



UNA-USA Newsletter - Nashville Chapter
P.O. Box 121745, Nashville, TN 37212
Fall 2007 (615) 837-3581



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Published by the United Nations Association – USA Nashville Chapter

Celebration of United Nations Day

October 16, 2007

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

“Human Trafficking and Human Rights: Where Does the UN Come Into Play?”

Featuring

Ms. Amber Beckham, World Relief Coordinator for Network of Emergency Trafficking Services (NETS)

Ms. Colette Bercu, Co-Founder of Free for Life Ministries

**Appleton Room, Jubilee Hall
Fisk University**

Directions from Downtown Nashville – West on Charlotte, right on D.B. Todd, right on Jackson, left on 16th, left on Meharry, park on Meharry or in lot on the left

Reception 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Program 7:00 p.m. (program only is free)

Reservation Required

Call the UNA-USA office at (615) 837-3581
by Friday, October 12, 2007

Cost: \$16.00 for adults and \$12.00 for students*
(Vegetarian Option and Scholarships available)

** Please note that the United Nations Association has to pay the caterer based on the number of reservations we have. Therefore those who make a reservation and do not show up will be asked to make a donation to the chapter to cover the cost.*

President's Corner

Your UNA Chapter is in the midst of some exciting things as we head into Fall. Among them are our annual UN Day Celebration on October 16th, followed on the 18th by a presentation at our monthly 3rd Thursday seminar by a world renowned physician who is also be a member of our board. The other bit of excitement is the move of our office to the new location of the Nashville Peace and Justice Center.

Our UN Day Celebration will feature two exceptional presenters, Amber Beckham, World Relief's Coordinator for Network of Emergency Trafficking Services (NETS) and Colette Bercu, Co-Founder of Free for Life Ministries. They will be speaking on "Human Trafficking and Human Rights: Where Does the UN Come into Play?" a topic made timelier by the recent bust of an international slavery ring right here in Middle TN.

On Thursday afternoon, October 18th at Belmont Methodist Church, Dr. Henry Foster, Professor Emeritus and former Dean of the School of Medicine, Meharry College and Clinical Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University, will speak on "Pathfinder International: Improving Reproductive Health Services in Bangladesh". Dr. Foster was President Clinton's nominee for Surgeon General and has conducted 80 formal university lectureships and participated in conferences, seminars and hearings in Spain, Mexico, Peru, Kenya, South Africa, Egypt, Mainland China, Canada, Singapore, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, Australia, Russia, Nigeria, India, Bangladesh and Cuba. He is also the immediate past chairman of the U.S. Committee for the United Nations Population Fund and current Chairman of the Board of Directors for Pathfinder International, an organization dedicated to improving the reproductive health of women, men and adolescents throughout the developing world.

Finally, we've moved our offices to the new Nashville Peace and Justice Center at Southminster Presbyterian Church, 4732 W. Longdale Dr., in South Nashville, just off of Harding Place and Danby Drive. We'll continue to use our existing mailing address, P.O. Box 121745, Nashville, TN 37212, but please make a note of our new phone number, (615) 837-3581. We're hoping to keep most of our programs closer to the downtown area, but we're appreciative of the Nashville Peace and Justice Center continuing to rent us space.

I hope to see you at our upcoming programs!

Best Wishes,

John Miglietta

UN Officials Press for Urgent Action to End Human Trafficking, a 'Modern-day Slave Trade'

UN News Centre

5 March 2007 – United Nations officials today called for increased efforts – by Governments, civil society, law enforcement agencies, the private sector and international organizations including the UN – to curb human trafficking, especially in women and girls.

Although this year marks the bicentennial of the end of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, "the fact that there are forms of slavery in our world today should fill us all with shame," Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro told delegates from around the world who converged at UN Headquarters in New York to attend the International Conference on Trafficking in Women and Girls. "As an African woman, I would add that it also fills me with rage."

She advocated increased cooperation among Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the media, among other groups, to halt trafficking, prosecute those guilty of perpetrating such crimes and to protect victims.

Ms. Migiro also urged States to join the Global Initiative to fight Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, a new UN program which will be launched later this year in Vienna. "We must act together to stop a crime in our midst that deprives countless victims of their liberty, dignity and human rights."

Citing trafficking's global scope, General Assembly President Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa said that it impacts millions of people, particularly those in poor countries, and is a multi-billion dollar industry that lines the pockets of organized crime.

"I cannot imagine a more terrible crime than the sale of women and children to be exploited and abused by others," Sheikha Haya told the Conference's participants.

She lauded strengthened international legal instruments, such as the 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking, Especially Women and Children, which entered into force on 25 December 2003, and said that such agreements must be applied effectively.

Also, Sheikha Haya suggested a "bottom-up approach" to curtail human trafficking, including awareness-raising campaigns at the local-level, having vulnerable groups join in discussions on finding solutions to the problem and improving local economies to prevent "risky migration practices."

In a related development, the head of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said today that enhanced measures, including improving educational opportunities and enlisting the help of men and boys, are necessary to combat enduring discrimination and violence against girls.

