



UN-NGO-IRENE UPDATE

Issue no 14 – December 2004

WHAT'S NEW

◆ **UN-NGO-IRENE/Azerbaijan established in Baku on 26 November 2004**

National Coordinator: National Assembly of Youth Organizations of Republic of Azerbaijan (NAYORA), a leading NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC, chaired by Mr. Fuad Muradov.

NAYORA will serve as national coordinator in close cooperation with the following elected thematic focal points:

1. **Poverty Alleviation and Hunger (MDG 1):** Community Development Center in collaboration with Azerbaijan Democratic Students and Youth Organization
2. **Education (MDG 2):** “Initiative” Charity Public Union
3. **Gender Equality /Women Empowerment:** New Life Humanitarian and Social Support Union
4. **Health (MDGs 4, 5 and 6) :** “NUR” Public Union of Children and Youth in collaboration with “Buta” Children Humanitarian Foundation
5. **Environment (MDG 7):** ECORES
6. **Partnerships (MDG 8):** Baku Youth Club in collaboration with Azerbaijan War Veterans Union
7. **Peace, Security and Human Rights:** Azerbaijan Young Lawyers Union in collaboration with Society for International Cooperation of Disabled People

Development of a strategic action plan for UN-NGO-IRENE/Azerbaijan based on the expressed needs and the proposed solutions of the working group’s participants who highly took into account the civil society contribution to the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). 84 Participants attended the Meeting representing Azerbaijani NGOs, the United Nations (DESA, UNDP, UNFPA, DPI, IOM, UNIFEM and UN), Partners and Sponsors (press, the business community and donors) and the government. NGOs from the Caspian region and Turkey also attended the meeting as observers with a view to launch similar meetings in their respective country in the future.

◆ **UN-NGO-IRENE/Caspian Region established in Baku on 27 November 2004:**

Regional Coordinator: Fund for Aid for Youth (FAY), a leading NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC: President of FAY, Mr. Nedim Kaya. **FAY will serve as regional coordinator** in close cooperation with the following elected thematic focal points:

1. **Poverty Alleviation and Hunger (MDG 1):** Business Women’s Association – Uzbekistan
2. **Education (MDG 2):** Kazakhstan Association of the Customs Brokers; Green Earth Foundation – Georgia

3. **Gender Equality /Women Empowerment:** Kyrgyzstan Forum of Women NGOs
4. **Health (MDGs 4, 5 and 6) :** National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (NAYORA) in collaboration with “Buta” Children Humanitarian Foundation
5. **Environment (MDG 7):** ECORES – Azerbaijan; International Center for Environmental Research (Georgia)
6. **Peace and Conflict Prevention (Millennium Declaration):** International Associations of Young Diplomats – Georgia
7. **Human Rights (Millennium Declaration):** “EL” Development Center; International Charitable Foundation “Merrim” – Georgia

Development of a strategic action plan for UN-NGO-IRENE/Caspian Region based on the expressed needs and the proposed solutions of the working group’s participants who highly took into account the civil society contribution to the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). 71 Participants attended the meeting representing NGOs from the Caspian Region (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan), representatives of the United Nations (DESA, UNDP, UNFPA, DPI, IOM, UNIFEM, UN), Partners and Sponsors (press, the business community and donors), high-level government representatives, and one NGO from Turkey as an observer.

The two Capacity building Meetings were conducted by Ms Najet Karaborni, UN-NGO-IRENE/NGO Section Project Coordinator. The Deputy Minister of Youth, Sport and Tourism, Mr. Intigam Babayev opened the Meeting and Mr. Elshad Iskandarov, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to UN closed it.

◆ **“World Family Summit, 6-9 December 2004, Sanya, China**

Held in Sanya, Hainan Province, China from 6-9 December 2004, The World Family Summit (WFS) was an outstanding partnership initiative of the World Family Organization (WFO), a leading NGO in General Consultative Status with ECOSOC and the regional UN-NGO-IRENE coordinator for Latin America. Organized and facilitated in partnership between WFO, the Government of China, UN-NGO-IRENE/NGO Section, UNDP and other UN Agencies, the Summit was an effective contribution to the celebration of the International Year for the Family +10 in the context of implementing the Millennium Declaration and the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

