



Press release

Integration: Building Inclusive Societies Forum Diversity, Citizenship and Social Inclusion

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and Deakin University will bring together stakeholders from all sectors interested in building more inclusive societies at the Integration: Building Inclusive Societies Forum (IBIS Forum) on 7 October 2011 at Melbourne Town Hall.

New-York - 3 October, 2011: Participants to the IBIS Forum will address the four UNAOC's fields of action; Education, Youth, Migration and Media. The IBIS Forum will initiate debates and explore current issues relating to multiculturalism, cultural diversity and intercultural relations. Along with examining initiatives that can inform policy development and program improvement, the IBIS Forum will launch the IBIS website in Australia.

Developed jointly by the UNAOC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), this website (<http://www.unaoc.org/ibis/>) gathers a worldwide community of policy makers, practitioners and civil society activists who work together to improve relations among migrants and host communities.

This online community features ideas and innovative projects from around the world – highlighting successful models and inspiring new initiatives– and is a tool for sharing resources. It also illustrates the positive impact of migration and the benefits it can bring to host societies, as migrants contribute to the economic, cultural and social life of their new country.

For more information:

Visit the IBIS website

<http://www.unaoc.org/ibis/>

Program of the IBIS Forum:

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/ccg/events/conferences/11-ibis/draft-program.pdf>

Registration to the IBIS Forum:

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/ccg/events/conferences/11-ibis/registration.php>

About the UN Alliance of Civilizations

The Alliance of Civilizations seeks to reduce tensions across cultural divides that threaten to inflame existing political conflicts or trigger new ones. Working with its global network of government partners, the Alliance promotes policies and initiatives aimed at improving relations between diverse cultural groups. It also works at grassroots level, promoting innovative projects in education, youth, media and migration in order to build trust, reconciliation and mutual respect among diverse communities. For more information, please visit www.unaoc.org