



Welcome to IADL,
International Association of Democratic Lawyers

U.N. ACTIVITIES BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

In Consultative Status with ECOSOC and Represented at UNESCO and
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES WORLD-WIDE	2
REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN GENEVA	6
REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK.....	8
REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN VIENNA	17
UPCOMING U.N. EVENTS AND CONFERENCES	20

REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES WORLD- WIDE

DEVELOPMENTS IN HAITI CHOLERA CASE

In October 2010, only one year after the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) introduced the cholera epidemic to the country, the first cholera epidemic in decades. IADL member the *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* (BAI) in Haiti is leading the fight for justice on behalf of victims of cholera in Haiti, in conjunction with BAI's US-affiliate the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (IJDH). BAI's managing attorney and IADL bureau member Mario Joseph is the lead attorney representing the victims and Beatrice Lindstrom, IADL Alternate Representative to the UN for New York and staff attorney at IJDH, is also working on the case. IADL intern Miriam Lacroix has contributed by assisting Beatrice on actions to put pressure on the UN to take

accountability for the epidemic. Beatrice reports below on developments in the case.

The ongoing cholera epidemic has killed over 8,000 Haitians since October 2010, and was caused by UN peacekeeping troops that introduced the bacteria as a result of negligent UN medical protocols and reckless waste management practices. The BAI filed claims with the UN on behalf of over 5,000 cholera survivors in November 2011, seeking justice and reparations in the form of a) life-saving investments in water and sanitation infrastructure; b) compensation for victims; and c) a public apology.

The organization has been advocating for a just UN response in collaboration with a broad network of supporters. In October, Mario Joseph traveled to the US and gave a series of talks on UN responsibility. In November 2012, a coalition of 48 human rights organizations wrote a letter appealing to the Secretary-General to provide a just response to the petitioners' claims. Over 28,000 people and counting have signed on to a petition urging the Secretary-General "to take urgent steps to help Haiti

acquire clean water and sanitation infrastructure so as to eliminate cholera from the country.” The petition is available at: http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/End_Haitis_Cholera_Epidemic_with_UN_Action_Now_1/. As one of IADL’s UN representatives, Beatrice has been meeting with UN member states, including members of the Security Council and key troop-contributing countries to build political support for a just resolution, and is working with NGO partners to organize advocacy events at the UN.

Despite the strong showing of international solidarity for victims of cholera, the UN tersely rejected the claims as “non-receivable” in February 2013. The BAI is continuing to push for justice, however, and announced at a UN press conference in May that it will pursue a lawsuit in a national court in the United States or Europe should the UN continue to refuse to find an amicable solution to the crisis. BAI hopes to draw on collaborations with other IADL members in the preparation and pursuit of a formal lawsuit.

The work has put Mr. Joseph at great personal risk– in September 2012, Mr. Joseph became subject to a high level of harassment and death threats pressuring him to cease his work. The BAI is grateful for the strong support of IADL and its members. IADL played a critical role in launching a rapid and effective response, including eliciting a directive from the Inter-American Commission on Human

Rights, that has resulted in a significant decrease in the harassment.

IADL WINS PROTECTION ORDER FOR HAITIAN ATTORNEYS INCLUDING IADL MEMBER MARIO JOSEPH

In response to the threats against Haitian lawyers Newton Saint-Juste and Michel André, and fellow IADL member and Human Rights Defender Mario Joseph, IADL member Roberto Zamora filed a petition before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, requesting the immediate cease of hostilities and requesting the State of Haiti to provide all the necessary measures to keep the lawyers safe. On October 19th, 2012, the Inter-American Commission issued resolution MC-363-12 which orders the State of Haiti to take all the necessary measures to guarantee the life and physical integrity of Mario Joseph and to arrange measures to provide for the victims and their representative. Regarding Saint-Juste and Michel, the Commission requested more information from the State.

As part of this work, Roberto traveled to Washington DC and met on October 10th with members of the Cautionary Measures and Human Rights Defenders Teams at the Inter-American Commission building. Both teams are organs of the Commission and are supervising the case at the moment. Roberto’s petition to the Commission can be found in the annexes to this bulletin as well as an informal English translation.

IADL DECLARES SUPPORT FOR STRUGGLE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On September 29th, 2012 the IADL issued a declaration from Gaza City declaring that the struggle of the Palestinian people is a just struggle to which IADL commits its support. The statement affirmed IADL's support for the self-determination of the Palestinian people, and, an end to the Occupation, an end to impunity for crimes, the release of Palestinian prisoners, and an end to torture. It declared that Israeli actions not only constitute illegal collective punishment of the entire population of the Gaza Strip, but are a precursor to genocide, and have resulted in crimes against humanity and war crimes, and called on Israel as an occupying power not only to stop these violations of human rights, but to also ensure that all human rights are protected and respected.

It further declared that the failure of the international community to hold Israel accountable for its crimes against the people of Palestine makes it complicit in these actions. The IADL confirmed and declared that it will work side by side with the Palestinian people in their pursuit to end the illegal occupation and realize their right to self-determination. For the full declaration, please see the Annex to the present Bulletin.

IADL-AFFILIATE IN TOGO MEETS WITH UN COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE TO PROTEST IMPUNITY FOR TORTURERS

Representatives from the IADL branch in Togo, which is part of CACIT, a Togolese collective of civil society associations against impunity in Togo, attended the 49th session of the United Nations Committee against Torture (CAT) in Geneva, Switzerland from November 9-13th, 2012. CAT is the body of 10 independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by its State parties. The Vice President of the IADL-affiliated Togo branch Gislain Koffi Nyaku was in attendance at the Session.

Togolese civil society was represented at the session by CACIT and the Action by Christians against Torture Togo Chapter (ACAT Togo). On November 9th, the CAT experts held a private meeting with Togolese civil society before meeting with the official delegation from Togo. At this meeting, the CACIT and ACAT Togo representatives presented, with the help of the World Organization Against Torture, a report that they had authored, highlighting the condition of detention in civil prisons, the absence of criminalization of torture at the national level, the impunity of torturers, the situation of Captain Lambert Adjimon (prison of Lomé), the non-observation of norms regarding the compensation of the victims of torture, and other issues. The aim of the report and discussion was to

give the CAT experts reliable and recent information concerning the implementation of the Convention against Torture by the government of Togo, to compare with the information presented by the government itself and to contribute to the meeting with the official delegation from Togo.

