



Welcome to the second issue of Info60, our newsletter on the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Momentum is building for commemorating this historic milestone, as evidenced by the response to the first issue of Info60 and the many queries OHCHR is receiving from civil society and Governments. In this issue we focus on the messages

that will guide OHCHR's communications efforts, messages we hope will also find an echo in your initiatives. We aim to make Info60 a tool for sharing ideas and keeping each other abreast of developments to mark the anniversary, so keep the feedback and information about your planned activities coming. Write us at 60anniversary@ohchr.org. ■

Messages to highlight justice and universality

The overarching message in OHCHR's communication efforts will reinforce the vision of the UDHR as a **commitment to dignity and justice for all of us**. We want to get across that the Declaration is not a luxury or a wish-list. It is a contract between governments and their peoples. We the people have a right to demand that this contract be respected.

Another essential driver of our communications efforts is the idea that the protection of the Declaration extends to **everyone, everywhere and always**. Non discrimination, equality and fairness are at the core of the Declaration. The Declaration was drafted by representatives of all regions and legal traditions. It has stood the test of time and resisted attacks based on "relativism". It continues to inspire the struggle for human rights around the world. But we must continually reclaim it, make it our own.

We will also be emphasizing that the Declaration is universal in more ways than one: It protects all of us, but it also enshrines the gamut of human rights, from free speech to the right to education to all the other fundamental freedoms in between. The drafters of the Declaration saw a future of freedom from fear, but also of freedom from want. They put all human rights on an equal footing. They are all essential to a life of dignity. We will be producing communications materials incorporating these messages to share with you in the coming weeks and months.

Campaign Tips

Invite those who are planning their usual summer festivals, city festivals, special markets and other events for 2008, to 'badge' them with UDHR60. They could also add human rights related activities, exhibitions or information materials to their events.

Add UDHR Articles to your normal promotional materials.

Our Projects - your projects

Commemorative projects are taking shape around the world. We will be highlighting them in each issue of Info60. Watch this space for listings:

- At UN headquarters in New York,

a collection of thought-provoking cartoons from a range of international artists will illustrate the meaning of the Declaration. The exhibit will open on 10 December 2007, Human Rights Day, before moving to locations around the world throughout 2008. We will let you know its travel schedule.

- The World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace will screen "Droits et Libertés Tout Court" (informal translation: "Rights and Liberties ... Simply"), a 40-minute educational DVD on human rights, at Geneva's Cinéma tout écran film festival on 30 October. The film will be shown in all Swiss schools on 10 December 2007 to mark the beginning of the commemorative year

Your comments

"I think with the approach you intend to use by building partnership, there is hope. You can count on our strong and active participation in this mission."

Boniface DASHACO (PhD), Director General, Media Africa Group

"This is just to let you know that the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) will be featuring the UDHR 60th anniversary on its website (www.lutheranworld.org). We will be planning some initiatives to highlight the importance of the UDHR to our global constituency, Yours faithfully."

Peter Prove, Office for International Affairs and Human Rights, The Lutheran World Federation

Know your UDHR

At 8:30pm, 9 December, 1948, Palais de Chaillot, Paris: Dr. Charles Malik, a philosopher and diplomat from Lebanon and one of the group that drafted the Universal Declaration, took the podium of the General Assembly to introduce the draft that would be adopted the next day:

"Thousands of minds and hands have helped in its formation. Every member of the United Nations has solemnly pledged itself to achieve respect for and ob-

servance of human rights. But, precisely what these rights are we were never told before, either in the Charter or in any other international instrument. This is the first time the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms are spelled out authoritatively and in precise detail. I now know what my government pledged itself to promote, achieve and observe when I had the honor to sign the [UN Charter]. I can agitate against my government, and if she does not fulfil her pledge, I shall have and feel the moral support of the entire world" A World made New