



# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PERSPECTIVES FOR THE JEWELLERY INDUSTRY

THE WORLD JEWELLERY CONFEDERATION

## SUSTAINABILITY IN JEWELLERY: PROPHETS AND PROFITS

By Jonathan Kendall



*"Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day, but teach a man to fish and he'll eat for a lifetime."*

Never has this Chinese proverb seemed so true. Even hundreds of years later it illuminates a sound approach to a vital component of today's businesses strategies: corporate responsibility.

The jewellery industry has been profoundly affected by the rise of ethically-minded consumers, motivated to buy only from companies with good reputations. Corporate responsibility plays an increasing part in consumers' buying decisions. KPMG, recently reported that the industry was undergoing "changes that are more intense and lasting than any witnessed in the previous 50 years'," driven by more informed and more demanding customers and a rise in "ethical consumerism." Further, a recent five country survey carried out by GfK NOP, the market research group, found that

consumers would happily pay a 5-10% premium for ethical products.

In our business, beauty and authenticity have been the hallmarks of our trade, and we have emphasised those core qualities. We must now also demonstrate our credentials as a responsible, ethical industry. There is huge opportunity for jewellery companies to highlight ethical credentials and deliver innovations, penetrate new markets and attract new customers. Corporate responsibility is no longer a "nice to have", it's a crucial part of business success. Winning companies will be those that imbed corporate responsibility into strategy rather than as a layer of belated philanthropy.

I was interested to read a recent article in the *Economist*, referring to a survey of CEOs of global companies, defining what I believe to be the key strands for consideration in sound corporate responsibility. The survey highlighted the following areas:

- Strategy and operations of a business and subsidiaries;
- Relationships with all stakeholders including investors and partners;
- Ethical and sound business considerations with regard to supply chain management.

What does this mean for the jewellery industry? It means that we need to openly and transparently engage with our stakeholders, understand our impacts and most essentially, collaborate to deliver positive outcomes. Essentially, we need to bring new thinking, enhanced approaches and beneficial results.

I found it compelling to read about The International Air Transport Association (IATA) helping the aviation industry become more socially and environmentally responsible. IATA focuses on limiting impacts by pressuring the aviation industry – but they take this one step further by influencing public policy to create a regulatory environment that delivers positive outcomes.

We know the areas that we must focus on and the role that trade bodies can play in delivering mandates and action for industries. We now also have a platform for delivery and action.

CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, recently became the first NGO in the jewellery sector to receive official consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Clearly, we now have a direct role to play in setting the agenda and ground rules for our industry.

As Chairman of CIBJO's Marketing and Education Commission, I invite fellow jewellery industry members to work together in creating a collaborative, cooperative and committed approach to corporate responsibility. But as Albert Einstein said: "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

**Jonathan Kendall, the chairman of CIBJO's Marketing and Education Commission, is the director of the De Beers Group Marketing Division.**

## A NEW PARTNERSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

By Dr. Hanifa Mezoui



In less than seven years' time, it will be too late to express profound regrets for not having met the eight agreed goals adopted by 189 nations during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000. Responding to the world's main development challenges, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) promote poverty reduction, education, maternal health, gender equality, and aim at combating child mortality, AIDS and other diseases.

Indeed, with the deadline for completion set for the year 2015, the MDGs can only be achieved if all actors work together and bear their responsibilities. In this respect, rich countries have pledged to support them, through aid, debt relief, and fairer trade, and also through the development of new partnership for development. As highlighted by United Nations Secretary General Ban-Ki moon, we need new ideas to build a larger partnership of a wide spectrum of societal actors, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academics, teachers, business leaders and everyday citizens, in order to promote the implementation of the MDGs.

Partnership is about sharing experience and expertise with as wide a range of stakeholders as possible, in order that we achieve a maximal spread of good practices and good role models. To further this end, the NGO Section of the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations decided to foster collaboration between different actors of change, such as the UN, the private sector and NGOs at all levels, through the launch of an informal regional network (UN-NGO-IRENE).

Progress can only be achieved through education of civil society, citizens and business leaders, all of whom have to understand better the interests of the others. In this sense, the development by academics of educational tools aiming at promoting the achievement of the MDGs among the private sector, universities or civil society, while demonstrating the involvement of business, is a key to success. The luxury product industry has a lot to offer in terms of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and can gain from such a win-win partnership with the international community.