The official delegation from Togo was heard publicly by the CAT on November 12-13th. The government was represented by the Minister for Human Rights, Consolidation of Democracy and Civic Formation, Ms. Léonardina Rita Doris Wilson de Souza (head of the delegation), the Minister of Justice Mr. Tchitchao Tchelim and the Minister for Social Affairs, Employment and Social Security Mr. Yacoubou Hamadou. The delegation presented the report of the State.

The CAT experts found that the official delegation answered the experts' questions on the government's use of torture in a 'laconic' way. The experts noted the stagnation in the process of adopting a law to criminalize torture on the national level, the poor conditions in the prisons, and the impunity of torturers.

IADL AND TOGO BRANCH PARTICIPATE IN WORLD SOCIAL FORUM

The World Social Forum 2013 was held in Tunis, Tunisia, from March 26-30, 2013. IADL was well represented by President Jeanne Mirer, Permanent Representative to the UN Micòl Savia, and

President of the IADL Togo branch Bernard Anoumo Dodji BOKODJIN. The IADL Togo branch thanks the IADL bureau for its engagement and facilitation of Togo's participation. The branch particularly thanks IADL president Jeanne MIRER for her assistance and availability. The branch also thanks the IADL members present in Tunis for their collaboration, as well as its own members.

The Togo branch organized two events during the Forum, led by Bernard. The first was a dialogue session for human rights activists involved in the struggle against torture. The second event was on transitional justice in the African context. For a complete report of Togo's participation at the Forum and pictures of the activities please see the report in annex.

The IADL delegation also put on workshops on the Vietnamese victims of Agent Orange and another on Building a New Democratic International Economic Order, led by Jeanne. Bernard organized a press conference for IADL on March 29th where Jeanne spoke on these two topics. Jeanne's interviews may be seen on youtube.com at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOa9V297_SY&feature=youtu.be and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oBo-8EMG5g&feature=youtu.be

REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN GENEVA

PCHR AND IADL COLLABORATE ON JOINT STATEMENTS TO THE HRC CONDEMNING ISRAELI NON-COOPERATION AND IMPACT OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS

The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) together with the IADL, the Europe – Third World Centre (CETIM), and the American Association of Jurists (AAJ) issued two joint oral statements at the 22nd Session of the Human Rights Council held from February 25- March 22, 2013, which were presented to the Council by representatives of IADL. These oral statements related to Israel's refusal to submit its Universal Periodic Review, and the report of the UN mandated International Fact-Finding Mission investigating the impact of the Israeli settlements on the human rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. For the PCHR's full report on its participation in the Session, please see the press release in the annex.

IADL PARTICIPATES IN FIRST WORKING GROUP ON RIGHT TO PEACE

The first session of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Right to Peace was held on February 18-21, 2013. All interested States discussed a future declaration on the right to peace on the basis of the Draft proposed by the

Advisory Committee (for the Draft in all UN languages please see http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/20/31). IADL's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva Micòl Savia was in attendance and reports her observations below.

The attendance to the meeting was surprisingly high. Even States such as the UK, the USA and the European Union, which strongly oppose all discussions around the right to peace, attended the meeting, intervening on almost all the articles of the draft. Their position is always the same: the right to peace doesn't exist in international law and anyway would not represent an added-value.

They also complain that many articles of the draft, such as mercenaries, disarmament, migrants, nuclear weapons, etc., are actually in discussion in other fora or are under the competence of ad hoc mechanisms such as the Working Group on mercenaries or the Disarmament Conference. Sometimes they are right; sometimes they are not. Indeed the declaration prepared by the Advisory Committee has very high standards. It contains more than 75% of the Santiago Declaration, which is a NGO declaration. A text like that doesn't have much chance of being adopted. Even the Non-Aligned Movement agreed, on some occasions, insisting that anyway it is fundamental to maintain a general reference to such issues, making clear that they are core components of the right to peace.

Many delegations also complained that the declaration was dealing with issues on which there is not yet international consensus, such as the concept of Human Security, the Right to Protect, and others.

Civil Society had a good presence at this first session of the Working Group. The IADL made several joint oral interventions on single articles with the American Association of Jurists (AAJ), mainly on the basis of the written statement it submitted before the session. IADL "General Comments" on the Draft were also supported by CETIM (the Europe – Third World Centre). The participation of Roberto Zamora, representing AAJ, should be mentioned in particular. His contribution has been very positive and constructive. IADL also worked with Japanese colleagues who had a long tradition in defending the right to peace. Jun Sasamoto was representing the Japanese Bar Association. For a copy of the IADL statements that were made, please see the annexes to this bulletin.

The last day the Chairman of the Working Group, Mr. Christian Guillermet, ambassador of Costa Rica, presented a final report to be adopted by the Working Group. It is a factual report, which provides information- in a non-exhaustive way- about the interventions and suggestions made during the session by States, Regional Groups and Civil Society but without indicating names. At the end the discussion was on whether the report should contain conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group

to the Human Rights Council. The EU and the USA didn't want any because for them it was just a panel- a workshop. The Non-Aligned Movement wanted some conclusions; they said that it was necessary to give the Human Rights Council a Road-Map in order to continue toward the adoption of a UN Declaration on the Right to Peace.

Finally the adopted document includes conclusions and recommendations of the Chairman of the Working Group (instead of the Working Group itself): 1) to hold a second session before the 25th session of the HRC; 2) to authorize him as a Chairman to hold informal consultations with governments and other relevant stakeholders during the intercessional period; and 3) to be entrusted to prepare a new text on the basis of the intercessional informal consultations.

There are good possibilities with this process. Of course it will be a struggle, as always in human rights promotion and protection. The adopted report will be present during the next HRC session in June, and probably GRULAG will present a resolution to follow up in the way suggested by the Chairman of the Working Group. The IADL should continue to support the ongoing process and, in order to have a real impact, should conduct in-depth research and elaborate academic materials in order to counter the opposition to the right to peace by rich countries. Listening to the debate, in particular IADL should deepen engagement on some controversial issues:

the concept of Human Security, Collective and individual rights, and the possibility of prosecuting the right to peace.

There is a very good team working on the right to peace, but if there is someone else who wishes to participate, it would be excellent. The IADL will soon start work because there are legal standards that absolutely need to be saved. Interested persons should contact Micòl.

Micòl will provide a more comprehensive analysis on the point of negotiations at the bureau meeting in Paris along with a report on her additional UN activities during the last period.

REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK

IADL ACTIVITIES FOR ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE BETH LYONS

During the last period, Beth's activities have been principally administrative and organizational, and have included editing of the September 2013 *Bulletin*, working with IADL interns, recruiting and organizing nine new interns for 2013, assisting re UN badge renewals, and the following activities below.

Activities in Response to Threats against Mario Joseph and other Haitian lawyers

Beth solicited letters of support for Mario Joseph and others from the International Criminal Bar and the International Criminal Defence Attorneys' Association (ICDAA), Canada. She drafted a Statement on the Harassment and Threats against Haitian Lawyers, at the request of the ICDAA President, Ms. Elise Groulx.

Bi-ennial Reports from the ICTR/Y and Residual Mechanism to the Security Council, 5 December 2012

Beth watched the reports to the Security Council meeting via the Web. The meeting started at 3 p.m. and continued until 7 p.m. In contrast to previous meetings, there was generally glowing praise for the Tribunals for meeting their goals, with a few exceptions: the Russian Federation strongly attacked the fairness and impartiality of justice rendered by the ICTY Appeals Chamber decisions reversing convictions and releasing both Gotovina and Markac. Russia also requested that the Tribunals provide the SC with detailed timetables for each remaining case, including goals for daily progress. This proposal was roundly criticized by Germany, Portugal and others for interfering with the independence of the ICTY. The representative of Serbia criticized their acquittals as "shameful" and as examples of selective justice at the ICTY (No Croats or Albanians convicted, only Serbians).

Rwanda praised the ICTR, but was somewhat reserved in its accolades.

Rwanda praised Canada's decision to extradite Leon Mugesera, but pointed out that genocide fugitives were living in North America and in other countries, which were harboring them and sometimes participating in their "hateful campaigns." Rwanda thanked the ICTR for its "vote of confidence" in transferring Uwinkindi and other cases to its jurisdiction. Note: the IADL submitted an Amicus Brief in 2011 to the ICTR Appeals Chamber opposing the transfer of ICTR cases to Rwanda on fair trial grounds. Rwanda was visibly angry about France's delay in two cases concerning Rwanda, and requested more details on these cases in the next report in 2013. Rwanda also made a bid to serve as a place of incarceration for the enforcement of sentences and criticized the prison at Mali which currently has received ICTR prisoners who are serving their sentences. It requested the Residual Mechanism to investigate allegations that ICTR prisoners were allowed privileges in Mali. Rwanda also again requested to house the Archives, and is supported by the same request from the East African Community (Burundi, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania).

The ICTR President Joegensen's report focused on the need for state cooperation to relocate acquitted persons and those who have served their sentences.

The OTP Prosecutor Jallow detailed its assistance to 11 countries with requests for assistance re national prosecutions of alleged genocide perpetrators.

Activities re International Justice

Note: In these activities, Beth was invited to participate in her professional capacity as an international criminal defence attorney, but some activities strengthened IADL's connections to members of the African bars.

1. 3rd International Criminal Defense Conference: International Criminal Justice: Just for Whom? 29 September 2012, Montreal, Canada

Beth was an invited panelist to this Conference and spoke on "Evidentiary Issue: Fact-Finding without Facts at the ICTR." She also submitted a paper entitled "Prosecutorial Failure to Disclose Exculpatory Material: A Death Knell to Fairness in International (and all) Justice."

The Conference was attended by counsel (mainly Defence counsel and a few law students) from Canada, the United States, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, and Kenya and members of the Rwandan community in Montreal. Sponsors included Defence Counsel from the ICTR, and those accredited also at the ICC, the ICTY and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and the Rwandan Congress of Canada.

2. International Law Student Weekend at Fordham University Law School, New York, New York in October 2012

Beth was a panelist on Careers in International Law. A few students expressed an interest in working with IADL as a way to gain international law experience.

3. Special Court for Sierra Leone Legacy Conference, held in New York, November 2012 at the Mission of Canada to the UN

The Conference examined lessons learned from the SCSL, a hybrid tribunal, run jointly by the UN and Sierra Leone. The court's impact on the domestic justice system, its contributions to jurisprudence and its impact on society were discussed. Sponsored by the International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), this Legacy Conference was a precursor to its similar Conference, held in January 2013 in Sierra Leone. It was evident that the Sierra Leone court has functioned in a more balanced manner than the ICTR; this is reflected in the positive relations described by panelists between the Sierra Leone and the SCSL. Beth intervened on issues of the defence and fair trial rights, especially in respect to the Conference's organization. Alternate representative Claire Gilchrist was also in attendance.

* * *

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL HOSTS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE INFLUENCE OF BLACK PANTHERS IN THE USA AND WORLDWIDE

IADL Alternate Representative Claire Gilchrist attended the international symposium "The Black Panthers Worldwide Revisited" held at New York University Law School in New York on November 30th, 2012. The event was presented by the Institute of African American Affairs at NYU and examined the influence of the revolutionary and liberation movement of Black Panthers in the 1960s/1970s in the USA. Claire attended the first panel which consisted of a roundtable reunion of Panthers from America, India, Israel, the UK, and Australia who spoke and shared on the experiences of the members of their respective movements. The participants discussed why they formed a Panther Party, what their inspiration was, what they were rebelling against, what they were up against in their respective countries, and how they heard about and created a bond of solidarity with the US Black Panthers.

"SPECIAL PROCEDURES" ALLOW UN TO INTERVENE IN CONFLICT PRIOR TO EXHAUSTING DOMESTIC REMEDIES; CAN BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF R2P, SAYS UN OFFICIAL

The UN Office of the High Commissioner sponsored a special event entitled "Human Rights Mainstreaming – What Role for Special Procedures?" on February 14, 2013, attended by IADL volunteer Stacy Cammarano. The event aimed to discuss the ways in which special procedures—independent experts with individual mandates to protect human

rights—could work together with other UN bodies and civil society. It further aimed to familiarize New York-based individuals on the variety of special procedure mandates, examine past practices—both good and bad—and discuss how these procedures could be used in the future to create a more consolidated approach to human rights mainstreaming.

