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NGO Section

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
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Invitation to the HLS of ECOSOC

New York, 28 May 2008.

To
Mr. Heribert Rollik
WFO - Advisor

On behalf of the NGO Section of the Department of Economics and Social Affairs, we would like to invite you to participate at the High-Level Segment of the Council from Monday, 30 June 2008 to 3 July 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The opening of the High-Level Segment on 30 June sets the stage for the two new principal functions of the strengthened Economic and Social Council: the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) and the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), both mandated by the 2005 World Summit and its follow up legislation by the General Assembly.

The Annual Ministerial Review aims to assess and enhance progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

The focus of the 2008 AMR is “**Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development**”, which encompasses growth, social development and environmental protection.

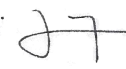
The DCF is expected to exert a positive influence on the international development cooperation system by bringing together all the relevant actors to engage in a dialogue on key policy issues affecting the quality and impact of development cooperation. The opening day features also a high-level policy dialogue of the Council with the major international trade and financial institutions.

Please find attached a preliminary programme which details the event.

The World Family Organization will hold a Ministerial Panel entitled “**The Formulation of Public Policies and Delivering of Basic Services to the Family in the Context of Sustainable Development**” at the United Nations Headquarters, on July 2nd from 10:00 to 13:00, followed by a Ministerial Lunch at the Delegates Dining Room 5-8 from 13:00 to 15:00.

We would like to thank you again for your continuous support to the United Nations. We would be honored if you could join us on this important occasion and we look forward to your participation.

Sincerely yours,

Hani for Mezoui 
Hanifa Mezoui

Chief, NGO Section
DESA, United Nations, New York

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**Economic and Social Council
2008 High-level Segment
30 June - 3 July 2008
ECOSOC Chamber, New York**

Draft Programme

Monday, 30 June am session

9:00 – 9:30 am

Opening of the High-level Segment

Opening address

Léo Mérorès, President of ECOSOC

Addresses

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations

Srgjan Kerim, President of the General Assembly

9:30 – 11:00 am

Keynote addresses on the theme “achieving sustainable development”

H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain

The Honourable Al Gore, tbc

Rajendra K Pachauri, Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Lord Stern of Brentford, author of the Stern Review

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

High-Level Policy Dialogue with the international financial and trade institutions on current developments in the world economy

Moderator: Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA

Panelists: Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Pascal Lamy, Director-General, World Trade Organization (via video conference)

Justin Lin, Chief Economist, World Bank

John Lipsky, First Deputy Managing Director, International Monetary Fund

1:15 – 2:45 pm

**Luncheon for Heads of delegations hosted by the President of ECOSOC¹
(Delegates Dining Room)**

¹ Upon invitation

Monday, 30 June pm session

- 3:00 – 3:30 pm **Opening of the Development Cooperation Forum**
Addresses
Leo Mérorès, President of ECOSOC
Ban-Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations
- 3:30 – 3:45 pm **Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General**
Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA
- 3:45 – 4:30 pm **Keynote Q&A** “*A new vision for development cooperation in the 21st century*”
Louis Michel, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid
- 4:35 – 6:30 pm **Development Cooperation Forum roundtables** (parallel)
- A. **Identifying gaps and obstacles** “*Allocating more aid: where should it go?*” (Conference Room 3, tbc)
 - B. **Reviewing trends and progress** “*South-South and triangular development cooperation: what can development actors learn?*” (Conference Room 4)
 - C. **Reviewing trends and progress** “*How are civil society and new actors enhancing impact at the country-level?*” (Conference Room 1)

Tuesday, 1 July am session

- 8:30 – 9:50 am **Breakfast meetings**²
- 10:00 – 10:45 am **Keynote Q&A** “*A new vision for development cooperation in the 21st century*”
- 11:00 – 1:00 pm **Development Cooperation Forum roundtables** (parallel)
- A. **Identifying gaps and obstacles** “*Are capacities ready for more aid at the country-level?*” (Conference Room 1)
 - B. **Exchanging lessons learned** “*How can development aid support national development strategies?*” (Conference Room 4)
- 1:15 – 2:45 pm **Luncheon meeting**³

² Additional information to be provided separately

³ Upon invitation. Additional information to be provided separately

Tuesday, 1 July pm session

- 3:00 – 6:30 pm **General debate for the High-level Segment** (parallel with the Development Cooperation Forum roundtable)
Statement by the Secretary-General, tbc
Introduction of the reports of the Secretary-General on the Annual Ministerial Review and the thematic discussion
Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA
- Development Cooperation Forum** (continued, Conference Room 4)
- 3:00 – 3:15 pm **Special presentation** “*Key policy messages and recommendations of the Rome Stakeholder Forum*”⁴
- 3:15 – 5:45 pm **Development Cooperation Forum roundtable**
A. Identifying gaps and obstacles “*Aid effectiveness agenda: towards consensus at Accra and Doha*”
- 5:45 – 6:00 pm **Closing of the Development Cooperation Forum**
Summary statement
Léo Mérorès, President of ECOSOC
- Concluding remarks**
Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA

Wednesday, 2 July am session

- 8:00 – 9:20 am **Ministerial roundtable breakfasts**⁵
- 9:30 am – 1:30 pm **Annual Ministerial Review: National Presentations**
Belgium
Chile
United Kingdom
United Republic of Tanzania

Wednesday, 2 July pm session

- 3:00 – 6:00 pm **General debate for the High-Level Segment** (concluded)

⁴ Rome Stakeholder Forum: “*The role of national and local stakeholders in contributing to aid quality and effectiveness*”, 12-13 June 2008

⁵ Additional information to be provided separately

Annual Ministerial Review roundtables (parallel with the General debate for the High-Level Segment)

A. *“The role of ecosystem services in sustainable development”* (Conference Room 6)

B. *“Meeting the challenges of water and sanitation”* (Conference Room tbc)

Thursday, 3 July am session

9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Annual Ministerial Review: National Presentations

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Luxemburg

Kazakhstan

Finland

Thursday, 3 July pm session

Thematic discussion: “Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development, taking into account current challenges”

3:00 – 5:30 pm

Panel discussions

A. *“Bioenergy, sustainable livelihoods and rural poor”* (ECOSOC Chamber)

B. *“Harnessing the current boom in agricultural commodities for poverty eradication and sustainable development: the case of small scale farmers”* (Conference Room 1)

5:35 – 6:00 pm

Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration