

International Conference on:

« The Role of National Human Rights Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations in a Changing Environment »

“The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). 60 Years After: between Rhetoric and Reality

*In the context of celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

INFORMATION NOTE

**Cairo, Egypt
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 December 2008**

Third International Conference of Cairo

THE Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

60 YEARS AFTER: BETWEEN RHETORIC AND REALITY

Organizers

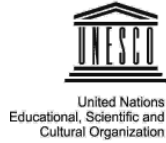
- The Egyptian National Council for Human Rights
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

PARTNERS

- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- The International Labour Organization, (ILO)
- The African Union (AU)
- The League of Arab States (LAS)
- The International Organization of the Francophonie
- The International Islamic Organization for Education, Science and Culture (ISESCO)
- African and Arab National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)
- African and Arab non-governmental organizations
- National Consultative Commission of Human Rights of France

Objectives

1. To revitalize the role of NHRIs and NGOs in Africa and in the Arab world
2. To foster exchange of experiences and consolidation of ties between African and Arab NHRIs and NGOs
3. To stimulate a meaningful participation of NHRIs and NGOs in the process of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), in light of the experience of the first 16 countries reviewed during 2008 within the Human Rights Council of the UN
4. To analyze lessons learned and promotion of best practices among NHRIs and NGOs
5. To set UP a permanent "Forum of Dialogue": "Cairo Conferences. Afro-Arab Dialogue on Human Rights and Democracy".



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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

**Cairo, Egypt
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 December 2008**

Monday 1 December 2008
Registration: starting from 8:30 a.m
OPENING SESSION: 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Guests of Honour:

Dr Boutros Boutros –Ghali
President of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights
Mr Olabiyi Babalola Joseph Yai
President of the Executive Board of UNESCO
Mr Abdou Diouf,
Secretary-General of the International Organization of the Francophonie
Mr Jean Ping
Chairperson of the African Union Commission
Mr Amr Moussa
Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, LAS
Mr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri
Director-General of ISESCO
Mr Federico Mayor
President of the Foundation for a Culture of Peace
Ms Kyung – Wha kang
UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
Mr Kari Tapiola
Executive Director, Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Sector,
International Labour Organization, ILO)

Lunch: 1.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

SESSION I: ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UDHR
2.30 p.m. – 4.30 a.m.

Chair:

Mr Doudou Diene
Former UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination,
xenophobia and related intolerance (Senegal)

Speakers:

Mr Abid Hussain
Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (India)
Sir Marrack Goulding
Former Director of St Anthony's College, Oxford University (United Kingdom)

Followed by general discussion

**SESSION II: CHALLENGES TO THE UDHR (TERRORISM – RACISM –
FUNDAMENTALISM – ARMED CONFLICTS)**
4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Chair:

Mr Hisashi Owada
Judge, International Court of Justice (Japan)

Speakers:

Mr Martin Scheinin
UN Special Rapporteur on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while
countering terrorism (Terrorism) (Finland))
Dr Kamal Abou El Magd, Vice President of the Egyptian National Council for Human
Rights (Fundamentalism)
Mr Bertie Ramcharan, former Deputy UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (Armed
Conflicts)
Mr Enrique Cascallana / Mr Jose Manuel Gomez Bravo, Foundation Instituto de cultura del
sur, Spain (Racism)

Followed by general discussion
(Dinner upon invitation): 8:00 p.M

Tuesday 2nd December 2008
SESSION III: POVERTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS
9.45 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.