Moderator Ivan Šimonović, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, introduced the panel explaining that although human rights are the main focus of the Human Rights Council, they also play a role in various other UN bodies, for example the Department of Political Affairs (represented at the panel by Oscar Fernandez-Taranco.) In describing the UN special procedures, Mr. Šimonović emphasized their flexibility and political visibility, but also noted their lack of individual resources, as they are dependent on domestic sources for implementation.

Leïla Zerrougui, Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict further described the flexibility of special procedures in responding quickly to changing circumstances. She explained that urgent appeals are a useful tool to address violations quickly because there is no need to exhaust domestic remedies. Another tool, country visits, enable direct interaction on specific issues and direct recommendations after the fact. When Ms. Zerrougui engaged in a country visit to the

Democratic Republic, for example, she worked with special rapporteurs and implemented the human rights due diligence policy, to mitigate risk, for the first time. Finally, she emphasized the importance of sharing information and cooperating in clarifying legal principals, through, for example the Universal Periodic Review.

Michel Forst, Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures and Independent Expert on the Situation of Human Rights in Haiti focused on the need to better coordinate efforts between member states, intergovernmental bodies, and independent experts. He noted that the country visits by individual special rapporteurs were a vital tool but sometimes lacked the follow-up tools, a deficiency which may be filled by country teams. In his role as the Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, he listed various examples in which others with special procedure mandates worked successfully with governments and several instances in which special procedures built upon recommendations of other special procedures in tangential fields.

Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs (DPA) began with three examples of the evolution of the UN's normative framework. First, the framework has evolved in a way that further qualifies sovereignty, for example with the adoption of Responsibility to Protect. As a corollary, he stated that examining human rights is expected in all aspects of the

UN's work. A second evolution has been the increased use of conflict analysis. The DPA and many special procedures examine various conflict management issues through a lens of exclusion—identifying whether groups are being alienated and how that affects growing conflict. Additionally, the DPA monitors human rights violations as their primary conflict indicator. A final evolution is a shift away from pitting peace and justice against each other. Mr. Fernandez-Taranco noted that compromises that downplay human rights and accountability tend to backfire and the community is shifting away from that pitfall, for example by prohibiting amnesties through customary international law. He further emphasized the need for various UN bodies and special rapporteurs to work together in mediation. He noted that the DPA works with special rapporteurs to further operational projects. He further stressed the need for sharing practices among special rapporteurs and UN and domestic bodies in supporting constitution-making processes, and ensuring equal participation for women in conflict resolution and political processes.

51st SESSION ON THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (CSocD)

The Commission for Social Development's 51st Session took place from February 6 – 15, 2013 in New York with the priority theme “promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all.” Related to the priority theme, panels

focused on youth, aging, and disabilities. IADL interns Stacy Cammarano, Brittany Grierson, Miriam D. LaCroix, Sondah Ouattara, and Ayishetu Rahaman attended these events.

In the opening meeting, speakers discussed empowerment through the use of information and communications technology. The panel acknowledged that high rates of unemployment are a major obstacle for the empowerment of young people. Members of civil society responded that public sector emphasis on empowerment is vital and that governments can make progress toward remedying social and economic inequalities by implementing social security programs, registering births, and providing education.

In the 8th meeting the Commission continued discussion of its priority theme, beginning with a statement by Mr. Shuaib Chalklen, Special Rapporteur on Disability. Delegates from the representative countries shared some of the improvements made implementing economic empowerment programs. The Mexican delegation inquired about the inclusion of organizations like UNICEF and UNDP to better coordinate duplicate efforts, and stated that UNICEF has made progress for disabilities and persons with disabilities. Mr. Chalklen responded that such bodies are included in measurements of progress, but that a continuing limitation was access to regional offices. Other examples of improvements include, inter alia, the European Union delegation's interest in mainstreaming and improving

accessibility to deaf persons, Russia's ratification of a document recognizing the rights of the disabled, and Costa Rica's holistic care for the elderly, and Cuba's improved social perception of the disabled, including the participation of twenty two individuals in the Special Olympics. The Republic of Korea delegation noted that strengthening international cooperation should be a priority.

In the 9th meeting of the Commission on Social Development, the panelists focused on the emerging youth population, and the need to get them more involved in socioeconomic development and the political process. The panelists noted that even in advanced societies, there is a high rate of unemployment for youth. The representative from Sri Lanka outlined ways to help increase political participation of the youth. The country has recently implemented a Youth Parliament, where people ages 13-29 participate in a leadership program that teaches democratic values. Germany suggested engaging youth from a very early age to teach them that their voice counts in political decisions. The panel also tackled with how to effectively reach out to youth, and determined social media to be the best avenue. Most importantly, the panel stressed that youth should take an active role in the decision making process concerning programs and policies designed for the youth.

In the 10th meeting, the Commission continued its discussion of the main theme of promoting empowerment of people in achieving

poverty eradication, social integration, full employment and decent work for all, focusing on the disabled, elderly, and youth, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. Various NGOs discussed the ways in which poverty affected particular target groups. For example the AARP highlighted the tendency for caregivers to be elderly, the World Youth Alliance emphasized increasing youth unemployment, and the United Youth Alliance stressed the need for a change in public perception from assuming youth are lazy to recognizing their capabilities. In response, representatives from many countries explained what their countries are doing to eradicate poverty and empower the youth, elderly, and disabled. In particular, delegates described reform through new policies that put those classes of people at the forefront of their agenda.

In the thirteenth and fourteenth meetings the Commission adopted five draft proposals: (1) "Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Commission for Social Development" (E/CN.5/2013/L.2); (2) "Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" (E/CN.5/2013/L.3); (3) "Policies and programmes involving youth" (E/CN.5/2013/L.4); (4) "Second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan, of Action on Ageing, 2002" (E/CN.5/2013/L.6); and (5) "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development" (E/CN.5/2013/L.7).

