



UN-NGO-IRENE



FONDHABISA

Port-Au-Prince, 2 August 2005

Dear Madam, Sir,

We are pleased to invite you to a meeting to launch the Informal Regional Network of Non-Governmental Organizations (UN-NGO-IRENE) in the Caribbean. This meeting is organized jointly by the NGO Section of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (NGO/ECOSOC) and the Haitian Foundation for Habitat and the Integration of the Homeless (FONDHABISA). It will be held on 5 September 2005 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

The aim of this meeting is to establish an NGO Network within the Caribbean region to allow better coordination and cooperation between the Caribbean organizations and to allow them to increase their domains of action within ECOSOC, in particular, at the national, regional and international level. This meeting is a follow up to the recommendations of the General Assembly, the ECOSOC and the high-level conferences on the strengthening of the role of civil society especially through the means provided by the new technology of information and communication. It is also a follow up to the Aracaju Meeting which, in April 2001, came up with the idea of an informal network of NGOs meeting at the international level.

More than fifteen NGOs/ECOSOC have been selected based on their expertise in the priority areas which were identified by the Millennium Summit and because of these NGOs' coordinating role in their different countries.

The success of this meeting depends mostly on the quality of participation and the dynamics of the debates in order to arrive at the desired results. Therefore, we should like to call your attention to the meeting's method of work which is based on your active participation and sharing of practical experience. Thus, each participant will communicate his/her organization's background information, its goal, its plans and its activities to others. Each participant will also bring information and documentation on his/her organization's unique experience as well as best practices to share with others. Each organization will also be called upon to make proposals on operational activities which could be used as models by other NGOs. The Network will support the proposals chosen during the meeting and will integrate them in its Strategic Plan.

Please find attached an aide Memoire related to the event for more information.

On the administrative side, please be aware that, if need be, part of the round trip travel and accommodation cost may eventually be covered by us.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this unique opportunity to strengthen the role of civil society in the Caribbean. We would appreciate it if you could confirm your participation by 15 August 2005, the latest. Please fill the attached form to this letter and send it back to Mrs. Najet

Karaborni, Senior Interregional Advisor and Coordinator of the UN-NGO-IRENE Project, NGO/ECOSOC/UNDESA Section. Her e-mail address is karaborni@un.org and also to Mr. Frantz Gerard S. Verret, FONDHABISA' s President at: fgverret@yahoo.fr

We take this opportunity to invite you also to the FIRST FORUM ON HABITAT/ HAITI 2005 which will also take place in Haiti from 2 to 4 September 2005. For more information, please contact Mr. Frantz Gerard S. Verret, FONDHABISA' s President at: fgverret@yahoo.org

Accept, Madam, Sir, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Hanifa Mezoui
Chef of the NGO Section
OESC/DESA
United Nations – New York



Frantz-Gérard S. Verret
UN-NGO-IRENE / Caribbean
Coordinator Regional
Chairman FONDHABISA
Port-au-Prince, Haïti



UN-NGO-IRENE

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LAUNCHING OF THE CARIBBEAN UN-NGO-IRENE AND OF UN-NGO-IRENE-Caribbean

Port-au-Prince, Haïti, September 5th, 2005

PROGRAMM

- 8 h 30 a.m.** : **Registration of Participants**
- 9 h 00 a.m.** : **Opening Ceremony :**
- Welcoming Remarks by Frantz-Gerard Verret, Chairman of FONDHABISA
 - Statement by Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, Chief of the NGO Section, DESA/UN
 - Statement by the UNDP Resident Representative in Haiti
 - Message from the Minister for Planning and External Cooperation
 - Opening of the Session
- 10 h 00 a.m.** : **Coffee Break**
- 10 h 30 a.m.** : Presentation on the Purpose of the UN-NGO-IRENE Network by Ms. Hanifa Mezoui
- 11 h 00 a.m.** : Sharing of experiences by NGOs and proposals for the formulation of a Strategic Plan of Action for the Caribbean UN-NGO-IRENE Network Ms. Najet Karaborni, Moderator
- 1 h 00 p.m.** : Lunch Break
- 2 h 30 p.m.** : Discussions and Adoption of the first version of the Network's Strategic Action Plan, Ms. Najet Karaborni, Moderator
- 4 h 00 p.m.** : Closing of the Session by Mr. Frantz G. Verret, Chairman of FONDHABISA
- 5 h 30 p.m.** : Cultural Event:
- Message from the Minister for Culture and Tourism
 - Songs
 - Classical Music (Haiti)
 - Songs
 - Classical Music (Haiti)
 - Folkloric Dance
 - Thank you Note by Mr. Gréard Bretous, FONDHABISA's Secretary-General

Contact Persons:

1. Mrs. Najet Karaborni, Project Coordinator for UN-NGO-IRENE Section of the NGO/ECOSOC/UN-DESA, e-mail: Karaborni@un.org
2. Mr. Frantz-Gerard S. Verret, Chairman of FONDHABISA: fgverret@yahoo.fr

First Forum Habitat Haiti 2005

Opening Ceremony (1 September 2005 at 6.00 P.M.):

