

# What's New?

*Updates, news and events from the UNOG NGO Liaison Unit*

1 July 2025

*The NGO Liaison Unit is pleased to share updates, news and events taking place at the UN in Geneva during the months of July and August.*

## Updates from the NGO Liaison Unit



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**GENEVA**

### **Summer Season**

The [NGO Liaison Unit](#) will continue to answer calls from 9 to 11.30 a.m. and will remain reachable by email at [unog.ngo@un.org](mailto:unog.ngo@un.org). However, during the months of July and August, the processing of NGO requests, including requests for accreditation, might take longer than usual. Please plan accordingly. The NGO Liaison team wishes you a wonderful summer.

### **Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**

The [Committee on NGOs](#) of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held its 2025 resumed session, from 19 - 23 and 28 - 29 May and 5 June. It recommended 170 applications for consultative status, deferred 381 for further consideration at its regular session in 2026 and closed consideration of 63 without prejudice. The Committee took

note of 8 requests for a change of name. It also had before it 555 quadrennial reports, of which it took note of 401. The full report will soon be available [here](#).

The [NGO Branch](#) in New York supports the work of the Committee on NGOs, the intergovernmental body responsible for granting consultative status with ECOSOC to NGOs.

### Upcoming meetings and conferences



As the second largest UN duty station and one of the major conference centers in the world, UN Geneva provides a key platform for international dialogue and diplomacy. Please find the full calendar of meetings and conferences taking place at UN Geneva on the following [webpage](#).

#### **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**

The 91<sup>st</sup> session of the CEDAW is taking place until 4 July at the Palais des Nations, in Room XXIII, and will consider the following States: Afghanistan, Chad, Fiji, Ireland, Mexico, San Marino, Solomon Islands, Thailand and Tuvalu. More information is available [here](#).

#### **Human Rights Council (HRC59)**

The 59<sup>th</sup> session of the HRC is taking place until 11 July at the Palais des Nations, in Room XX. NGOs with ECOSOC status accredited at UNOG may participate as observers. More information on the modalities for NGO participation can be found on the [Human Rights Council webpage](#). More information about HRC59 is available [here](#).

#### **Open-ended working group on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space**

The second session of the OEWG on the prevention of an arms race in outer space will take place from 21 to 25 July at the Palais des Nations, in Room XXI, Geneva. More information [here](#) and registration [here](#).

#### **Human Rights Committee – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)**

The 144<sup>th</sup> session of the CCPR is taking place until 25 July at the Palais Wilson, in Room PWG, and will consider the following States: Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Latvia, North Macedonia, Spain and Viet Nam. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### **Conference on Disarmament (CD)**

The Part III of the CD will take place from 28 July to 12 September at the Palais des Nations in Room Tempus, Geneva. More information [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### **Advisory Committee**

The 34<sup>th</sup> session of the AC will take place from 4 to 8 August at the Palais des Nations, in Room XX. More information [here](#).

### **Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution**

The second part of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-5.2), will take place from 5 to 14 August at the Palais des Nations. Plenaries will be streamed [here](#). More information can be found [here](#).

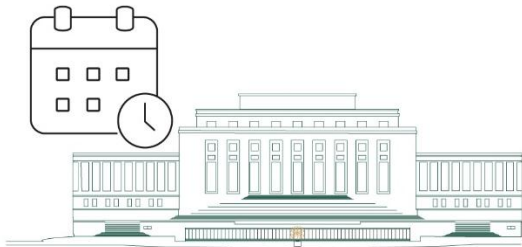
### **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> session will take place from 11 August to 29 August at the Palais des Nations and will consider the following States: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Kiribati, Maldives, Mali, State of Palestine.

### **World Humanitarian Day**

As for each year, UNOG will observe the annual World Humanitarian Day which will take place at the Palais des Nations on 19 August 2025. This year's theme is metaphorically associated with the upbringing of a child as it takes the "global village" to care for their new child, "humanity & humanitarian workers". More information on the event later on.

## **Upcoming events**



## **Cultural activities / Knowledge and Learning Commons**

- The UN Library & Archives offers cultural and informational events such as exhibitions, panel discussions, or film screenings. The Cultural Activities Programme provides a cultural diplomacy space to share art and culture at the Palais des Nations. Please note that NGOs wishing to organize a cultural event should seek patronage from a permanent mission or an international organization affiliated with the UN, as detailed [here](#). To subscribe to the **Cultural Activities newsletter**, click [here](#).
- For other UN Library & Archives **cultural and informational events**, check [Indico.UN](#).