For detailed reports of the various meetings please see the bulletin annexes.

57th COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)

The 57th CSW took place in New York from March 4-15, 2013 with the priority theme of the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls. For the first time, the delegation of the Holy See and other member states such as Belorussia were not able to prevent the agreed conclusions of the CSW on ending violence against women and girls.

IADL's Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna Evelyn Dürmayer was in attendance, in addition to Vienna Alternate Representative Lilian Hofmeister, also a member of the official Austrian delegation, Italian ADL member Barbara Spinelli, and IADL interns Vivian Costandy and Sarah Hogarth. Barbara and Lilian spoke at two NGO events held in parallel with the official CSW meetings, reported below. During this period, President Jeanne Mirer, Evelyn, and Alternate Representative Beth Lyons met to discuss the proposal for an IADL Women's Commission.

IADL members speak on trafficking at NGO Consultation Day

Barbara Spinelli and Lilian Hofmeister spoke on a panel on Trafficking of Women and Girls on March 3rd as part of an NGO consultation day held during the CSW. The panel was moderated by Ilona Graenitz, Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women. Evelyn Dürmayer reports below.

Helga Konrad, a former Austrian Minister for Women's Affairs and Ambassador to Cuba spoke on trafficking and concentrated her intervention on the gaps and the lack of political will of the governments to fight against this seemingly never ending issue. Lilian, an alternate judge at the Austrian Constitutional Court and Austria's CEDAW candidate for the period beginning 2015, made the link on a high theoretical level to the concept of masculinity and the influence on the political, economic and cultural context of violence against women. The last speaker was Barbara, an Italian lawyer and expert on femicide who retraced briefly the history of femicide as a violation of human rights, the policy and the practices in Italy and the requirement of the due diligence obligation of states. Last but not the least was speaker Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary- General for intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships, UN Women.

IADL member Barbara Spinelli speaks on CEDAW and women's rights in Italy

On March 5, 2013 IADL member Barbara Spinelli spoke on a panel on the

issue of Violence against Women and Femicide in Italy, as part of the Italian platform “30 Years CEDAW: Work in Progress.” Her speech addressed the long path forward for women's rights in Italy. The event was attended by IADL intern Sarah Hogarth who shares her observations below.

In 2010, a national network of women's organizations in Italy came together to write a shadow report addressing the high rate of violence against women and femicide, and to make recommendations on how to meaningfully implement CEDAW in Italy. The work had a strong resonance in Italy and the platform grew into a lasting coalition under the banner “Convention No More!” which launched a broader political campaign demanding political action on this issue.

Author of this report, attorney Barbara Spinelli, explained that the Italian platform made a political choice to adopt the term “femicide” in awareness of the human rights movement in Mexico and their ongoing struggle to bring the issue to the attention of the human rights community and the world. Taking inspiration from this work, Italian women have incorporated discussion of “feminicidio” in Italy and Europe into their public discourse. Using CEDAW as a tool for change, the Italian platform began with a shadow report and asked the Special Rapporteur to do an investigation which led to UN recognition of the lack of accountability and justice for women in Italy. Spinelli also discussed the

connection between extreme violence against women and the status of women generally in society and stressed the importance of ongoing work on gender stereotypes, increased access to justice for women, data collection using UN indicators, founding more shelters and making support services more accessible to women.

Other panel members described the deeply rooted gender stereotypes in Italy, widespread male domination, degradation and objectification of women, under-representation of women in parliament, and the general intolerance of women making choices outside of gender norms. Intimate partner violence and femicide are on the rise in Italy and the country's legal system offers weak protection for women that have experienced violence while cultural pressures for women to tolerate violence from male family members remain strong. Stalking only became a crime in 2009 and is still largely thought of as “courting.” Italy did not seriously attempt to document violence against women until 2006 and women's shelters are closing nationwide due to lack of funding. Lack of access to justice for undocumented women is a particularly serious issue.

The Convention No More! platform has achieved some notable successes including a positive change in media representation of the issue since they began their work, including adoption of the term 'femicide' in popular discussion, and there is now legislation pending in parliament on protection and

prevention of violence against women. However, the platform is calling for a stronger political will which will be necessary to change the culture of violence against women, make sexism a public concern, change social norms and the perception of violence against women as a private issue, acknowledge violence against women as a human rights issue, and make the world safer for women.

“Women in the Egyptian Revolution: Documentation as Resistance”

Permanent Representative Evelyn Dürmayer and IADL intern Vivian Costandy attended this NGO parallel event on March 6, 2013, sponsored by the Women & Memory Forum. Egyptian women’s rights activists Ms. Dalia Abdel-Hamid, Prof. Hoda Elsadda, and Ms. Maissan Hassan reported on their work documenting women’s experiences of the revolution. They discussed the need to preserve songs, poetry, personal testimonies, graffiti, and revolutionary slogans created by women to ensure that they will not be excluded from the history of the revolution, and they reported on archiving efforts undertaken thus far. The activists also discussed the persistent sexual violence against women perpetrated by male co-revolutionaries, the police, military, and civilians, and focused on the recent phenomena of mob violence against women in Tahrir Square.

“Prosecuting Gender-Based Crimes and the ICC”

This March 6, 2013 event was sponsored by the International Alliance of Women and attended by IADL intern Vivian. Mr. John Washburn and Ms. Jelena Pia-Comella, representatives from the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, provided an overview of the International Criminal Court’s (ICC) history and purpose. They expressed a favorable opinion of the Obama administration’s relationship with the ICC and shared their short- and long-term US policy and legislative objectives. The presenters also discussed the status of ongoing cases including charges for sex- and gender-based crimes and challenges to victims’ participation in ICC proceedings.

“Women with Disability: Impact of Intersectionality of Multiple Violence and Discrimination”

IADL intern Vivian attended this Asia Pacific Forum on Women sponsored event on March 7, 2013 at the UN Church Center. Women with disabilities activists Ms. Tika Dahal (Nepal), Ms. Mi Joo Kim (South Korea), Ms. Maulani Rotinsulu (Indonesia), and Ms. Chanhpeng Sivila (Laos) shared the difficulties women and girls with disabilities face in their countries and reported on national measures activists have taken to promote and protect their rights. Common challenges in the Asia Pacific region included the stigma of disability, rampant sexual violence, and lack of access to education and employment. They emphasized that disability rights should not be a subset of women’s rights; rather, disability rights are a cross-cutting issue

that must be mainstreamed into any discussion of human rights.

