



CONGO COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION ACTIVITIES DURING 2008

Introduction

The mandate of our NGO Committee on Migration, which serves as an umbrella organization for more than thirty NGO's, most with branches worldwide, is to promote and encourage the human rights of immigrants and their families, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. Our NGO Committee was formed in 2006, in recognition of our contributions to the preparation of the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development at the United Nations in September 2006. Subsequently, we have been actively involved in the preparation for, and participation in, the Civil Society events during the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in Brussels in 2007, and in Manila (in 2008), to both of which our Committee was officially invited.

2008 Calendar

January 17th and 18th: Participated in the Conference on "International Migration and Development" sponsored by International Organization on Migration and Center for Migration Studies.

January 30th: Participated in the DPI/NGO 61st Annual Conference Planning Committee through early September: Member of Outreach and Multi-Generational Relationships Sub-Committees.

January 30th: Participated in a Conference on "Climate Change and It's Impact on Migrants' Lives" at Fordham University.

February 7th: Organized a Workshop on " The Impact of Migration on Health and Families" together with the CONGO Committees on The Family and Health as a side event for the Commission on Social Development.

February 28th: Organized a workshop on " Financing for Migrant Womens' Health: Human Rights Approach" Side event for Commission on the Status of Women Meetings together with the CONGO Committee on The Family.

March 13th: Presentation of Ms. Silvia Lichauco, Lola Grande Foundation, Manila, on the " International

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Conference on Gender Migration and Development: Seizing Opportunity, Upholding Womens' Rights" to be held in Manila in September 2008.

April 3rd: Panel Presentation on " Urbanization and Migration: The Impact on Aging Populations, organized with the CONGO Committee on Ageing.

April 10th: Presentation on" The Plight of Boat People and Migrants Hurt Crossing Borders: Protection Challenges"

May 1st: Panel Presentation on "Migration Issues in Indigenous Populations"

June 12th: Elections of Executive Committee Members. Suggestions from Membership about future Committee Programs.

June 27th/ July 1st: Participation on "Steering Committee", CONGO Civil Society Development Forum (New York Component).

September 5th: Organized and participated in workshops " Protecting the Human Rights of Migrants and their Families to Promote Development", in collaboration with the Family and the Right of the Child Committees; and on " Multi-Generational Relationships Fostering the Human Rights of Younger and Older Persons", with the CONGO Committee on Ageing , held in Paris at the 61st Annual Conference of DPI/NGOs.

September 11th: Presentation and Discussion on a Film Titled: "Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations"

October 16th: Presentations Updating the Manila Conferences and the work of the United Nations Second and Third Committees Relevant to Migration.

November 6th: Participation in the preliminary planning for the 62nd DPI/NGO Conference to be held in Mexico City, September 9/11 2009.

November 13th: Reports on the GFMD Civil Society Days Presentations and Discussions and on the Lola

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Grande Foundation sponsored Conference (Please see March 13th), both held in Manila.

December 18th: Celebration of International Migrants Day with a Panel on " Preventing the Criminalization of Migrants: an Urgent Human Rights Challenge".

All Programs have an interactive dimension, where questions and answers contribute to enrich presentations and discussions in a very dynamic way.

I am pleased to note that all the Members of the Executive Committee are deeply interested in fulfilling our mission and are devotedly working together to achieve its goals.

Best Regards

Sincerely,

Rosa Perla Resnick,

Chair, CONGO Committee on Migration

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