#UNGA – What’s Happening at the United Nations

11am - 12:30pm, 13 October 2016, Conference Room 11, UN Headquarters, New York

Moderator
Mr. Jeff Brez
Chief, NGO Relations, Advocacy and Special Events, Department of Public Information

Speakers
H.E. Ms. Dessima Williams
Special Adviser on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, Office of the President of the General Assembly

Ms. Maratee Andamo
Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United Nations

Ms. Veronica García Gutiérrez
Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations

Mr. Joseph Cornelius Donnelly
NGO Representative to the United Nations, Caritas Internationalis

Presentation on Visitor’s Service App
Mr. Vincenzo Pugliese
Chief, United Nations Guided Tours, Department of Public Information

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Mr. Jeff Brez is Chief of NGO Relations, Advocacy and Special Events in the Department of Public Information. Mr. Brez oversees relations with non-governmental organizations, the Messengers of Peace Programme, the Creative Community Outreach Initiative 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 children’s and women’s rights, refugee assistance, child soldiers, health, education, sustainable agriculture and food security, environmental sustainability, anticorruption and climate change. He has worked for four United Nations entities (IFAD, OCHA, UNICEF, and UNDP) and the World Bank Group, and been posted in Albania and Côte d’Ivoire. He has lived on four continents and speaks English, French, Italian and Japanese fluently. He holds a Master of International Public Policy from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, where he studied international economics and development.

H.E. Ms. Dessima Williams is the Special Advisor for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Earlier she served as Ambassador to the Organization of American States and Deputy Governor for Grenada to the World Bank. Ambassador has served as Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations. Before coming to the United Nations she was the Executive Director of the Grenada Education and Development Programme, GRENED, which works with rural young school-aged girls and boys. The programme provides social and financial support for students and their families. She has been an advocate for children and women’s rights and has been a long-time support of sustainable development and the United Nations.

Ms. Maratee Andamo is currently assigned to cover the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) and a number of health-related issues both in national capacity and as Chair of the G77, she returned to New York in January 2016 to support Thailand’s Chairmanship of the G77 this year. She previously served as Head of the WMD Section in the Peace, Security and Disarmament Division of the International Organisations Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand during the years 2013 – 2015. Prior to that, Ms. Andamo was posted at the Permanent Mission of Thailand in New York during the years 2009 – 2013 and assumed the position of Vice-Chair on the Bureau of the Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonisation) at the 67th Session of the UNGA; prior to that, she was responsible for the Third Committee at her Mission. She has served in the Thai Foreign Ministry since 1999 and counts the Royal Thai Embassy in Tel Aviv and The Permanent Mission of Thailand in New York as her overseas postings thus far.
Mr. Joseph Cornelius Donnelly is the NGO Representative to the United Nations for CARITAS Internationalis, a global humanitarian NGO, accredited with EcoSoc & Associated with DPI. He is chairman of the NGO Working Group on the Security Council, and one of the founding members of the Food & Hunger NGO Working Group in NY. With global concentrations in the Middle East, Central & Eastern Africa, Central & Latin America, Mr. Donnelly is an active civil society advocate in Europe & North America. Peacebuilding, reconciliation, conflict resolution, interfaith & intercultural dialogue partnerships are priority engagements for him; these combine with his advocacy leadership from MDGs to SDGs where he serves on the EcoSoc Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group as well as UNDP’s Policy & Strategy Group on Agenda 2030. Mr. Donnelly continues to serve on many DPI/NGO committees and chaired the 2005 Annual Conference: Our Challenge-Peace, Partnership & Renewal. Joe’s primary work now includes large movements of displaced people, refugees, migrants, protection against human trafficking, exploited natural resources & Right to Food.

Ms. Verónica García Gutiérrez has a Masters degree in International Relations. She has been working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica since 2002 and has been appointed to several foreign missions throughout these years. From 2002 to 2010 she was destined in the Embassy of Costa Rica in the United States of America, from 2010 to 2012, she was appointed in the Embassy of Costa Rica in Germany. Afterwards, from 2013 to 2015 was placed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica in the Coordination of Regional Mechanism in the General Directorate of Foreign Affairs. Since September 2015, she has been responsible of the Human Rights agenda in the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations.
Check out these new UN apps!

Learn about the 17 SDGs, get news on your favourite goals, find out what you can do how you can take action to help achieve them, create your own events actions and invite others to join you in sustainable actions and events.

The SDGs in Action app features:
• Detailed information about each of the 17 goals, including targets, explanatory videos, key facts and figures, and suggestions on how you can help achieve them take action.
• The latest sustainable development news from around the world. See how innovation is helping to achieve the goals, interact with global citizens around the world and see the latest news.
• The ability to choose what goals are important to you and receive notifications about that goal.
• Access to the World’s Largest Lesson explaining each of the Sustainable Development Goals.
• Find actions and events near you that you can join To support the goals.
• The ability to create Actions you’re planning in your area, and invite others to join.

Powered by InfoSpot, the United Nations Visitors Centre – NY application is presented to you by the UN Department of Public Information - UN Visitor Centre. It offers visitors an exciting opportunity to discover and get to know more about some artworks and gifts at the UN Headquarters in New York.

This app is an addition to the guided tour programme and covers the Outside Plaza, Lobby and Lower Level of the UN Headquarters. More than fifty exhibits are located at the three mentioned areas. They can be viewed before and after the scheduled tour.

The application is available for download in Apple, Google Play, and Amazon Store; it supports multiple languages.
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Social Media Cheat Sheet

The theme of the 71st #UNGA is “The Sustainable Development Goals: a universal push to transform our world” #DPINGO

“I am proud to call myself a feminist” - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during the #UNGA #DPINGO

#ParisAgreement will enter into force on 4 November after being ratified by 55 states accounting for 55% of global emissions #UNGA #DPINGO

SDG #5 goal is to have 50% female representation in global government by 2030 #UNGA #DPINGO

“I speak before you today with a clear message: don't talk about us without us.” - Eni Lestari Andayani Adi at the Refugees & Migrants Summit

Member states committed to a coordinated approach to address the root causes of antimicrobial resistance across multiple sectors at #UNGA

UN announced first class of UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals during the #UNGA #DPINGO

UNHQ hosted 54 high-level meetings, 194 high-level side events, 228 regular meetings & almost 1500 bilateral meetings during #UNGA #DPINGO

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