Through its collaboration with the United Nation, business has demonstrated to the international community that it is concerned about development issues. According to McKinsey, more than nine out of ten corporate leaders are doing more than they did five years ago to incorporate environmental, social and political issues into their firms' core strategies because the expectation of stakeholders have changed. This shows that there is growing recognition that the marketplace, private enterprise and NGOs can and must help to find solutions to global problems.

CIBJO is a synergy of two types of participants in the development arena. It first operates as a NGO but second it serves as an important platform for dialogue among the members of the private sector who are active in the luxury product industry. In this sense CIBJO possesses the creative potential to build a new kind of partnership through a CSR. In so doing, it plays a key role in promoting ethics and social responsibility, while underscoring its role as a business sector.

In conclusion, in the case of the luxury industry the MDGs should be used as the framework of a new CSR approach pointing out how the private sector can help to reach these 8 goals by 2015. There is not one simple answer but small initiatives, which can give hope to people who believe in us. A committed manager has therefore to redefine his strategy in terms of partnership by encompassing the MDGs as a milestone. Time is flying and therefore it is time for all of us to react accordingly our core business activities in the interest of those who are expecting us to make a difference.

**Dr. Hanifa Mezoui is the Chief of the NGO Section of ECOSOC at the United Nations.**

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: FROM DUTY TO OPPORTUNITY

*By Pierre Strauss*



The complex relationship between business and civil society regarding development issues has always engendered mixed feelings. For decades, members of the private sector used philanthropy mainly as a strategy to demonstrate their good will when addressing social issues, but today they seem to consider this approach as less appropriate for them and their stakeholders. While the world is more integrated, inequality is increasing. Business must adjust its strategy, redefining its role within a new Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) framework.

Milton Friedman, the American Nobel Laureate economist, made a statement in the 1970s that nowadays is commonly used as an argument by CSR opponents: "...there is one and only one responsibility of business – to use its resources and engage in activities designed to increase its profits." Friedman's sentiment was in the tradition of the philosophical father of modern capitalism, Adam Smith, who argued: "by pursuing its own interest, the individual frequently promotes that of the society more effectually than when he

really intends to promote it". In short, they contended that any expansion of a business' responsibility towards stakeholders other than the owners of its capital represents an artificial and counterproductive distortion of a market's normal operation.

The emergence of the CSR concept in the 1990s unveiled the intricate relationship that links shareholders to their customers. It focused on increasing consumer confidence while demonstrating that business must enlarge the scope of its business responsibility towards a wider range of stakeholders. Indeed, it argued, since consumers demand is related to a firm's profits, socially conscious consumers may have considerable leverage upon the firm's revenues by choosing to buy or not buy its products. Consumers have the power to "exit," which is one of the key accountability mechanisms identified decades earlier by economist Albert O. Hirschman.

But consumer awareness of social and development issues is not the only reason why business should act. Indeed, as Ian Johnson of the World Bank stated in 2005: "Business is good for development and development is good for business." Therefore, whereas the traditional approach of CSR was "do no harm" corporate responsibility seems to have moved to a new stage.

Business should not bypass the underdeveloped world. C.K. Prahalad, has noted the massive market potential lying at the so-called "Bottom of the Pyramid." In his view, the 4 billion people earning less than \$1,500 per annum constitute an untapped source of profits for business, and they will benefit by seeing their wellbeing improved. But Prahalad has been criticized by development scholars who argue that tailoring products to suit the specific needs of the poor is not a viable way out of poverty. The poor, they say, should not only be regarded mainly as potential consumers but also as potential entrepreneurs and partners. The best way to alleviate poverty, they say, is to emphasize buying from them rather than selling to them.

The good news is increasingly more businesses are endorsing corporate responsibility, since the private sector is learning that poverty attacks the foundations for healthy business. It should be highlighted that business can only succeed when it aligns business benefits with an appropriate CSR strategy, leading then to sustainable development and return on investment.

