



DPI/NGO Relations invites you to a

Briefing

***“Global Action to Seal the Deal
on a New Climate Change
Agenda”***

In reference to the Seal the Deal Campaign in Copenhagen

Thursday, 12 November 2009

10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Conference Room 4

Background Information

In April 2009, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the United Nation’s international climate change campaign under the title “Seal the Deal!” This campaign is about mobilizing political leaders, the business sector, NGOs, women’s groups, youth organizations and civil society around the issue of climate change to ensure that a definitive, fair, balanced and effective climate agreement is reached when governments meet in Copenhagen from 7-18 December, 2009. Seal the Deal! is about drumming up support at every level within the global community for urgent and united action on climate change. The significance of climate change in our world today is undisputed: countries all over the world are seeing its effects and are concerned about the devastating effects it could have on future generations. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has stressed the importance of immediate and serious action to fight the climate crisis, describing it as “the defining challenge of our generation.”

The latest scientific research shows that the climate is changing more rapidly than expected—millions of people are already suffering from its effects. Nine out of every ten disasters recorded are now climate related. The impacts of climate change are already being felt in the most fragile ecosystems around the world such as coral reefs and mountain habitats. Twenty to thirty percent of species on earth also face an increased risk of extinction as wildlife and biological life confronts new challenges from climate change. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warns that, "the time for delays and half-measures is over. The personal leadership of every

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head of state or government is needed to seize this moment to protect people and the planet from one of the most serious challenges ever to confront humanity.” This week’s Briefing gives NGOs more insight into the importance of the UN’s “Seal the Deal!” Campaign from various experts on climate change and anticipates the upcoming December meeting amongst world leaders in Copenhagen.

All Briefings Begin Promptly at 10:15 a.m.

Moderator: Maria-Luisa Chavez; **Chief NGO Relations Cluster**

Panel Speakers

H.E. Ms. Dessima M. Williams, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the UN

Janos Pazstor, Director of the Secretary-General’s Climate Change Support Team

Molly Hellmuth, Director of the Climate and Society Publication for the International Research Institute for Climate and Society

Jean-Marc Mangin, Executive Director of the Global Campaign for Climate Action

Michael Allegretti, Senior Advisor for US Policy at The Climate Group

The Panel discussion will be followed by a Question and Answer period.

Venue for the Briefings will be posted as soon as the information is available. United Nations-produced videos relevant to the Briefing theme are sometimes screened during the Briefing. For Briefing information please call the DPI/NGO Information Line at +1-212-963-7709 or +1-917-367-9380, or e-mail section1d@un.org. For information pertaining to UN passes, please call +1-212-963-7233 or e-mail hu2@un.org. To receive the Briefing information electronically and to be added to our e-mailing list, please e-mail dpingo@un.org. You can also visit the DPI/NGO Section website at www.un.org/dpi/ngosection, where an archived web cast of the briefings may also be available.

Requests for guest passes should be faxed on organization letterhead to the NGO Resource Centre at 212-963-2819 at least two days prior to the briefing. The guest passes should be picked up from the Lobby of the General Assembly Building between 9:30 a.m. -10 a.m. Those who arrive after 10:00 a.m. will have to pick up their passes from the NGO Resource Centre. NGOs are reminded that Briefings start promptly at 10:15 a.m.