UNRIC Library Newsletter – December 2009

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- New websites within the UN system
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New websites within the UN system

UN in General

2010 - International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures
2010 - Année internationale du rapprochement des cultures
2010 - Año Internacional de Acercamiento de las Culturas

2010 - International Year of Biodiversity
2010 - Année internationale de la biodiversité
2010 - Año Internacional de la Diversidad Biológica
http://www.cbd.int/2010/welcome/

High Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
1 – 3 December 2009, Nairobi, Kenya
http://southsouthconference.org/

The General Assembly decided by resolution 64/1 of 6 October 2009 that the Conference is to be held “at the highest possible level”. It will have the overarching theme of “Promotion of South-South Cooperation for Development” and will consist of plenary meetings and interactive multi-sector stakeholder round tables on two sub-themes: (i) Strengthening of the role of the United Nations system in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation; and (ii) South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Development: complementarities, specificities, challenges and opportunities”.

The Conference is the outcome of a United Nations decision to convene such a conference on the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among developing countries (TCDC).
**Voting records of the General Assembly resolutions**
http://unbisnet.un.org

Dag Hammarskjöld Library has completed the two-year-long project of adding voting information for General Assembly resolutions previously not available online into the library catalogue (UNBISnet). With the voting records from the 1st to the 37th sessions now available, the UNBISnet provides the complete voting history on all General Assembly resolutions.

**A World of Information**

**Workshop for UN Libraries in the Nordic and Baltic Countries - Dag Hammarskjöld Library, Uppsala University, Sweden, 19 November 2009**

The Workshop was organized by Dag Hammarskjöldbiblioteket, Uppsala University, Sweden, in cooperation with the United Nations Dag Hammarskjöld Library in New York.

**Climate Change**

**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**
**COP 15, 7 to 18 December 2009**
http://unfccc.int/2860.php; http://en.cop15.dk/

**Climate Change Connections: A Resource Kit on Climate, Population and Gender**

*English & French: https://www.unfpa.org/public/cache/offonce/publications/pid/4028;jsessionid=A454C07B105BEE59FC642AD733E126F4*

Developed by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Women’s Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) as a comprehensive resource kit on gender, population and climate change it allows one to learn how gender equality can reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts and how women are uniquely positioned to help curb the harmful consequences of a changing climate.

**Children’s Climate Forum**

http://uniteforclimate.org/category/childrenclimateforum/

Children’s Climate Forum organised by UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Denmark and the City of Copenhagen will take place 28 November-4 December 2009 - just before the intergovernmental negotiations on climate change (COP15) in December in Copenhagen. The 160 participants from 44 countries aged between 14 and 17 will come together to voice their concerns about the global climate change.

**Moving Towards a Climate Neutral UN: The UN system’s footprint and efforts to reduce it (UNEP)**


The report, compiled in response to the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s determination to make the UN system a climate-friendly body, indicates that the biggest international body is emitting the equivalent of 1.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually, of which approximately 1 million tonnes comes from peacekeeping operations. It also includes an overview of the initial steps that have been taken by the organization to manage its greenhouse gas emissions as well as a few examples of offsetting.
Portal de la labor del sistema de las Naciones Unidas sobre el cambio climático
http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/lang/es/pages/gateway
En este portal de la labor del sistema de las Naciones Unidas sobre el cambio climático se pone de relieve la labor que están realizando las Naciones Unidas y sus organismos. Aquí encontrará información relativa al cambio climático y a los organismos de las Naciones Unidas implicados, así como información sobre la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático que se celebrará en Copenhague en diciembre de 2009, las negociaciones para concluir un acuerdo para el periodo posterior a 2012, declaraciones oficiales, noticias, documentos, informes e ideas sobre lo que se puede hacer para contribuir a crear un mundo mas ecológicamente sano.

Toward a Global Science and Technology Policy Agenda for Sustainable Development (UNU-MERIT Policy Brief, Number 4, 2009)
In preparation for the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen from 7-18 December, UNU-MERIT has written a policy brief on the long-term policy commitments that are needed to combat climate change and Greenhouse gasses (GHG) emissions. The UNU-MERIT team emphasises the importance of increasing spending on climate change relevant R&D to improve technologies which would reduce the marginal costs of GHG emission control and argues further that a global commitment to invest in a portfolio of R&D solutions is necessary.

UNEP Climate Pledges Site
http://www.unep.org/climatepledges/
People around the world can now keep tabs on countries’ promises and proposals on combating climate change, thanks to a new online tool launched by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Climate Pledge Tracker was launched on 11 December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark, where nations are currently meeting with the aim of agreeing on an ambitious new agreement. The new programme will be updated as new proposals are made in the Danish capital, and it compares and consolidates all pledges made to date with the goal of keeping global temperature rise at or under 2 degrees centigrade from pre-industrial levels.

The World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change (World Bank)
Report in English, Overview in French, Spanish and Portuguese:
http://go.worldbank.org/VQDL8EDGQ0
The Report explores how public policy can change to better help people cope with new or worsened risks, how land and water management must adapt to better protect a threatened natural environment while feeding an expanding and more prosperous population, and how energy systems will need to be transformed.

Economic & Social Development

2009 AIDS epidemic update (WHO / UNAIDS)
This publication, published jointly by the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organization, shows that since 2001 HIV infections have been reduced by 17% worldwide, 15% in sub-Saharan Africa, 25% in East Asia, 10% in South and South East Asia. The report highlights the importance of preventing programmes and explores how “modes of transmission” studies are changing the approach of HIV prevention efforts.
Bibliography of recent writings related to the work of UNCITRAL: Consolidated Bibliography (1968 - 2009)
The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) has created a consolidated bibliography of works related to the work of UNCITRAL for all years 1968-2009. The bibliography is organized by subjects, such as international sale of goods, international commercial arbitration, and privately financed infrastructure projects.