- To subscribe to the UN Geneva **Archives newsletter**, please click [here](#).
- To subscribe to the **Knowledge and Learning Commons newsletter**, please click [here](#).

### Ciné ONU

**Ciné-ONU Genève invites you to a free, open-air screening of Simon Klose's documentary film "Hacking Hate", Award for Best Documentary at the Tribeca Film Festival**, offering us a gripping look at online hate speech and the challenges of regulating it. The screening will take place on 3 July from 8:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at Domaine de Penthes.

Before the screening, join Ciné-ONU Genève for a **discussion** with UN human rights expert **Birgit Kainz** on the burning issues surrounding online hate. More information about Ciné-ONU is available [here](#).

### Latest news

## UN News

Global perspective Human stories

The **UN Information Service in Geneva** provides a comprehensive range of public information services, focused on Geneva-based UN activities, including:

- [Meeting summaries](#) and [press releases](#).
- Live stream of [UNTV's broadcasts](#) of major meetings.
- "[Happening at UN Geneva](#)" section on our website.
- Video stream of the UN Geneva press briefings from our "[Focus On](#)" tab
- Podcasts produced in Geneva and across the globe on a dedicated [webpage](#).

### Beyond Lab



The Beyond Lab is UNOG's collaborative space leading on social innovation for long-term sustainability. The goal of the Beyond Lab is to make sustainability a way of life by influencing policies and decision-making in an inclusive, intergenerationally equitable way. Visit the Lab's [website](#), for an overview of its focus areas, initiatives, and updates on activities. The Lab team also has a [brochure](#), providing an at-a-glance overview of its work.

The Lab has launched its Beyond Action [Platform](#), featuring a magazine, an upcoming podcast series with changemakers, and a new engagement initiative, the [Beyond Challenge](#), which calls on individuals to share their ideas on addressing and tackling

unexplored critical global questions. Interested individuals can participate in the Beyond Challenge until 31 August 2025.

As part of its [Youth Moving Beyond GDP](#) initiative, the Lab is co-organizing with its partners an official side event entitled "[Intergenerational Equity to Finance What We Value](#)" at the upcoming [4th International Conference on Financing for Development \(FfD4\)](#), being held from 30 June to 3 July in Seville, Spain. Details on the outcomes of this meeting will be shared in the September edition of this newsletter.

The next edition of [Building Bridges](#), the sustainable finance movement co-developed by UN Geneva through the Beyond Lab, will take place from 30 September to 2 October at the CICG. Under the theme 'Innovative Solutions and Investment Opportunities in Sustainable Finance', the conference will feature three days of engaging, insightful and action-oriented high-level talks, pitch sessions and workshops exploring how the finance and sustainable development communities are aligning finance with sustainability. The full programme is now available online, and registration is open.

#### International Geneva



The [Genève internationale website](#) serves as an information platform dedicated to Geneva-based global players becoming aware of the resources available to them and bringing their work and achievements to the fore. In the continuity of its endeavor to promote International Geneva's organizations and those who commit to a better world, the website presents a new series of high-level contributors to its [Interview column](#). Whether Humanitarian aid, Gender Equality, Peace and Security, Health, or Human Rights are at stake, "The Interview" shines a light on their activities, goals, principles, alliances, vision, and what "keeps them awake at night."

#### International Geneva Welcome Centre



UNOG works in close collaboration with the International Geneva Welcome Centre (CAGI), which assists NGOs established or wishing to set up in the Geneva region and supports the accommodation of visiting delegates during their participation in an international conference. Please consult the [CAGI's website](#) to learn more about these services.

#### **CAGI Annual Report**

The CAGI [Annual Report 2024](#) is now available. Find out more about the support provided by the Civil Society Service to NGOs and visiting delegates on:

- Informing and raising awareness among NGOs
- Supporting new initiatives set up in Geneva

- Acting as an interface between NGOs and public authorities
- Supporting the accommodation of visiting delegates
- Informing delegates on-site.

### News from the network



### **NGO events at the Palais**

All public events organized by NGOs at the Palais des Nations are available on [Indico.UN](https://indico.un.org/).

### **Swiss National Day**

The Swiss National Day will take place on Friday 1 August and is an official Holiday at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The office will be closed for the day.