“Violence in Widowhood: Hidden and Unaddressed, How to Protect and Prevent”

This side event was organized by the Widows for Peace through Democracy from the UK and moderated by lawyer Margaret Owen, who works closely with the Haldane Society. Evelyn was in attendance.

“Women’s right to safety and support - ensuring the access of undocumented migrant women to services”

Wave, or Women against violence Europe sponsored this event, which provided information about undocumented migrant women's situation in Europe and presented research findings. This event was observed by Evelyn.

“Tradition, Culture and Religion: Affirming Existing Human Rights Agreements to Strengthen the Effort”

Evelyn attended this event where US human and women's rights activist Charlotte Bunch made an introduction on fundamentalism and the link to women’s sexuality, including the role of power and money and the most negative influence of the Vatican.

HUNDREDS GATHER IN NEW YORK CITY TO RALLY AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

On May 13, 2013 hundreds of climate change activists gathered and marched in New York City to send a message to United States President Barack Obama, who was in town on a fundraising trip, to stop the Keystone XL oil pipeline project, which has significant risk for toxic spills across North America. IADL Alternate Representative Claire Gilchrist was among the marchers. The rally and march, entitled “Unite against Pipelines, Forward on Climate!” was organized by the New York City chapter of 350.org, an environmental non-profit with the mission to build a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis. Among the organizations participating in the event were university and city-wide fossil fuel divestment groups, Occupy the Pipeline-an offshoot of Occupy Wall Street-, and the US environmental group the Sierra Club.

REPORT ON U.N. ACTIVITIES IN VIENNA

Note: Permanent Representative Evelyn Dürmayer and Alternate Representative Lilian Hofmeister attended and participated in the 57th CSW in New York City during this period. For reports of their activities there please see the CSW items under the New York section of this bulletin.

UN CONFERENCE AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED

CRIME FOCUSES ON TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS

The Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was held in Vienna, Austria October 15-19th, 2012. IADL's Permanent representative to the United Nations in Vienna, Evelyn Dürmayer, participated in the session, which focused in large part on preventing trafficking of persons and addressing the labor conditions which foster exploitation.

IADL's UN REPRESENTATIVE FOR VIENNA SPEAKS OUT ON ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE AT MEETINGS OF THE VIENNA NGO COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

At the November 22nd, 2012 meeting of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women, one day after the November 21, 2012 ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, Evelyn Dürmayer presented a short version of the IADL bureau meeting in Gaza held on 27 September 2012, focusing on the fact that the Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) had invited IADL, recalling that the PCHR and its director Raji Sourani had received in 2002 the Bruno Kreisky Prize for services to Human Rights and that the delegation met with the Prime Minister and ministers from his government, representatives of political parties, women's associations and representatives from UNRWA, UNESCO, WHO and other NGOs. As an example of

the issues facing the Palestinian people she discussed the difficulty in establishing a school or a housing project which requires the approval of the Israeli authorities. She expressed hope for future negotiations after the cease fire and hope that the Special Rapporteur on human rights in the Palestinian territories, occupied since 1967, would call for the protection of civilians.

A representative from the Women's International Zionist Organization stated that Evelyn's report was biased and gave a statement on the trauma of children in Israel during the last few weeks.

At the second meeting of the Committee on January 31st, 2013 Evelyn reported that for the first time in the history of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, a state – Israel- who should be presenting a report on the human rights situation, withdrew from the session. The WIZO representative protested that Evelyn's statements were not objective, following which the chairwoman of the Committee asked for a break and a concentration on women issues and stated that if there is a proposal for a discussion on the sensitive issue of Israel and Palestine there might be a separate and well prepared meeting.

IADL MEMBER BARBARA SPINELLI SPEAKS ON FEMICIDE IN EUROPE AT UN SYMPOSIUM

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of

Violence against Women, a symposium was organized in the United Nations Office at Vienna on November 26th, 2012. Representatives of Member States and non-governmental organizations, social scientists, criminologists, prosecutors, police officers, feminist activists and concerned individuals attended this one day conference. The Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women was co-organizer of this UN Conference and IADL member Barbara Spinelli was a panelist. For the invitation, as well as Barbara's speech, and the declaration from the conference, please see the annexes to this bulletin.

SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR SPEAKS TO VIENNA NGO COMMITTEE

Ambassador Xolisa Mabhongo of the Republic of South Africa speaks to the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women about the situation for women in RSA and his work at the United Nations in Vienna. He was invited to speak by Evelyn Dürmayer and alternate representative Lilian Hofmeister. Ambassador Mabhongo served as vice-chairperson at the most recent session of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna.

VIENNA NGO COMMITTEE MEETS WITH SWISS AMBASSADOR TO UN TO LOBBY FOR SUPPORT IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FEMICIDE

The Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women together with the Vienna NGO Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice met the Swiss ambassador and representative to the United Nations bodies in Vienna as part of lobbying among the ambassadors for supporting women's issues namely femicide, and for the participation of NGOs at UN experts and governmental meetings as observers with the right to take the floor.

22nd SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CCPCJ)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime held its 22nd Session of CCPCJ in Vienna from April 22-26. The focus was on emerging forms of crime that have an impact on the environment. There was no contact with the IADL UN representatives in Vienna from IADL member associations regarding this event. The Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women together with the Vienna NGO Committee on Sustainable Development held a side event on April 25th entitled "Criminal Waste: the Cost to Women" where two women experts presented reports linking land grabbing to criminal waste and the impact and costs for women. One expert was from the right-to-food organization Fian (www.fian.org) and one from Via Campesina. The flyer for this event is attached in the Annex.