Making It: Industry for Development – new UNIDO magazine
http://www.makingitmagazine.net/
The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has launched a new quarterly magazine that aims to stimulate informed debate about the role of industry as a dynamic force in wealth creation and development on the one hand, and the need to ensure the environmental and social sustainability of industry on the other. The magazine website includes additional material and relevant links, and provides a platform for discussion and debate about the intersection of industry and development.

Peace and Security

Department of Field Support, Conduct and Discipline Unit – new website
http://cdu.unlb.org/
The Department of Field Support's Conduct and Discipline Unit launched a new website in November. The site concerns activities by DFS and DPKO regarding peacekeeping conduct, and particularly to prevent and redress sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers. The site will soon also include a database by which sexual exploitation and abuse cases can be tracked.

Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) – updated website
French: http://www.un.org/fr/peacekeeping/
The DPKO website has a new, more user-friendly URL. The French website has also been significantly improved and updated.

Portfolio of Mine Action Projects 2010 (UNMAS / UNDP / UNICEF)
http://www.mineaction.org/downloads/1/PortfolioMAP2010.pdf
This 13th edition of the annual Portfolio features overviews and project outlines for 27 countries, territories or missions affected by landmines and explosive remnants of war.

Protecting Civilians in the Context of UN Peacekeeping Operations: Successes, Setbacks and Remaining Challenges (OCHA / DPKO) – Advanced version
This study examines the creation, interpretation, and implementation of mandates for United Nations peacekeeping missions to protect civilians. Commissioned jointly by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) as an independent study, it contains insights and recommendations for the entire range of UN protection actors, including the Security Council, troop and police contributing countries, the Secretariat, and the peacekeeping operations implementing protection of civilians' mandates.

During its Presidency of the Security Council this month, Burkina Faso is organizing, under the agenda item entitled, Peace and Security in Africa, an open debate on Drug trafficking as a threat to international security. A concept paper has been prepared in preparation for this meeting to be held on 8 December (S/2009/615): “The main objectives of the debate are, on one hand, to raise awareness of the challenge posed to the international community by the increasing illicit cross-border and cross-regional drug trafficking and, on the other hand, to strengthen solidarity and cooperation in tackling this menace to international security.”

Human Rights

New Online Forum for UN Business & Human Rights Mandate

The United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Business & Human Rights (SRSG) on Business and Human Rights, John Ruggie, launched a global online forum. The purpose of the forum is to gather input for the SRSG as he develops guiding principles to operationalize the UN “Protect, Respect, Remedy” framework, as requested by the Human Rights Council. Anybody can register to participate in the discussion and post comments.


The latest report of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) shows improvement beside renewed concerns on the situation of human rights in Iraq. The document makes special emphasis on the areas of rule of law and impunity, the reimplementaton of the death penalty, the situation in prisons and detention centres, and allegations of torture.

Humanitarian Affairs

Urban Refugees (UNHCR)

As many as 50 per cent of the world’s 10.5 million refugees under UNHCR’s mandate are now living in cities and towns across the globe.
New information material

Single copies of the following titles can be ordered via e-mail: info@unric.org

Boletín sobre las medidas adoptadas por el sistema de las Naciones Unidas y las organizaciones intergubernamentales respecto de la cuestión de Palestina, Julio de 2009, Volumen XXXII, Boletín núm. 7.
Naciones Unidas. División de los Derechos de los Palestinos. 14 p.
Online version: http://unispal.un.org/pdfs/09-57719s.pdf

Boletín sobre las medidas adoptadas por el sistema de las Naciones Unidas y las organizaciones intergubernamentales respecto de la cuestión de Palestina, Marzo de 2009, Volumen XXXII, Boletín núm. 3.
Naciones Unidas. División de los Derechos de los Palestinos. 20 p.
Online version: http://unispal.un.org/pdfs/09-57168s.pdf


Online version: http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/6889AA2FFA31BC908525758B0052550D


Dia internacional de solidaridad con el pueblo palestino: Nota Informativa
Online version: http://unispal.un.org/pdfs/09-59770s.pdf

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People: Information Note.
Online version: http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/6A6BD340B8DDAD468525766C00665CD8


Special Bulletin on the Commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People 2008.
Online version: http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/C75C47006ED7294F8525760F005A3239

Online version: http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/07FAF5F8D5DDD4808525767400660B71
Two new UNRIC Library Backgraders in English has been issued:

**Biodiversity, Responsibility to Protect**

An updated version of the following UNRIC Library Backgrounder is available:

**Climate Change**

Copies can be requested by e-mail (info@unric.org) or downloaded from the library website at [http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library?start=3](http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library?start=3)

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**NEW TITLES**

added to the library collection in December

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### I  General Information and Reference


Online version: [http://unyearbook.un.org](http://unyearbook.un.org)


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### II.E Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Guidance on Water and Adaption to Climate Change.

River basin commission and other institutions for transboundary water cooperation: Capacity for Water Cooperation in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.

Transboundary flood risk management: Experiences from the UNECE region.
III.D United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Online version: http://www.unep.org/PDF/dmb/UNEP_Gaza_EA.pdf

IV Social Questions


V International Law

Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 69.


VIII Transport and Communications

Recommandations relatives au transport des marchandises dangereuses: Manuel d’épreuves et de critères, Cinquième édition révisée.

XIII Demography

World Contraceptive Use 2009.

XVII International Statistics

Online version: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mbs

National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, 2007; Part IV.
World Health Organization (WHO)

Online version: http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/87/12/en/

Back issues of this newsletter are available at the UNRIC Library website:
http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-newsletter