Chair:

Mr Pierre Cornillon
Honorary Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (France)

Speakers:

Mr Ibrahim Salama
Chief, Human Rights Treaties Branch, OHCHR
Mr Pierre Sané
Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences (UNESCO)

Followed by general discussion

Coffee Break: 11.15 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

SESSION IV: WOMEN AND HUMAN RIGHTS
11:30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Chair:

Dr Farkhonda Hassan
Secretary-General of the National Council for Women (Egypt)

Speakers:

Dr Angela Melo
Vice president of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR)
Dr Mona Zulficar
Member of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee (Egypt)
Dr Elmira Suleymanova
Commissioner for Human Rights (Azerbaijan)

Followed by general discussion

Lunch: 1.15 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

**SESSION V: TOWARDS A PERMANENT FORUM OF ARAB-AFRICAN DIALOGUE ON
DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**
2.30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Chair:

Mr Pierre Sané
Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences (UNESCO)

Official creation of a forum of exchange, discussions and involvement to ensure the realization of the ideals of democracy and human rights in Africa and in the Arab world.

CLOSING SESSION
5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

**Cairo, Egypt
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 December 2008**

Venue and dates

The conference will take place on 1 and 2 December 2008 at the Conrad Cairo Hotel.

Conrad Cairo Hotel
1191 Corniche El Nil
11221 Cairo
Egypt
Tel.: +20 2 580 8000
Fax: +20 2 580 8080
E-mail: cairoinfo@conradhotels.com
Website: <http://cairo.conradmeetings.com>

1. Travel and accommodation

Upon arrival at Cairo International Airport, staff from the National Council for Human Rights of Egypt will be present at the airport to meet participants. Participants are kindly asked to provide their dates of arrivals and departures as soon as possible in order to facilitate arrival procedures, means of transportation will be available to transport participants to Conrad Cairo Hotel. (Arrival/Departure form is attached).

Kindly be informed that NCHR has booked rooms for all Participants at Conrad Cairo. NCHR is covering Room charges from 30/11 to 3 /12/ 2008 (3 nights, Bed & Breakfast), all additional expenditures including telephone calls, bar, laundry and other room expenses will be paid by each participants individually. On the 1st and 2nd of December Lunch will be provided at the invitation of NCHR. Also participants will be invited to dinner on Nile Maxim Boat at 8:00 pm, you are kindly asked to be present at 7:00 pm in the hotel reception where buses will depart at 7:15.

3. Presented papers

For participants whom will be presenting papers, we would appreciate receiving your abstracts in MS Word, and your integral texts **by 22 November 2008** (and any PowerPoint file you plan to use). Please send it to Ms Kristina Balalovska (k.balalovska@unesco.org), and Mr Islam Rihan (nchr@nchr.org.eg), accordingly, please be notified that conference documents will be provided at participants reserved hotel rooms.

4. Language

English, French and Arabic will be the working language of the conference. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

5. Visas

Certain nationals will need a visa to enter Egypt. Participants are asked to kindly contact the nearest Egyptian Embassy / Consulate for assistance in its application.

Organizers

<u>National Council for Human Rights of Egypt</u>	<u>UNESCO</u>
H.E Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali President	Mr. .Pierre Sané Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences
H.E Dr. Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd Vice-President	Ms .Moufida Goucha Chief of Human Security, Democracy and Philosophy Section
H.E Ambassador. Mokhles Kotb Secretary-General	Mr. Awad Elhassan Director of the Cairo Office and UNESCO Representative to Egypt, Sudan and Yemen
Mr. Islam Rihan Projects and Conferences Unit	Ms. Kristina Balalovska Assistant to the Chief of Human Security, Democracy and Philosophy Section
Mrs. Samah Fathy Projects and Conferences Unit	
Mrs. Mona Rouby Projects and Conferences Unit	

Please direct questions concerning the conference to:

Ambassador: Mokhles Kotb National Council for Human Rights of Egypt

(nchr@nchr.org.eg)

Mrs: Moufida Goucha UNESCO, Paris

(m.goucha@unesco.org)

For administrative matters (travel, accommodations, visas, etc.), please contact:

MR. Mohamed Abdel hamid: +2002 0127469764 (accommodations)

MR. Mohamed Rashad : +20020127403719 (arrival procedures and visa)

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