The IADL *U.N. Activities Bulletin* is prepared under the direction of the Permanent Representative to the U.N. in New York, Prof. Lennox S. Hinds. This issue was edited by Claire Gilchrist, with assistance from Beth Lyons. Reports were contributed by Bernard Bokodjin, Stacy Cammarano, Vivian Costandy, Evelyn Dürmayer, Claire Gilchrist, Brittany Grierson, Beatrice Lindstrom, Beth Lyons, Jeanne Mirer, Sondah Ouattara, Ayishetu Rahaman, Micòl Savia, and Roberto Zamora. Thanks to Stacy Cammarano and Ayishetu Rahaman for their assistance in coordinating observation of the CSD and CSW.

UPCOMING UN EVENTS & CONFERENCES

June – November 2013

June 2013			
-	Commission on Science and Technology for Development, sixteenth session	Geneva	3 - 7 June
-	Committee for Programme and Coordination, 53rd session	New York	3 - 28 June
-	Committee on Contributions, 73rd session	New York	3 - 21 June
-	Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, annual session	New York	3 - 14 June
-	Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, third session	New York	3 - 7 June
-	IAEA, Board of Governors	Vienna	3 - 7 June
-	States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 25th meeting	New York	3 June
-	UNFCCC, meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, 38th session	Bonn, Germany	3 - 14 June
-	WFP, Executive Board, annual session	Rome	3 - 7 June
-	ILO, General Conference, 102nd session	Geneva	5 - 21 June
-	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, resumed session	New York	7 June
-	States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 23rd meeting	New York	10 - 14 June
-	ITU, Council	Geneva	11 - 21 June
-	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, 56th session	Vienna	12 - 21 June
-	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, fortieth session	Vienna	13 - 14 June
-	FAO, Conference, 38th session	Rome	15 - 22 June
-	Committee against Torture, Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, twentieth session	Geneva	17 - 21 June
-	Committee on the Rights of the Child, pre-sessional working group, 64th session	Geneva	17 - 21 June
-	Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law	New York	17 - 20 June

	of the Sea, fourteenth meeting		
•	Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals	New York	17 - 19 June
•	Special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and Chairs of the working groups of the Human Rights Council, twentieth session	Geneva	17 - 21 June
•	UNCTAD, Trade and Development Commission, fifth session	Geneva	17 - 21 June
•	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives, 123rd meeting	Nairobi	18 June
•	UNICEF, Executive Board, annual session	New York	18 - 21 June
•	United Nations International Meeting in Support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace	Beijing	18 - 19 June
•	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, 49th meeting	Nairobi	19 June
•	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, 49th meeting	Nairobi	19 June
•	ILO, Governing Body and its committees, 318th session	Geneva	21 June
•	Chairpersons of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies, 25th session	Geneva	24 - 28 June
•	FAO, Council, 147th session	Rome	24 - 25 June
•	Group of Governmental Experts to review the operation and further development of the Register of Conventional Arms, third session	New York	24 - 28 June
•	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Situations, twelfth session	Geneva	24 - 28 June
•	Human Rights Council, Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, fifth session	Geneva	24 - 28 June
•	Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, 43rd session	Geneva	24 - 28 June
•	UN-Women, Executive Board, annual session	New York	24 - 28 June
•	UNIDO, Industrial Development Board, 41st session	Vienna	24 - 27 June
•	Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, sixtieth session	Geneva	26 - 28 June
•	UNIDO, General Conference, second special session	Vienna	28 June
•	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People, second part (up to 20 meetings)	New York	June/July
July 2013			
•	Economic and Social Council, substantive session	Geneva	1 - 26 July
•	Human Rights Committee, pre-sessional Working Group on Communications, 108th session	Geneva	1 - 5 July
•	Independent Audit Advisory Committee, 23rd session	New York	1 - 3 July
•	Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, 25th session	Geneva	1 - 3 July
•	Working Group on Discrimination Against Women in Law and in Practice, seventh session	New York	1 - 5 July
•	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, tenth meeting	Vienna	2 - 5 July
•	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention, 26th session	Geneva	4 - 5 July

-	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 55th session	Geneva	8 - 26 July
-	Group of Governmental Experts on Outer Space Transparency and Confidence-building Measures, third session	New York	8 - 12 July
-	Human Rights Committee, 108th session	Geneva	8 - 26 July
-	Human Rights Council, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, sixth session	Geneva	8 - 12 July
-	International Law Commission, 65th session, second part	Geneva	8 July - 9 August
-	International Law Seminar	Geneva	8 - 26 July
-	International Seabed Authority, Assembly, nineteenth session	Kingston	8 - 26 July
-	UNCITRAL, 46th session	Vienna	8 - 26 July
-	UNCTAD, Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, thirteenth session	Geneva	8 - 10 July
August 2013			
-	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 83rd session	Geneva	12 - 30 August
-	Group of Governmental Experts to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction	Geneva	12 - 16 August
-	Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, eleventh session	Geneva	12 - 16 August
-	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B and informal/expert meetings, 41st session	Vienna	12 - 30 August
-	Ad Hoc Open-Ended Informal Working Group on Marine Biodiversity	New York	19 - 23 August
-	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Communications, thirteenth session	Geneva	19 - 23 August
-	United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, tenth session	New York	19 - 23 August
-	UNWTO, General Assembly, twentieth session	Victoria Falls, Zambia/Zimbabwe	24 - 29 August
-	Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, fourth session	Vienna	26 - 28 August
-	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, 67th session	Geneva	26 - 30 August
-	Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, seventh meeting	Vienna	29 - 30 August
-	Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals	New York	August
September 2013			
-	Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, tenth session	Geneva	2 - 13 September

-	UNCTAD, Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget, 65th session (technical cooperation)	Geneva	2 - 4 September
-	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Fall session	New York	3 September - 13 December
-	Committee on Conferences, substantive session	New York	3 - 9 September
-	UNICEF, Executive Board, second regular session	New York	3 - 6 September
-	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, nineteenth session	Geneva	9 - 13 September
-	Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, second regular session	New York	9 - 13 September
-	Human Rights Council, 24th session	Geneva	9 - 27 September
-	IAEA, Board of Governors	Vienna	9 - 13 September
-	States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, fourth meeting	Lusaka, Zambia	10 - 13 September
-	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives, 124th meeting	Nairobi	10 September
-	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, 23rd session (to be confirmed)	Addis Ababa or a capital in the region	16 - 20 September
-	Committee on the Rights of the Child, 64th session	Geneva	16 September - 4 October
-	IAEA, General Conference, 57th session	Vienna	16 - 20 September
-	IFAD, Executive Board, 109th session	Rome	16 - 20 September
-	UN-Women, Executive Board, second regular session**	New York	16 - 18 September
-	UNCCD, Conference of the Parties to the Convention and meetings of subsidiary bodies, eleventh session	Windhoek, Namibia	16 - 27 September
-	UNCITRAL, Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation), 59th session (to be confirmed)	Vienna	16 - 20 September
-	UNCTAD, Trade and Development Board, 60th session	Geneva	16 - 27 September
-	General Assembly, 68th session	New York	17 September - December
-	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, fiftieth meeting	Nairobi	18 September
-	General Assembly, High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with	New York	23 September

disabilities: "The way forward: a disability inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond"

