

**Second Committee Special Event
People's Empowerment: A Peace Model**

**Tuesday, 18 October 2011 3 6 p.m.
Economic and Social Council Chamber (NLB)**

Background

In order for peace to be sustainable, all members of society must be empowered, engaged in the development process and allowed to fulfil their potential. Peace is not just the absence of war. Lasting peace requires opportunity and participation.

The 2005 World Summit Outcome and the 2010 High level Plenary Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the

Objectives

This special event will focus on the interlinked and mutually reinforcing elements essential for peace and empowerment including eradicating poverty and hunger, reducing inequality, and accelerating social development. The discussion will promote the importance of placing people at the centre of development and empowering them to pursue a peaceful development course.

Proposed questions

- How can the global framework for social development, as defined through international conferences including the World Summit for Social Development and the Millennium Summit, be responsive to new challenges and continue to aid the international community to achieve its goals of eradicating poverty and hunger, achieving full employment and decent work for all, and attaining social inclusion and sustainable peace?
- How can the international community support national efforts to increase social, civic and economic participation and empowerment?
- Countries should strive to make economic growth pro poor and more inclusive. How can the international community and the United Nations General Assembly address social and economic concerns in a more cohesive and integrated way?
- For most of the developing world, the provision of basic services, including education and health care, is central to advancing social integration and peace. How feasible is it for countries with limited fiscal space to implement a social protection floor?
- While social integration contributes to the peaceful resolution of disputes, successful dispute resolution also strengthens social inclusion. How can the international community strengthen the mutually reinforcing linkages between social integration and peaceful dispute resolution?
- While there is broad agreement that social integration, inclusiveness and equality are important for people empowered development and sustainable peace, there is less awareness of how these important concepts can and should be measured. What are the existing tools for measuring social integration, inclusiveness and equality and what should be done to improve upon and strengthen measurement

Participants

Chair of the Special Event: H.E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, Chair of the Second Committee

Keynote speaker: Dr. Syed Modasser Ali, Adviser (Minister) to Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh

Moderator: Professor Sakiko Fukuda Parr, Professor of International Affairs at the New School

Panellists:

Minister for State, Bangladesh (TBC)

Mr. Henk Jan Brinkman Chief, Policy, Planning and Application Branch Peacebuilding Support Office

Ms. Sarah Cliffe, Special Adviser, Civilian Capacities, United Nations, and former Director and Special Representative, World Development Report on Conflict,