

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Division for Social Policy and Development
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
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8 October 2008

Dear Friend,

On behalf of Ms. Elissavet Stamatopoulou, Acting Director, Division for Social Policy and Development (DPSD), I have the pleasure to inform you that the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development will be convened from **4 to 13 February 2009** at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The session will be held in Conference Room 4 of the United Nations Secretariat Building.

Beginning with the forty-fifth session, the Commission has organized its work according to a cycle of two sessions dealing with one single priority theme. The first year is a review session, while the second year is a policy session resulting in a set of resolutions or decisions.

The priority theme of the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions will be: "Social Integration." This year session will focus on review, while the following one will be the policy session. In addition to the priority theme, the session will include, as usually, the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups such as: persons with disabilities, youth, ageing, and the family.

On 3 February 2009, a day prior to the opening of the session, a Civil Society Forum will be convened. The Forum is hosted jointly by DSPD, the NGO Committee for Social Development and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Information on the Forum may be posted in due time at the link of the NGO Unit of DSPD: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ngo/index.html>. Please note that the outcome of the Forum will be presented in plenary to the Commission during the first meeting of the session, after the introduction of the Priority Theme. I would, therefore, encourage you to give due consideration to the Forum in your preparations for the forty-seventh session of the Commission. For information and registration to attend the Forum, please direct your queries to the following address: csocdcivilsocietyforum09@gmail.com.

Should your organization wish to send one or more representatives to this session of the Commission, please provide the names(s) of your designated representative (s) to us by using the online pre-registration system through the following link no later than 6 January 2009: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ngo/csdfonnote09.html>.

In case you cannot use the online pre-registration system for any technical reason, please get in touch with us. For any other concern, please do not hesitate to contact us: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ngo/contact.asp>.

Please note that the pre-registration process is very important and helps us in facilitating access to your representatives to the United Nations buildings during the session. NGOs having representatives holding annual group-passes are also encouraged to pre-register their representatives so as to allow a proper planning by recording their attendance to the session. I wish to remind you that the arrangements for travel, daily subsistence, accommodation and visas are of the responsibility of participants.

Relevant information on the session will be available at the Webpage of the NGO Unit of DSPD at the following link: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ngo/index.html>. Please visit also the main page of the session at the following address: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/2009.html>.

For additional information regarding your participation at this session of the Commission, do not hesitate to contact me by Email or by phone.

Best regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yao NGoran". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Yao NGoran