The United Nations, One World Human Rights Film Festival, and the embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Belgium presents:

**Deaf Child**

This screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring:

**Alex De Ronde**

Deaf Child marks Alex De Ronde’s debut as a documentary director. With a strong background in film, De Ronde was a film critic until 1986, when he became the Head of Programme of the Netherlands Film Festival. From the 90s, he was editor of a monthly magazine on deafness and sign language; and since 2000 he has been the managing and programming director of Het Ketelhuis, an Amsterdam based film theatre which focuses on Dutch and European arthouse cinema. He has also produced two short films: De reorganisatie van de afdeling herhuisvesting Franeker (2006, directed by Eddy Terstall & Hans Teeuwen) and Peptalk (2014, directed by Joppe van Hulzen).

**Tobias De Ronde**

Tobias de Ronde is Alex de Ronde’s son and studied at the University of Gallaudet in Washington DC, a university for deaf and hard of hearing students. He now teaches Dutch Sign Language at the Hogeschool Utrecht.

**Susanne Bosman**

Susanne Bosman works at the United Nations Human Rights Regional Office for Europe (OHCHR), where she is focal point for the rights of persons with disabilities, women and children. She joined OHCHR in 2013 and has previously worked in the field of polling and social research at the European Commission.

**Caroline Petit**

Caroline Petit is Deputy Director of UNRIC, the United Nations regional information Centre. She has worked in the field of strategic communication and media partnership at international level for 25 years. She joined the UN in 2001 and, was posted first as Head of the Media Partnerships Unit at the United Nations Headquarters in New York before joining UNRIC in 2013. Caroline Petit started her career at the European Commission’ Media Programme where she was in charge of promoting European film producers at major film festivals in Europe.

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The United Nations Human Rights Regional Office for Europe (OHCHR) is a vocal advocate for social inclusion of persons with disabilities in Europe, drawing on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Under this Convention, persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments. By ratifying the CRPD, the European Union and all of its Member States have committed to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability and to remove barriers that hinder persons with disabilities from participating in society.

Over the past 20 years One World has grown into the largest human rights documentary film festival in the world. It is organised by People in Need, the festival works with a broad definition of human rights, and therefore in addition to films about political causes and development themes, the programme also includes films about social issues, the environment and lifestyles. For the 12th time Brussels audience will have a chance to see documentary films of One World Festival - held in March 2018 in Prague and 36 other cities in the Czech Republic.

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Brussels represents Dutch interests in Belgium. They are committed to further strengthening cooperation with their Belgian neighbours in the areas of economy, politics, defence, security and culture. Promoting and protecting human rights worldwide is a priority in the foreign policy of the Netherlands. The Netherlands opposes discrimination of people with disabilities and fights for equal rights for every human being. Therefore they are pleased to contribute to the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with the screening of ‘Deaf Child’, by Alex De Ronde.

UNRIC is the communication hub for the United Nations in Europe. Based in Brussels, the Centre covers 22 Western European countries and maintains a website in 13 languages. Visit www.unric.org for more information.