

## Looking ahead to the 60th Annual DPI/NGO Conference

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*Climate Change: How it impacts us all* is the focus of next week's **60th Annual DPI/NGO Conference\*** at UNHQ in New York, with special attention paid to the facilitation of individual action plans that address the growing concerns associated with climate change and its profound and decisive impact on human well-being.

In a long association with DPI, the Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California, has produced promotional material for the DPI/NGO Conference over the years. This year, DPI's Graphic Design Unit created the promotional materials, including the banner on display outside the Vistor's Entrance at UNHQ (see right).



This year's contribution from the Art Center College of Design has taken the form of four public service announcements (PSAs) specially produced for the conference by a team of faculty and students to raise public awareness through design education and advocacy will be screened during the conference.

The campaign's goal is to support the efforts of the UN and the international NGOs in addressing a global climate crisis. The PSAs urge the viewer to take individual responsibility for a better future. You may view them by clicking on the following titles:

**The G.G. Meeting:** directed by Alice Park (49 second video)

**Moving Day:** directed by Gregg Casson (33 second video)

**Apathy:** directed by Hugo Stenson (64 second video)

**Blowing Smoke:** directed by Jonas Mayabb (37 second video)

### **About the conference**

Besides being the 60th annual conference, this year's event, which will take place from 5 to 7 September, is also noteworthy, since, for the first time, the NGOs plan to produce a formal declaration at the end of the conference. And, due to the **Capital Master Plan** at Headquarters and interest from future hosts, it is the last NGO conference scheduled in New York for a while.

The Organization as a whole, and DPI in particular, has stressed the importance of establishing and developing partnerships. More than 2,000 NGOs and other civil society partners from 90 countries are expected to attend the three-day event, which is organized by DPI in collaboration with the NGO/DPI Executive Committee.

United Nations, government, and NGO representatives as well as other experts will lead two plenary sessions, seven roundtables and 33 midday workshops to review the latest scientific

evidence on climate change, including its impact on vulnerable populations, water security, land use, and the politics of energy.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has called climate change the "defining issue of our era," and the 60th annual DPI/NGO Conference is an important lead-in to the **24 September high-level event on climate change**, also to take place in New York. The Secretary-General has invited world leaders to attend the special one-day event at Headquarters to help map out how the world can move forward to address climate change and support progress at the **Climate Change Conference in Bali** this December.

Following are some of the side events taking place at Headquarters during the 60th annual DPI/NGO Conference on Climate Change: How it impacts us all. Further details will be provided by as they become available.

### **Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet**

This innovative project uses public art as the medium to inspire individuals and organizations to take action against global warming. A selection of the globes will be featured in Conference Rooms 1 and 4 for the conference. A film on this initiative will be screened for participants during the lunch hour in the screening room every day of the conference. Also, a pictorial guidebook on the project will be distributed on a general basis.

### **Luncheon for the speakers**

Mrs. Ban Soon-taek, wife of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, will host a luncheon for conference speakers at the Delegates Dining Room on 5 September.

### **Exhibit Opening**

The **Sixteenth International Children's Painting Competition on the Environment**, jointly organized by the United Nations Environment Programme, Bayer, Nikon Corporation, and the Foundation for Global Peace and the Environment, in partnership with DPI, will open in the South Lobby, United Nations, at 6 p.m. on 5 September.

### **Conference Reception**

A reception organized by the NGO/DPI Executive Committee will be held in the Delegates' Dining Room, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on 5 September.

### **A Tribute to SOS/Live Earth**

A tribute honoring partners that have contributed effectively to the **Live Earth Initiative** will be held at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on 6 September.

### **Documentary Film Project**

The Multigenerational Subcommittee of the 60th Annual DPI/NGO Conference produced a documentary under the title **United Differences: Family Impacts on Climate Change** [video]. The film explores potential roles of both families and individuals representing five continents in preventing climate change. The project is directed by Mr. Jun Ren, an independent film and theatre director, and a member on the Multigenerational Sub-committee. The project is accompanied by a family photo album, **Say NO to the Shadow of Earth**. It will be screened every day during the conference; in Studio 4 from 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

### **Book Signings**

*Meet the Authors* events at the UN Bookshop.

--Wednesday, 5 September 2007 at 1 p.m., Bjorn Lomborg, author of *Cool IT: The Skeptical Environmentalist's Guide to Global Warming*.

--Thursday, 6 September 2007 at 1 p.m., Andrew C. Revkin, author of *The North Pole was Here*.