

9 September 2014

UN High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace

On 13 September 1999, the United Nations General Assembly adopted, by consensus, Resolution 53/243 on the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace. Among other things, this Resolution provided the driving force for the implementation of the UN-declared International Decade for Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010). Asserting and re-affirming the commitment of the totality of the United Nations membership to building a Culture of Peace, the General Assembly has been adopting resolutions on the subject every year since 1997.

The one-day High Level Forum will take place on 9 September, 2014 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It will comprise of an opening segment and two multi-stakeholder interactive panels and a brief closing segment. The two panels will focus on: (1) the role and contributions of women and the young to the Culture of Peace; and (2) global citizenship as a pathway to the Culture of Peace.

Background Note

High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace

Introduction

On 13 September 1999, the United Nations General Assembly adopted, by consensus, Resolution 53/243 on the **Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace**. Among other things, this Resolution provided the driving force for the implementation of the UN-declared **International Decade for Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)**. Asserting and re-affirming the commitment of the totality of the United Nations membership to building a Culture of Peace, the General Assembly has been adopting resolutions on the subject every year since 1997.

The General Assembly, through its annual substantive resolutions, has highlighted the priority it attaches to the full and effective implementation of these visionary decisions which are universally applicable and sought after by the vast majority of all peoples in every nation.

In keeping with the success of the two annual High-level Forums on the Culture of Peace that were held in 2012 and 2013, which included Ministerial level participation, the 68th session of the General Assembly adopted, by consensus, Resolution 68/125 on “Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace”, which was co-sponsored by 105 Member States.

In its operative paragraph 14, Resolution 68/125 states, “*Requests* the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September.”

Objective

Recognizing the need for continuous support to the strengthening of the global movement to promote the Culture of Peace, as envisaged by the United Nations, particularly in the current global context, the day-long General Assembly High-level Forum will be an important opportunity for Member States, UN entities, civil society, including NGO's, media, and the private sector, and all other relevant stakeholders to have an exchange of ideas and proposals on ways to build and promote the Culture of Peace, as well as to highlight emerging trends and policies that can significantly impact the implementation of this Culture.

Format and Outcome

The one-day High-level Forum will take place on 9 September, 2014 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It will comprise of an opening segment and two multi-stakeholder interactive panels and a brief closing segment. The two panels will focus on: (1) the role and contributions of women and the young to the Culture of Peace; and (2) global citizenship as a pathway to the Culture of Peace.

A summary will be issued at the conclusion of the High-level Forum.

Participants

Member States are invited to participate at the highest possible level. Representatives of United Nations agencies and of the civil society, major groups, including women and the young, and other relevant stakeholders will also be invited to attend.

Further information on the High-level Forum, including Programme details and questions to be addressed during the interactive panel discussions, will be made available at a later stage.



United Nations High Level Forum on The Culture of Peace

UN Trusteeship Council Chamber - New York 9 September 2014

The event will be broadcast live. Link available at <http://webtv.un.org/>

10:00 a.m.-10: 45 a.m.	<p><i>Opening Session:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mr. John W. Ashe, President of the General Assembly• H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations <p><i>Keynote Address:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Ms. Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace laureate, Founder and President of “Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa”
10:45 a.m.-10:50 a.m.	<p><i>Musical Interlude : Sounds of African Drums</i></p>
10:50 a.m.-1.00 p.m.	<p><i>Member-States High Level Segment General Debate:</i></p>
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. [ECOSOC Chamber]	<p><i>Panel Discussion 1:</i></p> <p>Topic: Role and contributions of women and youth to the Culture of Peace</p> <p>Chair and Moderator: H.E. Mr. Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Assistant-Secretary-General, UN Women • Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi, UN SG's Envoy on Youth • Ms. Kathleen Kuehnast, Ph.D., Director, Center for Gender & Peacebuilding, US Institute of Peace (USIP) • Ms. Sanam Anderlini, Co-Founder, International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) • Mr. Oliver Rizzi Carlson, Representative to the United Nations, United Network of Young Peacebuilders
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<p>4:15 p.m. – 5:35 p.m.</p> <p>[ECOSOC Chamber]</p>	<p><i>Panel Discussion 2:</i></p> <p>Topic: Global citizenship as a pathway to the Culture of Peace</p> <p>Chair and Moderator: H.E. Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Flores Flake, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Federico Mayor, Former Director-General of UNESCO • Ms. Dot Maver, President, National Peace Academy • Mr. Douglas Roche, Author, former Canadian Senator • Ms. Vibeke Jensen, Director, UNESCO office in New York • Mr. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, Senior Adviser, King Abdullah International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)
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<p>5:35p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>[ECOSOC Chamber]</p>	<p><i>Closing Session:</i></p> <p>Chaired by Ambassador Abulkalam Abdul Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh</p>
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	<p>Joined by Distinguished Panel Moderators:</p>
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Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury

and

Ambassador Mary Elizabeth Flores Flake