


United Nations Nations Unies

Division for Social Policy and Development
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
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Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure to confirm the registration of your organization to participate, as observer, to the forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development, scheduled to take place from 3 to 12 February 2010 at the United Nations New Conference Building in the Garden in New York. Due the structural work relating to the United Nations premises at Headquarters referred to as the Master Plan, no specific information on the venue of the session can be provided at this time. Further information will be available at the website of the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) in due time: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/2010.html>.

Upon arrival at the United Nations Headquarters, representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) requiring ground-passes for admission to the United Nations premises are advised to go through the visitors' Entrance, at 46th Street and 1st Avenue, where a team of staff members of the Civil Society and Outreach Unit of DSPD will assist them with the registration process.

Registration will be tentatively conducted beginning on Monday, 1 February 2010. It will take place from 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. and will continue every day until 12 February 2010, at the same time, except on 2 and 3 February (8:30p.m. to 4:00p.m.). The Registration Desk may close from 12:30p.m. to 2:00p.m. for lunch-break. Information on schedule and venue of registration is provisional. It is not definitive and should be, therefore, checked constantly against updates on the website of the Civil Society and Outreach Unit of DSPD: <http://social.un.org/cso>.

No registration will be conducted solely for side-events held from 1:15p.m. to 2:45p.m. Participants attending only side-events should register earlier before the holding of those events. Although we facilitate the organization of those events, we wish to stress that they are not part of the official business of the Commission and since they take place during lunch-break, we are unable to make special arrangements for the registration of participants attending them. **This letter and a photo identification document** are required to facilitate the issuance of ground-passes. Arrangements for issuance of ground-passes are offered as general guidelines.

Representatives of NGOs are encouraged to be patient and indulgent when seeking assistance for registration, especially after the peak-time of the first three days of the registration process. They should also understand that it is not efficient for the United Nations to keep its staff posted at the Registration Desk at all times, especially when there is a very low number of participants to register.

A conference room will be made available to NGOs for briefings and exchanges of information and other events. Briefings are conducted by the NGO Committee on Social Development and take place every day from 9:00a.m. to 10:00a.m. Details of items to be discusse will be provided throughout the session. It should be noted that some NGOs have indicated their intention to hold briefings and side-events. This will be taken into account when allocating the room.

The NGO Committee on Social Development and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, with the support of DSPD, will co-host a Civil Society Forum on Tuesday 2 February 2010, one day prior to the opening of the session. The outcome of the Civil Society Forum will be presented to the session of the Commission during its first meeting on 3 February 2010. Further information on the Forum will be available through the webpage of the NGO Committee for Social Development: <http://ngosocdev.wordpress.com/>. For further information and registration to attend the Forum, please direct your queries to the following address: ngosocialdevelopment@gmail.com.

I also like to take this opportunity to inform you that documents on the session will be posted at the following link, once they are issued: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/csd/2010.html>. Please visit the website of the Civil Society and Outreach Unit of DSPD for additional and practical information concerning participation of NGOs in the work of this session of the Commission for Social Development: <http://social.un.org/cso>.

Yours sincerely,



Yao Ngoran
Chief, Civil Society and Outreach Unit

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