



The Inaugural Forum of Global Dialogue Foundation Melbourne, 10-12 October 2010

"Unity in Diversity - 10.10.10" Bridging Cultures, Building Peace

Grassroots Solutions for Understanding and Cooperation Among People and Cultures

The inaugural Forum 'Unity in Diversity-10.10.10: Bridging Cultures-Building Peace' will take place in Melbourne, Australia, on 10-12 October 2010. It is being convened by the Global Dialogue Foundation, under the auspices of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations was established in 2005 to promote peace by engaging political, religious and community leaders in dialogue and practical action on long-standing divisions between cultures. The first Asia Pacific meeting was hosted by the Government of New Zealand in 2007.

The aims of the inaugural 'Unity in Diversity - 10.10.10' event are:

- To create an innovative platform for the exchange of practical experiences and solutions aimed at developing cultural understanding and cooperation among communities in the Asia Pacific Region, and in so doing contribute to the mission of the UN Alliance of Civilizations;
- <u>To learn from the experience of community leaders who are working successfully at the grassroots level</u> to bring people of diverse cultures together for a common purpose;
- To adopt a Plan of Action for the next year and to come up with a list of pledges that individuals can implement in their daily lives to contribute to mutual understanding and cooperation. The Plan of Action and list of pledges will be promoted through the GDF website with a view to having a follow-up Forum in 2011.

The Forum will feature a Marketplace of Ideas that will award the most innovative projects with support from the "World Intercultural Fund for Innovation" (WIFI), by UN Alliance of Civilizations; a children's drawing contest; a multicultural fashion show.

We are very grateful and proud of the partnerships we have developed, which include: The City of Melbourne, UNESCO Observatory-University of Melbourne, RMIT University, Australian Multicultural Foundation, Swinburne University. Additional partners are welcome.

The Organising Committee is open to suggestions and ideas regarding participation of your organisation in the Forum, particularly for the session presenting "Practical Solutions".

Please do not hesitate to contact us at + 61 (0) 3 9013 9737 or by email; info@globaldialoguefoundation.org

With best regards, Organising Committee

For more information about the UN Alliance of Civilizations, visit http://www.unaoc.org/