



16 February 2010

Dear NGO Representative,

You are cordially invited to participate in the 63rd United Nations Annual Department of Public Information (DPI) / Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Conference to be held in Melbourne, Australia, at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (<http://www.mcec.com.au/>), from **Monday, 30 August, to Wednesday, 1 September, 2010**. The general theme of the conference is “**Global Health**”.

This is the third time the Conference will take place outside the UN Headquarters in New York. It is being organized in partnership with DPI/NGO Relations, NGO/DPI Executive Committee, and the Government of Australia.

The Conference will highlight effective ways in which civil society, in partnership with other actors, can contribute to fostering global health: not just managing disease. Global health encompasses multifaceted challenges of transnational health issues, determinants, and solutions. It involves many disciplines, within and, beyond the health sciences, and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration. The Conference sessions will emphasize the need for more integration of health programs, methods to generate outcome data, cost effective delivery, sustainability, and emphasize prevention, to achieve equity in global health.

Participants will include representatives of NGOs, academia, civil society organizations, grassroots constituencies, media, Member States, private sector, UN System, and other significant stakeholders.

The Conference will also provide:

- A valuable network-building opportunity.
- Opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences between NGOs, diverse experts, and organizations, working on global health issues.
- Approaches to enhance activities through participation in:
 - Roundtable panel discussions
 - Interactive dialogues
 - Workshops
 - Caucuses

Background documents and information on the programme will be available on the Conference website, which is under construction.

NGOs associated with DPI, in consultative status with ECOSOC, accredited to the World Health Organization, and the Australian Government are invited to register for the Conference. Please extend this invitation to members and staff of your organizations, including youth and grassroots representatives. **Please note that we must limit the number of participants from any one organization to FIVE persons, plus ONE youth (according to the UN protocol, youth would be between the ages of 18 and 24).**

All participants are required to register for the Conference even if they have a UN Grounds pass. On-line registration will begin Spring 2010. Please consult the Conference website for future announcements.

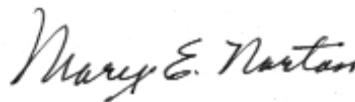
The DPI/NGO Relations Cluster **cannot** assist NGO representatives in obtaining visas for Australia, and **cannot** fax confirmation letters to Australia embassies or consulates. **Please note that all visitors to Australia require visas.** Arrangements for travel, visas, and accommodations, as well as all expenses related to participating in the Conference, must be provided for entirely by the participants, or their sponsoring organizations.

We look forward to your participation in 2010 Conference in Melbourne,

Sincerely,



Maria-Luisa Chávez, Chief
NGO Relations, Outreach Division
Department of Public Information,
Co-Chair, Planning Committee



Dr. Mary Norton, Chair
63rd Annual DPI/NGO Conference,
Co-Chair, Planning Committee
Representative, Felician College,
International Council of Nurses