***Pierre Strauss wrote this article while serving as CIBJO's case officer at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). He currently works for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.***

# CORPORATE REponsibility AND YOU THE JEWELLER

*OR*

## How to work with the United Nations, benefitting both your business and society



*In 2006, CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation, became the first Non Governmental Organization (NGO) in the international jewellery sector ever to receive official consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. What does this mean for CIBJO members? This article aims thus to answer the question and also shed light on corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the luxury product industries.*

### **What is an NGO?**

The acronym NGO refers to the term “Non Governmental Organization.” It is any non-profit, voluntary citizens’ group, which is organized on a local, national or international level. An NGO is not funded by a government, is task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest. NGOs perform a variety of services, such as bringing citizen concerns to governments, advocating and

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**ABOVE: Dr. Hanifa Mezoui (left), head of the NGO section of the United Nation’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), presenting a certificate to CIBJO President Gaetano Cavaliere, confirming that CIBJO had receive official consultative status with ECOSOC. The ceremony took place at the CIBJO Congress in Vancouver, Canada, in 2006.**

monitoring policies, and encouraging political participation through provision of information.

Some NGOs are organized around specific issues, such as, development, human rights, environment, ethics or health issues. In respect to these issues, CIBJO is an NGO that aims to strengthen the collaboration between the jewellery industry and the United Nations in order to make a positive social contribution on a worldwide scale.

#### ***How does the United Nations charter refer to NGOs?***

There are two articles ruling the participation of NGOs in the United Nations. Firstly Article 71 of the UN Charter provides for suitable arrangements for consultation with NGOs. Secondly the consultative relationship with ECOSOC is governed by ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, which outlines, for example, the eligibility requirements for consultative status, rights and obligations of NGOs, procedures for the withdrawal or suspension of consultative status, the role and functions of the ECOSOC Committee in respect to NGOs.

#### ***Why CIBJO is not considered a traditional NGO but rather an “entrepreneurial” NGO ?***

Until recently NGOs were mainly organisations that emerged from from civil society and were based on the involvement of citizens motivated to defend a cause. However, for some time already it has been apparent that development issues are not only a concern of civil society and government, but also of the private sector. It appears that the corporations and more broadly the private sector have a strong interest in fighting against increasing inequality, while playing a leveraging role.

The concept of the NGO has broadened, with the defining principles such as altruism and voluntarism becoming associated with good business principles and ethics becoming embedded in the concept of Social Corporate Responsibility. This shift gave birth to the term entrepreneurial NGO which is an association that promotes the development in development areas of the private sector, entrepreneurship, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), while respecting and promoting principles of corporate social responsibility in order to fight against inequalities.

As an organization that was formed out of the business community, gathering together member of the mining sector, the precious metals and gemstones processing and trading sectors, jewellery manufacturers and traders, and related industries, CIBJO is not a traditional NGO, but an “entrepreneurial.” It also is your voice at the United Nations.

#### ***What are 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDG)?***

In September 2000, world leaders gathered together at the United Nations headquarters in New York City for the Millennium Summit. There, they committed their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and setting out a series of time-bound targets, with a deadline of 2015, that have become known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The eight Millennium Development Goals are as follows:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

#### ***What are the 10 principles of the Global Compact?***

Speaking to the World Economic Forum on January 31, 1999, former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan challenged business leaders to join an international initiative called the Global Compact, which aimed to bring companies together with UN agencies, labour and civil society to support universal environmental and social principles.

Through the power of collective action, the Global Compact seeks to promote responsible corporate citizenship so that business can be part of the solution to the challenges of globalisation. In this way, the private sector in partnership with other social actors can help realize the vision of a more sustainable and inclusive global economy. On November 26, 2006, CIBJO formally joined as a participant in the Global Compact.

The Global Compact calls for the realization of 10 principles in the business community:

**Principle 1:** Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

**Principle 2:** make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

**Principle 3:** Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

**Principle 4:** the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

**Principle 5:** the effective abolition of child labour; and

**Principle 6:** the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

**Principle 7:** Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

**Principle 8:** undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

**Principle 9:** encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

**Principle 10:** Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

### ***How do the Millennium Goals and Global Compact create a framework for Corporate Social Responsibility?***

In essence, the 8 Millennium Development Goals and the 10 Global Compact Principles are concerned about ethic and fairness. The MDGs provide the vision, while the Global Compact principles the guidelines for realising the vision. Both pave the way for Corporate Social Responsibility.

