Jeff Brez is Chief of NGO Relations, Advocacy and Special Events in the Department of Public Information. In this capacity he oversees relations with Non-Governmental Organizations, the Messengers of Peace Programme, the Creative Community Outreach Initiative (partnerships with television and film) and Special Events. His work in international humanitarian aid and development assistance has spanned more than a decade and covered a range of issues including anti-corruption, education and public health.

Bruce Knotts is co-chair of the UN NGO Committee on Human Rights, the chair of the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security, a member of the NGO UN Security Council Working Group, serves on the Board of the NGO UN Committee on Sustainable Development and he chairs the NGO/DPI Executive Committee which represents 1,400 DPI affiliated NGOs at the UN. He founded faith-based advocacy for sexual orientation/gender identity human rights at the United Nations and continues to advocate for the rights of women, indigenous peoples and for sustainable development in moral terms of faith and values.

Saphira Rameshfar is a Representative of the Baha’i International Community’s UN Office in New York. Saphira currently serves on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in New York, as Secretary of the Working Group on Girls to the UN and on the DPI NGO Youth Steering Committee to the United Nations Department of Public Information. In 2016, Saphira was the Co-chair of the Conference Planning Youth Sub-committee to the 66th UN DPI/NGO Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea.
Shamina de Gonzaga is the Executive Director of World Council of Peoples for the United Nations (WCPUN), Editor-in-Chief of Centerpoint Now; and an independent consultant for academic and cultural institutions internationally. She presently serves as a co-Facilitator for North America in the global civil society network, Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD). She was Chairperson of the 61st Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference marking the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNESCO, Paris).

UN DPI/NGO CONFERENCES

UN DPI/NGO 66nd Conference: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together
(Gyeongju, Republic of Korea) **Co-Chairs:** Scott Carlin and Yukang Choi

UN DPI/NGO 65th Conference: Our Action Agenda: The Role of Civil Society in the Post-2015 Development Agenda
(United Nations HQ, New York) **Chair:** Jeffery Huffines

UN DPI/NGO 64th Conference: Sustainable Societies:Responsive Citizens
(Bonn, Germany) **Chair:** Felix Dodds

UN DPI/NGO 63rd Conference: Advance Global Health: Achieve the MDGs
(Melbourne, Australia) **Chair:** Mary Norton

UN DPI/NGO 62nd Conference: For Peace and Development Disarm Now!
(Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico City, Mexico) **Chair:** Charles Hitchcock

UN DPI/NGO 61st Conference: Reaffirming Human Rights for All: the Universal Declaration at 60
(UNESCO HQ, Paris) **Chair:** Shamina de Gonzaga

UN DPI/NGO 60th Conference: Climate Change: How It Impacts Us All
(United Nations HQ, New York) **Chair:** Richard Jordan

UN DPI/NGO 59th Conference: Unfinished Business: Effective Partnerships for Human Security and Sustainable Development
(United Nations HQ, New York) **Chair:** Michaela Walsh

UN DPI/NGO 58th Conference: Our Challenge: Voices for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal
(United Nations HQ, New York) **Chair:** Joseph Cornelius Donnelly