



## **CULTURAL DIALOGUE IN THE LIMELIGHT AT SHANGHAI EXPO**

The Expo 2010 in Shanghai gave the center stage to cultural dialogue on Friday October 22nd by featuring a high-level panel entitled "Cultural dialogue and cultural diversity to achieve Peace and Development".

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Taking place at the end of the South-South Creative week organized by UNDP, the event aimed at showcasing a range of practical initiatives and innovative policies promoting dialogue and cooperation among cultures and societies. It also provided an opportunity to reflect on how these initiatives could be scaled up , replicated and widely disseminated and to assess the impact of intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity on peace, stability and development.

The panel started with a short welcoming video address by President Jorge Sampaio, UN High Representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations.

Panelists included Mr. Pan Guang, Director, Shanghai Center for International Studies; Mr. Damien Pwono, Director, Aspen Cultural Diplomacy Forum ( US); Mr. Abhimanyu Singh, Director of the Beijing office, UNESCO; Mrs. Jin Siyan, Foundation Leopold Mayer, deputy Editor of "Dialogue Transculturel"; Mrs. Meena Megh, Peace Works project, Seagull Foundation for the Arts (India); Mr. Pece Gorgievski, President, Global Dialogue Foundation ( Australia); and Mrs. Salwa Shatila Kader, President , Federation for Middle East Peace.

The panel was moderated by Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas, Senior Advisor, Strategic Development and Partnerships, UNAOC.