CSR is concerned with the treating the stakeholders of the firm ethically, and assuring that one take into account of the economic, social and environmental implications of your corporation's actions. CSR should maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits of any action, and minimise its downsides. Consequently, through CSR, companies add social, environmental and economic value from their operations, products and services, and so help meet society's expectations.

CSR highlights that stakeholders exist both within a firm and on its outside. The term of stakeholders is not inclusive and refers for instance to employees, government, environmentalist, trade union and local communities, customers, business partner, the

stock exchange and media. CSR aims at creating higher standards of living for stakeholders, while preserving the profitability of the corporation.

### ***How is CIBJO committed to working with the United Nations?***

CIBJO's stated aim is to unite the entire worldwide jewellery and gemstone community—from mine to market—under a single umbrella that creates a universal framework for ethical business practices. In this sense CIBJO supports initiatives emanating from its members, which foster good and ethical business practices and particularly by strengthening partnerships between the private sector, NGOs and the international community. The ultimate aim of these partnerships us to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 and promote the 10 principles of the Global Compact.

### ***Why do CIBJO members have a direct interest in following the CSR route advised by CIBJO?***

The way we run our industry has changed dramatically over the past decade, and especially in terms of how we deal with the concept of consumer confidence. Nowadays, it is widely acknowledged that business' prospects will be enhanced if it is able to demonstrate clear social responsibility in its treatment of stakeholders. We are not talking about philanthropy, but rather an inherent need to conduct business ethically and responsively in order to generate sustainable growth along the supply, manufacturing and retail chain. Corporate Social Responsibility has evolved into a corporate strategy which can use the MDG and the GC principles as milestone. It also is a means for the private sector to use its leadership and expertise to explain to governments, other NGOs and the United Nations what our industry is about and how can we contribute to common objectives.

CSR in its modern context implies that a company seeks not only to make profits for its shareholders, but to provide benefits for all of its stakeholders. Indeed, the one process complements the other.

A comprehensive CRS strategy has also the following advantages<sup>1</sup>:

- 1) **It improve a company's reputation.** CSR is built around key reputational intangibles

<sup>1</sup> Michael Hopkins, Corporate Social Responsibility & International Development : Is business a solution, Earthscan, 2007

such as trust, reliability, quality, consistency, credibility, relationships and transparency, and tangibles such as investment in people, diversity and the environment. The Kimberley process is clearly a CSR tool that enhances the industry's reputation, but it is not sufficient. We also must be proactive, adopting programmes that promote sustainable development and contribute to the wellbeing of the societies in which we are present.

- 2) **It facilitates additional access to sources of finance.** For instance, the creation of new financial indexes such as FTSE4Good and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) rank the major international companies according to their environmental and social performance. More business analyst takes into account CSR strategies when assessing a company's current and future performance.
- 3) **Innovation, creativity, intellectual capital and learning are enhanced by a positive CSR strategy.** Giving that so high percentage of a company's assets is represented by intellectual capital; its preservation through the positive treatment of internal stakeholders is becoming more and more necessary to enhance a competitive advantage.
- 4) **CSR positively helps in the building of relationships with host governments, communities and other stakeholders.** A harmonious relationship with government can be of vital importance to guarantee return on investment. Since CIBJO members often do business in developing countries, it is important to us to strengthen links with government while assuring good governance policies.
- 5) **CSR put you on the right side of any debate about the advantages and shortcoming of globalisation.** Companies that are perceived to be socially responsible are increasingly favoured by consumers. Proper CSR provides a guarantee that, in future, if questions are raised about the legitimacy of luxury products, the jewellery industry will not only be able to claim that has done no harm, but that is contributing positively to sustainable development.

### ***How does CIBJO's relationship with the United Nations enhance the principle of CSR?***

Through its relationship with the United Nations, CIBJO can help its members produce practical solutions to contemporary problems related to globalization, sustainable development and corporate responsibility in a multi-stakeholder context. The United Nations give us a floor to present our position, benefit from its global network, as well as to enjoy international respect and legitimacy. The quest for recognition from such an institution strengthens our position.

### ***Why does CIBJO consider CSR as a "virtuous circle"?***

The polar opposite of a vicious circle, a "virtuous circle" is a term often used in economic to describe a situation in which favourable circumstance or results gives rise to another favourable circumstance or result, that subsequently supports the first.