More than 300 participants from 60 countries representing all stakeholders (NGOs, Governments, Parliaments, Local Authorities, Academia, Business Community and the United Nations) attended the Conference. UN-NGO-IRENE Project Coordinator Najet Karaborni assisted in the organization and conduct of the Summit. She presented the Message of the Secretary General to the Summit and as keynote speaker made a PPT presentation to Panel 1 “Family and Poverty Eradication”. She also assisted in drafting the Summit recommendations and Declaration. The very successful Summit concluded with the adoption of the Sanya Declaration: **“World Declaration for a Comprehensive Family Policy - Achieving the Millennium Declaration with and for the Family.”** The document is now available online: <http://www.worldfamilysummit.org/summit>

◆ **Preparation Work for the 2005 Session of the Committee on NGOs:**

Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, Chief of the NGO Section, facilitated the extensive preparation work with a full and successful implementation of the Paperless Committee for the 2005 Regular Session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5-18 January 2005.

COMING SOON

- ◆ 5-18 January 2005: 2005 Regular Session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- ◆ 14-15 January 2005: International Conference on the Rights of Children and ICT, Tunis, Tunisia; this conference is being organized by the Tunisian Association of Child's Rights, a leading Tunisian NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC
- ◆ 25-26 January 2005: International Forum: Local Agenda 21, Sustainability and Municipalism, Lisbon, Portugal; this conference is being organized by FOCA, a leading Portuguese NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC.

SOURCE OF INSPIRATION / EXAMPLE ***To Follow***

Tunisian Association of Child's Rights (ATUDE): In 2003, ATUDE undertook a project to assume responsibility for the goodwill to improve five primary schools facing poor conditions. ATUDE devoted half of its annual budget to this objective and its goal was reached: Clear improvements were enjoyed by young students and new facilities were built, such as a fully equipped modern school library. In addition, five students from the 7th to 9th grade from each school were supported in their education by ATUDE. The Association paid school fees and provided the youth with clothing, books and school materials. These students were fully nurtured and supported, and their progress was tracked by ATUDE. They all achieved excellent and improved school results, which encouraged the community to support education initiatives by NGOs and also encouraged ATUDE to pursue similar projects with Tunisian schools.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2005 ***Not to Miss!***

- ◆ Barbados +5: International Meeting to Review the Barbados Plan of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, 10-14 January 2005, Mauritius. More information available online: www.un.org/smallislands2005
- ◆ NGO Forum in preparation for the upcoming forty-third session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD-43), 8 February 2005, New York
- ◆ NGO Peoples Forum 10 March 2005, New York in collaboration with WFUNA, CONGO, and UN-NGO-IRENE/NGO Section in Preparation for the ECOSOC HLS of July 2005, New York and the 60th Session of the General Assembly
- ◆ Intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the 13th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, 28 February – 11 March 2005, New York
- ◆ 11-22 April 2005: 13th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, UN

Headquarters, New York

- ◆ International Training Forum: Leadership for Peace and Creating a Culture of Healing, 28 March – 1 April 2004, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This training forum is being hosted by the International NGO Education for Peace and will equip attendees with enlightened and effective leadership skills that will help institutions, communities and NGOs address concerns of the twenty-first century. More information is available online: <http://www.efpinternational.org>

USEFUL LINKS:

- ◆ **World Family Summit, China:** <http://www.worldfamilyorganization.org/summit>
- ◆ **UN Division for Sustainable Development:** <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/>
- ◆ **Indian Committee of Youth Organizations:** <http://www.icyo-india.org>
- ◆ **DESA NGO Section:** <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo>

NGOs' CONTRIBUTION

Submit your contribution

- ◆ **Submitted by Indian Committee of Youth Organizations (ICYO):**
India signed an agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme to provide food aid to those suffering from HIV/AIDS. "The agreement makes food and nutrition an integral part of government strategy to fight HIV/AIDS. "As it is, we have a commitment to give AIDS treatment to 100,000 people by the end of 2007. Nutrition would be added to this as a supplement," Health Minister Anbumani Ramadoss said. India, with an estimated 5.1 million cases of HIV/AIDS cases, is second only to South Africa in the number of infections and the government has been accused by health groups of dragging its feet over the problem. Executive director of the World Food Programme, James Morris said: "The agreement is a massive leap forward in ensuring nutritional care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS," "the WFP had promised to provide about one million dollars for the project".
- ◆ **22 January 2005: Youth Peace-BUILDER Network Training Forum**, New York University, NYC. The Youth Peace-BUILDER Network (YPN) is an emerging network of youth mobilized as leaders in an effort to create a global culture of peace. YPN is a project of the international NGO Education for Peace. Please contact YPN-NYC for more information (ypn-nyc@nycmail.com)

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