

<http://www.worldwaterweek.org>

3-5 September 2008: 61st NGO/DPI Conference, Paris

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