- IAEA, Board of Governors	Vienna	23 September
- UNCITRAL, Working Group I	Vienna	23 - 27 September
- UNESCO, Executive Board, 192nd session	Paris	23 September - 10 October
- WIPO, Assemblies of Member States	Geneva	23 September - 2 October
- ICAO, Assembly, thirty-eighth session	Montreal	24 September - 4 October
- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention, 27th session	Geneva	25 - 27 September
- General Assembly, High-level meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament	New York	26 September
- Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty	New York	27 September
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, 23rd meeting (to be confirmed)	Santiago or a capital in the region	30 September - 4 October
- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 56th session	Geneva	30 September - 18 October
- UNCITRAL, Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce), 48th session (to be confirmed)	Vienna	30 September - 4 October
- UNHCR, Executive Committee, 64th session	Geneva	30 September - 4 October
- United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, Board of Trustees, 38th session	Geneva	30 September - 4 October
- Working Group on Discrimination Against Women in Law and in Practice, eighth session	Geneva	30 September - 4 October
- UNRWA, Advisory Commission (1 day)	Amman	September
October 2013		
- States Parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, fourteenth meeting	Geneva	1 October
- General Assembly, 68th session, Fourth Committee	New York	3 October -

			8 November
-	General Assembly, High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development	New York	3 - 4 October
-	Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, 33rd session***	New York	7 October - 22 November
-	Committee on the Rights of the Child, pre-sessional working group, 65th session	Geneva	7 - 11 October
-	General Assembly, 68th session, First Committee	New York	7 October - 6 November
-	General Assembly, 68th session, Sixth Committee	New York	7 October - 15 November
-	Human Rights Committee, pre-sessional Working Group on Communications, 109th session	Geneva	7 - 11 October
-	Human Rights Council, Intergovernmental Working Group on Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, eleventh session	Geneva	7 - 18 October
-	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group A and informal/expert meetings, 44th session	Vienna	7 - 9 October
-	UNCITRAL, Working Group III (Online Dispute Resolution), 28th session (to be confirmed)	Vienna	7 - 11 October
-	Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, 48th session	New York	8 October
-	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Executive Council, 74th session	The Hague	8 - 11 October
-	Annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund, Fall meetings	Washington D.C.	11 - 13 October
-	Human Rights Committee, 109th session	Geneva	14 October - 1 November
-	ICAO, Committee, 200th session	Montreal	15 October
-	ILO, Governing Body and its committees, 319th session	Geneva	17 - 31 October
-	Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, ninth session	Geneva	21 - 25 October
-	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, pre-sessional working group, 58th session	Geneva	21 - 25 October
-	Human Rights Council, Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, seventeenth session	Geneva	21 October - 1 November
-	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, Board of Trustees, 26th session	Geneva	21 - 25 October
-	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, 37th meeting	Bangkok	22 - 25 October
-	Committee against Torture, 51st session	Geneva	28 October - 22

			November
•	International Narcotics Control Board, 108th session	Vienna	28 October - 15 November
•	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, 41st session	Vienna	28 - 30 October
•	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, Board of Trustees, 39th session	Geneva	28 October - 1 November
•	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances, 101st session	Geneva	30 October - 8 November
•	UNWTO, Executive Council, 96th session	Place to be determined	October/November
•	UNWTO, Executive Council, 97th session	Place to be determined	October/November
•	UPU, Council of Administration	Berne	October/November

November 2013

•	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 51st session	Geneva	4 - 29 November
•	Committee on Enforced Disappearances, fifth session	Geneva	4 - 15 November
•	Disarmament Commission, organizational session**	New York	4 November
•	Investments Committee, 219th meeting	New York	4 November
•	UNESCO, General Conference, 37th session	Paris	4 - 19 November
•	WFP, Executive Board, second regular session	Rome	4 - 8 November
•	UNCTAD, Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, thirtieth session	Geneva	5 - 8 November
•	Committee against Torture, Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 21st session	Geneva	11 - 15 November
•	High Contracting Parties to Protocol V to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects	Geneva	11 - 12 November
•	UNFCCC, Conference of the Parties to the Convention and meetings of subsidiary bodies, nineteenth session	Warsaw, Poland	11 - 22 November
•	United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities	New York	11 November
•	High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, fifteenth annual conference	Geneva	13 November
•	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, 68th session	Geneva	13 - 22 November
•	States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, annual meeting	Geneva	14 - 15 November

-	Human Rights Council, working group of experts on people of African descent, thirteenth session	Geneva	18 - 22 November
-	ICAO, Council, 200th session	Montreal	18 - 29 November
-	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Board of Trustees, eighteenth session	Geneva	18 - 22 November
-	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991), 76th session	Geneva	19 - 21 November
-	UNU, Council, sixtieth session (1 week)	New York	21 - 22 November
-	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, 48th session (to be confirmed)	A capital in the region	25 - 29 November
-	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**	New York	25 November
-	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**	New York	25 November
-	Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, fifth session	Panama City	25 - 29 November
-	Human Rights Council, Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, sixth session	Geneva	25 - 29 November
-	IAEA, Board of Governors, Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee	Vienna	25 - 27 November
-	IMO, Assembly, 28th session	London	25 November - 4 December
-	Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, 44th session	Geneva	25 November - 4 December
-	Human Rights Council, Forum on Minority Issues, sixth session	Geneva	26 - 27 November
-	United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, second regular session	New York	26 November
-	IAEA, Board of Governors	Vienna	28 - 29 November