



PANEL DISCUSSION

21 November 2008, United Nations Conference Center

14.30 to 16.00

UDHR 60 years on: the quest for dignity and justice for the African Woman

The 6th African Development Forum (ADF-VI) takes place in the context of the anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) which turns 60 on 10 December 2008. The focus of ADF-VI on violence against women brings up the opportunity to examine the reality, hopes and disillusion as well as the pledges regarding the human rights of women in today's Africa. The panel discussion will bring together a cross section of ADF-VI participants, the diplomatic community, human rights defenders from Ethiopia and outside; as well as staff of the United Nations.

The panel will examine different aspects of issues relating to dignity and justice as they affect African women today. Panelists will include scholars and senior human rights activists.

It was on 10 December 2007, that Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations launched a year-long UN system-wide advocacy campaign to mark the UDHR 60-year milestone. The year-long commemoration, culminating on Human Rights Day 2008, aims to continue to raise awareness of the Declaration and its relevance to people around the world. The campaign aims to engage the wide participation of individuals and institutions - from global organizations to grassroots advocacy groups - to make the Declaration a reality for all. The Declaration opened the door to much progress but there is no room for complacency, as the almost daily litany of human rights violations around the world demonstrates.

Date: Friday 21 November 2008 - Time: 14.30 to 16.00

Languages: English and French with simultaneous interpretation

Co-organisers: OHCHR, UNECA, United Nations Team in Ethiopia and the Ethiopian National Committee for the Commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the UDHR.

Contact: Patrice Vahard
Telephone: +251115443415
E-mail: vahard@un.org