

Knowledge to lead

Seminar on

## Peacebuilding: The Role of Diasporas

UN Headquarters, New York, 28-29 April 2009

### Programme Schedule

Tuesday, 28 April 2009

Morning Conference room 8

10:00 am **Opening address**

Mr. Carlos Lopes, Assistant-Secretary-General, Executive Director, UNITAR

10:15 am **Keynote by the President of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)**

H.E. Amb. Heraldo Muñoz, President of the PBC, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations

10:30 am **Peacebuilding and the role of diasporas**

Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles, Chief, Policy Planning and Application Branch, PBSO

Ms. Meera Sethi, Senior Regional Advisor for Sub-Saharan Africa, External Relations Dept, IOM

11:15 am **Session 1: Opportunities and constraints for diaspora engagement in post-conflict situations**

Chair: Mr. Bartholomew Armah, Senior Policy Adviser, UNDP BCPR

- Ms. Angela Bargellini, Political/Electoral Affairs Officer, Electoral Assistance Division, UN DPA  
"Out-of-country voting"
- Mr. Pierre Bertrand, Director, UNHCR New York Office  
"The role of refugees and return"
- Mr. Johnny Celestin, Social Entrepreneur and Founding Member, APFNY  
"Challenges for diaspora communities and entrepreneurs"
- Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief, Migration Section, Population Division, UN DESA  
"The global diaspora database"

12:45 pm **Summary**

Ms. Sarah Rosengärtner, UNITAR

1:00 pm **Lunch break**



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Afternoon Conference room 8

**3:00 pm Session 2: Providing institutional support for diaspora engagement in reconstruction and capacity-building**  
Chair: Prof. Jennifer Brinkerhoff, Co-Director, Diaspora Program, George Washington University

- Dr. Michel Sho-Sawyer, Director, Executive Office of Diaspora Affairs, Office of the President, Sierra Leone
- Mr. Mark Hannafin, Senior Conflict Advisor/ Technical Team Leader, USAID
- Mr. Joost van der Aalst, IOM Chief of Mission in the Netherlands

Issues for discussion:

- Identifying the resources of diasporas and contributions they can make
- Identifying diaspora interlocutors
- Creating institutional interfaces for diaspora engagement

**4:30 pm Discussion**  
Ms. Sarah Rosengärtner, UNITAR

**5:00 pm Summary and Evaluation**  
Ms. Sarah Rosengärtner, UNITAR

**5:30 pm End of day**

**Wednesday, 29 April 2009**

Morning Conference room 8

**10:00am Introduction and Summary of day 1**  
Ms. Sarah Rosengärtner, UNITAR

**10:15 am Session 3: Diaspora engagement in peacebuilding and reconciliation**  
Facilitator: Prof. Andrea Bartoli, Drucie French Cumbie Chair of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University

- Mr. Wolfram Zunzer, Peace and Development Consultant and Researcher, Berghof Foundation for Peace Support
- Ms. Jennifer Presthold, Deputy Director & Mr. Ahmed K. Sirleaf II, Program Associate, The Advocates for Human Rights
- Mr. Abraham Awolich, Co-Founder, New Sudan Education Initiative (NESEI)

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**12:00 pm Keynote address** by Mr. William Lacy Swing, Director-General, IOM

**12:45 pm Evaluation and closing**  
Ms. Sarah Rosengärtner, UNITAR

**12:55 pm End of seminar**

**1:00 pm Press conference** by Mr. Carlos Lopes and Mr. William Lacy Swing (room S-226)



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