- La Dessalinienne (Audience participation)
- One Minute of silence in remembrance of urban victims (Audience participation)
- Welcoming Remarks by Professor Gerard Bretous, FONDHABISA's Secretary-General
- Statement by a Civil Society Representative
- Statement by a Representative of UN-HABITAT
- Statement by a Representative of the Government
- Opening Remarks by Mr. Frantz-Gerard Verret, Chairman of FONDHABISA
- Cultural Moment
- Cocktail hour

I. Day 1 (Friday, 2 September 2005):

I.I Opening of the Symposium's Workshop series:

Introductory remarks by the Honorary Chairman; Presentation of reference documents; designation and organization of group workshops. Fifteen (15) main themes will be addressed in three (3) workshops made up of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Reporter and two (2) Members. Each workshop will thus have five (5) panelists who will take the floor and will be responsible for the running of the workshop with the participation of other members of the symposium. They will then report to their respective plenary. These workshops will be held as follows:

1. **First Workshop**: Habitat as the pillar of local sustainable development;
2. **Second Workshop**: A new managerial approach to Habitat and the environment;
3. **Third Workshop**: Integration of sectors linked to the problems facing Habitat and Housing;
4. **Fourth Workshop**: Synthesis – Plan of Action for the formulation of a national policy on Habitat

I-II Output from Workshops 1 to 3 – Reports and discussions in Plenary on the topics discussed. Each workshop will last four (4) hours.

I-III Conferences-Discussions in Plenary:

- **Democratic Social Architecture** – A New Architecture for the Developing World;

Inauguration of the Scientific Exhibit and of the Fair on Habitat

II. Second Day (Saturday, 3 September 2005):

Following Workshops 1 to 3 – Reports and discussions in Plenary on the themes discussed. Each Commission's work will last four (4) hours.

II-I. Conferences-discussions in Plenary:

Follow Up to Habitat II and Istanbul+5;

II-II. Documentary Films on Habitat

III. Third Day (Sunday, 4 September 2005) :

Workshop on Synthesis:

Discussions and adoption:

- Final Report
- Statutes and Elections of a permanent follow –up committee
- Port-au-Prince Declaration
- Plan of Action
- Closing Session

Closing Ceremony: -Introductory Words by Master of Ceremony
-Message from the Civil Society;
-Message from the United Nations
-Message from the Government
-Closing Statement by the Chairman of FONDHABISA
-Distribution of the Port-au-Prince Declaration

Themes for the Workshops

Workshop 1: Theme: Habitat as the pillar for local sustainable development

Sub-topics:

1. Habitat and the educational discourse
2. Habitat and individual security
3. Habitat and social behavior
4. Habitat and economic development
5. Habitat and public health policy

Workshop II- Theme: The New Managerial Approach to Habitat and the Environment

Sub-topics:

1. For the institutional strengthening of the TPTC Ministry
2. The urgent need for a Ministry of Habitat, Urban Planning, of National and Regional Development
3. For the formulation of a National Code for Habitat, Construction and Urban Planning
4. For the adoption of information and communication technology (ICT) suitable to the habitat
5. For a non dichotomous vision of rural and urban habitat

Workshop III-Theme: Integration of the Sectors Linked to the Problems Facing Habitat and Housing

Sub-topics:

1. The Church in the new trend towards Habitat/Sustainable Development
2. For an international aid more specific to Habitat in Haiti and in the countries of the south
3. The commitment of civil society to the Question of Habitat
4. The coherent intervention of the State in the Question of Habitat
5. The Haitian Woman and the Question of Habitat

Workshop IV – Theme: Workshop on Synthesis: Action Plan for the Formulation of a National Policy on Habitat

- a. Mini workshop – Legal Aspect
Mini workshop – Economic Aspect
Mini workshop – Social Aspect
Mini workshop – Institutional Aspect
- b. Project Presentation:
 - b1. Port-au-Prince Declaration on the Question of Habitat and on the Action Plan for the Formulation of a National Policy on Habitat.



UN-NGO-IRENE



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INSCRIPTION FORM FOR THE ECOSOC-NGOs

**FOR THE 1st FORUM HAITI HABITAT 2005
September 1ST – 4TH, 2005**

&

**LAUNCHING OF THE CARIBBEAN UN-NGO-IRENE
AND THE UN-NGO-IRENE-Haiti,
September 5TH, 2005**

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Name of organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ Fax number _____

:

E-mail: _____

Title of participant: _____

Name of participant: _____

Your Organization has
the Consultative Status
with ECOSOC/ONU Yes: _____ No: _____

Participation at the Forum Habitat Yes: _____ No: _____

Participation at the launching
of UN-NGO-IRENE-Caribbean Yes: _____ No: _____

Please complete this form and return it before 15 August 2005 to:

- Mrs. Najet KARABORNI, Coordinator of the UN/NGO/IRENE Project at the NGO/ECOSOC/UNDESA Section: karaborni@un.org, and
- Mr. Frantz-Gérard S. VERRET, President of FONDHABISA: fgverret@yahoo.fr,
- With a copy to desangosection@un.org, FAX: +1-212 963 9248 / 2916