CSR creates a virtuous circle due to its positive impacts on stakeholders. Indeed, good CSR strategy fosters ethics and consumer behaviour, which is good for the environment. Improved governance reduces transaction costs. Proper human right policies provide dignity to workers and communities, improving productivity in local outlets and facilities. As the classic study "Built to Last"<sup>2</sup> has shown, CSR companies perform better for shareholders in financial and market terms, carry less debt, and stay in business over the long term.

### ***How can I practically foster Corporate Social Responsibility in my business?***

The collaboration with the United Nations offers CIBJO members an international platform and precious tools to shape your own Corporate Social Responsibility strategy, which must be in tune with the 8 Millennium Development Goals objectives while reinforcing the 10 global principles. These tools have to be seen as a "menu" from which you can pick the themes you wish to focus upon. There is no limit to the imagination nor to a new business concept, as long as you show how your projects serve the MDGs in the framework of the Global Compact principles.

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<sup>2</sup> James Collina and Jerry Porrai (1994), *Built to Last*, HarperCollins, New York

The is not one solution nor one typical project. What you do It all depends on :

- Your position in the chain of distribution.
- The resources in time and money you wish to devote to CSR. Even a modest initiative can make a difference.
- Your motivation, level of commitment and sense of responsibility

For example retailers can find a way to sensibly the consumer to development issues by raising money for a program coordinated by the United Nations Development Program. Members active at a grassroots level can try to improve the living conditions of workers through education programs and HIV prevention, or by trying to minimize the environmental impact of their activities by working with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

***As a member of CIBJO, which is an NGO with official UN status, how may I associate my CSR activities with the United Nations?***

Bring your insights and those from our industry to the United Nation. By attending, organizing outreach programs, intervening in international event or conference at the United Nations or in regional commission, you are the voice of our industry and therefore contribute to show our commitment to improve consumer confidence and work on ethical issues.

But focus on your own activities. You can do so by funding a UN project, but you also could launch your own initiative or project, the aim of which s to bring about better living conditions through the achievement of the MDGs.

***What role and functions do CIBJO delegates have at the United Nations?***

The jewellery industry can use its voice at the United Nations and brings its expertise or point of view on issues related to its activities and interests. The collaboration with the United Nations is voluntary but is certainly a win-win situation for both the jewellery industry and the United Nations, which do not monitor our activities on its own accord. It is our own responsibility to be active and help the international community to understand our business, while demonstrating our commitment to act responsibly. Therefore you are free to decide how much time you want to devote to the United Nations, according your motivation, the relevance of the agenda and your own interest.

You represent CIBJO and the interests of our industry by being either:

- a) **A permanent representative:** You must be designated as such by the CIBJO's president. They are a restricted number of permanent representatives at the offices of the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna, as well as the five regional commissions.
- b) **A temporary representative:** If you have not been designated as a permanent representative of CIBJO at the United Nations, you can ask for a temporary pass to enter the UN premises. The pass will be especially issued for the duration of the meeting or the event. Such request must be submitted to CIBJO with a one-month notice

Permanent and temporary representative have the same rights and duties at the United Nations. In order to know details about the agenda and location of events, please refer to the online document on the ECOSOC website (<http://www.un.org/ecosoc/>).

The international development agenda which can inspire you follows the Annual Ministerial Review theme from ECOSOC which aims to assess progress made towards the MDGs and the implementation of other objectives agreed at UN conference. The general theme of ECOSOC's Annual Ministerial Review 2008 is "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development." For its 2009 Review, ECOSOC chose the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health".

You are also part of the NGO IRENE network (<http://www.unpan.org/NGO.asp>), which aims at strengthening the partnership between the United Nations and Non-governmental Organizations. On this platform you can network with other NGOs, share experiences, organises outreach programs and foster collaboration in theme related to our activities.

There are also UN programmes, such as UNICEF, UNESCO, WOMAN ADVANCEMENT, which work with NGOs. An updated list and contact details can be found on the website of the NGO section in New York: <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/>.

Written and oral statements relevant to the work of the Council may be submitted by CIBJO

but you need the approval of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. For more details regarding conditions which shall be observed regarding oral presentation and the submission and circulation of written statements, please refer to ECOSOC resolution 1996/31 (<http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/>).

