



DPI/NGO Relations invites you to the  
Briefing

***"Human Rights for Vulnerable People: Human Behavior and Well Being"***

**Date:** Thursday, 19 April 2012

**Time:** 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Location:** Salvation Army, 221 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, NY

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#### **Background Information**

Throughout its history, the United Nations has been an advocate for the world's most vulnerable groups including persons with disabilities, indigenous people, migrant workers, women and children in difficult circumstances and individuals struggling with substance abuse. Many international treaties including the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 2006 UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the 2007 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples have been negotiated through the United Nations to protect vulnerable groups. There are also mechanisms in place which monitor compliance by States with obligations enshrined in human rights conventions on the rights of vulnerable groups and hold countries accountable for violations.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has frequently urged the international community to focus on the plight of those most vulnerable, whether due to economic, environmental, gender, health, racial or ethnic status. Mr. Ban has further indicated that focusing on their needs will lead to a "more secure, sustainable and prosperous future of all." He has also made it clear that to achieve the MDGs, which he describes as, "the most important promise ever made to the world's most vulnerable people," that

the international community must keep its promise to halve extreme poverty, halt the spread of diseases, promote access to education and improve health care by 2015. We must keep the promise - for them, for all humankind. This is a collective, urgent responsibility".

Today's Briefing will focus on the barriers that prevent vulnerable people from achieving their full human potential as well as innovative solutions and strategies for fulfilling their lives.

**This Briefing will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m. and we ask that our audience be seated by 10:00 a.m. sharp.**

*MODERATOR*

**Maria-Luisa Chavez:** Chief, NGO Relations, Department of Public Information (DPI)

*SPEAKERS*

**Dr. Stuart C. Carr,** Professor of Psychology, Industrial and Organizational (I/O) Psychology Programme, Massey University, New Zealand

**Yvonne Rafferty,** Professor of Psychology, New York

**Steeve Coupeau,** Visiting Professor, DeVry University and New York City College of Technology; President of the New York Institute for Haiti Advocacy

The venue for the weekly Briefings will be provided as soon as the information is available. United Nations-produced videos relevant to the theme of the Briefing are sometimes screened during the session. For Briefing information please call the DPI/NGO Resource Centre at +1-212-963-7232 / 7233 / 7234 or e-mail [dpingo.briefings@un.org](mailto:dpingo.briefings@un.org). To receive the Briefing information electronically, please email [dpingo.briefings@un.org](mailto:dpingo.briefings@un.org). You may also visit the DPI/NGO Relations Cluster website at [www.un.org/dpi/ngosection](http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection), where archived web casts and audio (both, when available) of the Briefing may also be accessed

Requests for guest passes should be faxed on organization letterhead to the DPI/NGO Resource Centre at +1 212-963-2819 or e-mailed to [dpingo.briefings@un.org](mailto:dpingo.briefings@un.org) AT LEAST TWO DAYS PRIOR to the Briefing. [Please note that pass requests received at any other email address will not be processed.] All guest passes should be picked up at the DPI/NGO Resource Centre, Room GA-37, on the morning of the Briefing. NGOs are reminded that the Briefing starts promptly at 10:15 a.m.

**GUEST PASSES ARE NOT REQUIRED WHEN BRIEFINGS ARE HELD AT THE SALVATION ARMY**