(continued on next page)

"It is long past time that countries, cultures and communities everywhere accept that it is in their own best interests to treat girls and women as equals," UNICEF Executive Director Ann M. Veneman said on the occasion of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, currently in its 51st Session in New York.

Despite progress, millions of girls are not receiving adequate educations, exploited for their labour, trafficked and exposed to diseases such as HIV/AIDS, she added. "Common sense and economics alike tell us that a society cannot possibly marginalize half its population and expect positive outcomes."

(source: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=21757&Cr=women&Cr1>)

Human Trafficking in the U.S.

The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency estimates that 50,000 people are trafficked into or transited through the U.S.A. annually as sex slaves, domestics, garment, and agricultural slaves.

The United States is a source and destination country for thousands of men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation. Women and girls, largely from East Asia, Eastern Europe, Mexico and Central America are trafficked to the United States into prostitution. Some men and women, responding to fraudulent offers of employment in the United States, migrate willingly-legally and illegally-but are subsequently subjected to conditions of involuntary servitude at work sites or in the commercial sex trade. An unknown number of American citizens and legal residents are trafficked within the country primarily for sexual servitude and, to a lesser extent, forced labor.

The United States Government (USG) in 2006 continued to advance the goal of eradicating human trafficking in the United States. This coordinated effort includes several federal agencies and approximately \$28.5 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 for domestic programs to boost anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts, identify and protect victims of trafficking, and raise awareness of trafficking as a means of preventing new incidents. – *Adapted from U.S. State Dept Trafficking in Persons Report, June, 2007*

Source - <http://gvnet.com/humantrafficking/USA.htm>

Additional Information about Human Trafficking

World Relief Network of Emergency Trafficking Services (NETS) Program - [http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/KGRG-6XPKGK/\\$file/HT-Schedule.pdf](http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/KGRG-6XPKGK/$file/HT-Schedule.pdf)

World Relief Trafficking Victim Protection - <http://www.wr.org/whatwedo/traffickingvictimprotection.asp>

Human Trafficking.org - <http://www.humantrafficking.org/>

Human Smuggling and Trafficking, U.S. Department of State - http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/global_issues/human_trafficking.html

Facts About Human Trafficking, U.S. Department of State - <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/33109.htm>

The Campaign to Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/>

Tennessee State University Attending Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference

The Tennessee State University Model UN Club is looking forward to attend the Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) meeting in Atlanta, GA Nov. 15-17th. This will be a good warm up for the group's participation at the National Model United Nations conference in New York City during spring 2008. At the SRMUN meeting TSU is hoping to represent Jordan. The students act as a single delegation but they are individually assigned to committees. Students need to familiarize themselves with their committees and topics while also researching their country's position on the various issues. At SRMUN Tennessee State students will serve on four committees:

- The GA Plenary which will deal with issues of peace and civil society; Millennium Development Goal One; and UN peace building operations.
- The GA Third which will deal with Millennium Development Goal Two the UN Literacy Decade; Inequalities in Indigenous Communities; and Conflict Diamonds and Human Rights.
- International Labor Organization which will deal with entrepreneurship and economic sustainability; eradication of forced labor; and trade liberalization and labor markets.
- League of Arab States which will deal with the security and refugee situation in the Middle East; information and communication technologies infrastructure in the Arab World, and water usage and conflict.

The students are looking forward to participating at this conference. Model UN enables students to gain knowledge about international issues, UN structures and procedures, as well as individual countries of the world. Students develop research, writing, and public speaking skills. If you want to know more about the TSU Model UN program or make a donation to support the program please contact the faculty advisor Dr. John Miglietta.

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UN Association Seminars

Please note the change in location for these interesting and informative foreign affairs seminars, another educational service of the Nashville Chapter, UNA-USA:

October 18, 2007 – 4:30 p.m.

Parker Hall, Belmont United Methodist Church
(Corner of Acklen Avenue and 21st Ave. South,
Hillsboro Village)

“Pathfinder International: Improving Reproductive Health Services in Bangladesh” – Dr. Henry Foster,
Chairman of the Board of Directors for Pathfinder International

November 15, 2007

TBA

All Seminars are free and open to the public. Please check our website, www.una-nashville.org for the latest information on location and times.

Save a Tree!

If you'd like to receive the UNA Newsletter via e-mail rather than via regular mail, please contact Tim Stewart, stewartt@mail.belmont.edu.

Thanks!

Your Support is Appreciated!

Thanks to our many friends and members for your generous support. Dozens of you serve on boards and committees, volunteer to staff our office, organize our programs, and provide ongoing financial assistance to help make everything possible. We couldn't do it without you!

Please be sure and renew your membership when it comes due, or consider joining the UNA if you haven't already. You can join at our website, <http://www.una-nashville.org>, or contact our office at 615-837-3581 and we'll send you a brochure. Our main sources of income are a portion of each member's dues, and annual contributions from our members and friends.

As always, we welcome donations any time throughout the year. Please send your contribution directly to the UNA, P.O. Box 121745, Nashville, TN 37212. Do not send a gift for our Nashville Chapter with your dues to New York. Thanks to everyone who is supporting us in this way.

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