***How many resources, in terms of time or money, should I dedicate to the United Nations agenda, and to CSR in general ?***

You are welcome to devote to United Nations conferences as much time and energy you consider appropriate. The subject of the UN agenda should interest you particularly, and then

you almost certainly will consider your attendance has a intellectual privilege. With passion and commitment, you will enjoy a great experience in a multicultural and international institution.

Although you might believe that your CSR initiatives are small, remember that even a slight improvement can help. Likewise, do not forget that even a small mistep can threaten our common interests. It is just a tiny piece of metal on the runway at Charles de Gaulle Airport that led to Concorde's only fatal accident, but eventually grounded the aircraft forever. CSR is measured in small increments, but every piece is important

## HOW MAY ONE PARTICIPATE IN A UN CONFERENCE OR EVENT?

If you are interested in participating UN conferences, meetings or events around the world you should visit the website of the United Nations in New York ([www.un.org](http://www.un.org)), Geneva ([www.unog.ch](http://www.unog.ch)) or Vienna ([www.unvienna.org](http://www.unvienna.org)) in accordance with your location and business activity in order to keep updated with the United Nations agenda.

Requests for information can be directed to the following UN offices:

<p><b>UNOG – NGO LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA</b>          Mr. Ricardo ESPINOSA          Room 153 - Palais des Nations          1211 Geneva 10          Tel: (41-22) 917 2127          Fax: (41-22) 917-0583          E-mail: <a href="mailto:ungeneva.ngolaisoin@unog.ch">ungeneva.ngolaisoin@unog.ch</a>  <a href="http://www.unog.ch/ESS_Mission_services/ngo/liaison.htm">www.unog.ch/ESS_Mission_services/ngo/liaison.htm</a></p>	<p><b>UNOV – NGO LIAISON OFFICE AT VIENNA</b>          Mr. Nyron SEQUEIRA          Room E1416          Vienna International Centre          1400 Vienna          Austria          Tel: (43-1) 26060-4499          Fax: (43-1) 26060-5929          E-mail: <a href="mailto:protocol@unvienna.org">protocol@unvienna.org</a></p>	<p><b>UN – NGO LIAISON OFFICE IN NEW YORK</b>          Mme Hanifa MEZOUÏ          One United Nations Plaza          Room DC1-1480          New York, NY 10017          Tel: 1-212-963-8652          Fax: 1-212-963-9248          E-mail: <a href="mailto:mezoui@un.org">mezoui@un.org</a></p>
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You can also attend the meetings of regional commission listed below:

<p><b>Economic Commission for Africa</b>          P.O. Box 3001,          Addis Ababa,          Ethiopia          Tel: +251-1-51-72-00          Fax: +251-1-51-44-16          e-mail : <a href="mailto:ecainfo@un.org">ecainfo@un.org</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.uneca.org">www.uneca.org</a></p>	<p><b>Economic Commission for Europe</b>          c/o NGO Liaison Officer          UN Office in Geneva          Palais des Nations, Room 155          CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland          Tel: 4122-917-2178          Fax: 4122-917-0583          Website: <a href="http://www.uneca.org">www.uneca.org</a></p>	<p><b>Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.</b>          Casilla 179-D          Santiago, Chile          Tel: (56-2) 210-2000          Fax: (56-2) 208-0252          e-mail: <a href="mailto:publications@eclac">publications@eclac</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.eclac.org">www.eclac.org</a></p>
<p><b>Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia</b>          P.O. Box 11-8575, Riad el-Solh Square,          Beirut, Lebanon          Tel: (961-1) 981301          Fax: (961-1) 981510          e-Mail: <a href="mailto:unesywa@escwa.org.lb">unesywa@escwa.org.lb</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.escwa.un.org">www.escwa.un.org</a></p>	<p><b>Economic and Social Commission for Asia And the Pacific</b>          Rajadamnern Nok Avenue          Bangkok 10200          Thailand          Tel: (66-2) 288-1234          Fax: (66-2) 288-1000          Website: <a href="http://www.unescap.org">www.unescap.org</a></p>	<p>Updated address of Economic and Social Commission can be found on the website of the NGO section in New York: <a href="http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/">www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/</a></p>



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