

UN1822

DPI

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

--

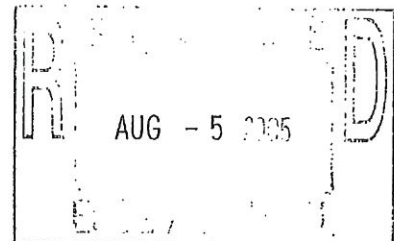
**MESSAGE FOR PROGRAMME OF THE 58TH ANNUAL DPI/NGO CONFERENCE
New York, 7-9 September 2005**

This year's DPI/NGO Conference has special significance because it is the last civil society event at United Nations headquarters before the 2005 World Summit, expected to be one of the largest gatherings of Heads of State and Government ever. The Summit will provide a unique opportunity to address some of the most pressing challenges of our era, and to renew the United Nations itself. It will be a test of our ability to act on the understanding that development, security and human rights are not only ends in themselves -- they reinforce each other, and depend on each other. This gathering reaffirms civil society's key role in meeting these challenges.

Civil society organizations have been very active in this process. Over the past year, you have articulated global calls for action at events such as the Beijing+10 meeting in March, the ground-breaking informal General Assembly hearings in June, the Conference on the Prevention on Armed Conflict in July, and numerous regional gatherings. You have continued to mobilize around the Millennium Development Goals. And you have expressed support for the proposed Human Rights Council and Peacebuilding Commission.

Partnerships remain a main avenue for progress. It is encouraging that, together with the non-governmental organizations working with the United Nations through the Department of Public Information and the Economic and Social Council, this Conference enjoys the participation of representatives of scores of additional civil society organizations. I am also pleased that the Conference programme reflects unprecedented participation by representatives of Member States, including parliamentarians. This is a major step forward in making innovative partnerships a reality, and I am grateful to the President of the General Assembly for his initiatives to enhance civil society's interaction with the Organization.

Whatever is achieved or not at the World Summit, let us not imagine that these next few days and weeks represent the end of the process. Rather, it is a beginning. We must then work to implement what has been agreed, and keep working for agreement on what has not. I will count on your support in the crucial time ahead. Thank you for coming to the United Nations to give voice to the concerns of people around the world, and for your contributions to our shared global mission.





Richard Amdur

05/08/2005 12:58 PM

To: Paul Hoeffel/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc: Ruxandra Ferascu/NY/UNO@UNHQ
Subject: sg message for dpi/ngo conference programme

paul,
many thanks for your comments. attached is an approved text. you're right that the text at the end reflects our efforts to be realistic, rather than pie-in-the-sky (as some have said we've been for far too long regarding the summit).
best,
richard



dpingo2005-programme.dc