



**Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights
Day of General Discussion
“The Right to take part in cultural life”**



9 May 2008

Morning 10.00 to 13.00

10.00 – 10.05 Welcoming remarks, Philippe Texier, Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

10.05 – 10.20 Progress towards the elaboration of a draft General Comment on art. 15 (1) (a), Mr. Jaime Marchán, member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Session 1: Definition of cultural life in the context of human rights

10.20 – 10.30 Ms. Yvonne Donders, Deputy Director, Amsterdam Centre for International Law, University of Amsterdam

10.30 – 10.35 Mr. Abdulaye Sow, Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Centre on cultural rights, University of Nouakchott

10.35 – 11.20 Discussion

Session 2: The right to have access to cultural life and to participate in cultural life

Poverty and access to culture

11.20 – 11.30 Ms. Annelise Oeschger, President of INGOs of the Council of Europe

11.30 – 11.35 Ms. Alessandra Aula, Director, International Catholic Child Bureau

11.35 – 12.05 Discussion

Access to cultural heritage

12.05 – 12.15 Ms. Gabi Dolf-Bonekämper, Berlin curator, member of the Fribourg Group

Arts in the context of globalization

12.15 – 12.25 Mr. Joost Smiers, Professor (em.) of Political Science of the arts, Utrecht School of the Arts

12.25 – 13.00 Discussion

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

Afternoon 15.00 to 18.00

Session 3: Cultural rights and universality of human rights

- 15.00 – 15.10 Mr. Patrick Thornberry, member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 15.10 – 15.15 Mr. Taieb Bacouche, Chairman of the Board, Arab Institute of Human Rights
- 15.15 – 15.45 Discussion
- 15.45 – 15.50 Mr. Patrice Meyer-Bisch, Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Institute for ethics and human rights, University of Fribourg
- 15.50 – 15.55 Ms. Julie Ringelheim, Senior Fellow, National Fund for Scientific Research, Centre for Legal Philosophy at the University of Louvain
- 15.55 – 16.20 Discussion

Session 4: The individual and collective dimensions of the right to take part in cultural life

The collective dimensions

- 16.20 – 16.30 Mr. Ephraim Nimni, Reader on Nationalism & Ethnic Conflict Resolution, School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy, Queen's University Belfast

The individual dimensions

- 16.30 – 16.40 Ms. Elissavet Stamatopoulou, Chief, Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- 16.40 – 17.15 Discussion
- 17.15 – 17.20 Mr. Emmanuel Decaux, Professor of Public International Law, University of Paris II
- 17.20 – 17.25 Ms. Caroline Dommen, Director, 3D: Trade, Human Rights, Equitable Economy
- 17.25 – 17.50 Discussion
- 17.50 – 18.00 Closing remarks, Ms. Virginia Dandan, member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights