



# GDF NEWS

## Unity in Diversity : An Innovative Project at UN Alliance of Civilizations Pre-Forum in Doha



(Pictured: L-R Ms. Sara Piteira, Dialogue Cafe, Mr. Peter (Pece) Gorgievski - Global Dialogue Foundation, Ms. Elizabeth Birch-Silicon Valley Diversity Inclusion Consortium, Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas-UN Alliance of Civilizations, Ms. Stephanie Brancaforte-Avaaz)

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The UN Alliance of Civilization Pre-Forum dedicated to Civil Society was held in Doha, Qatar on 3-4 May 2011.

The event shed new light on the convergence of intercultural, governance and development issues.

More than 170 civil society leaders, representing regional and national networks joined in this first major event in the run-up to the December, 2011 Fourth Annual Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations (AoC), a major initiative affiliated with the United Nations.

The Alliance of Civilizations seeks to address misunderstanding and fear and to build trust and confidence that stems from mutual knowledge and understanding.

"How can we live together in a spirit of respect and cooperation while the increasing diversity of our societies can generate anxiety, divisions and pressure on fragile democracies? That is the question we must deal with at the Alliance of Civilizations and to which we must continue to respond", said HE Dr Jorge Sampaio, United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations.



HH Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser : *"We must live our belief that the values of justice and equality still rule.."*

A turning point: In 2011, the AoC is entering a new phase in its development. Under the impulsion of HH Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, the 4th Annual AOC Forum in Qatar's capital city Doha will embody this new phase.

Building on the Millennium Development Goals, HH Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser proposed a more pragmatic and focused linkage between the program of the Alliance of Civilizations and the scope of the Millennium Development Goals.

With the first ever organized consultations session with Civil Society organizations, the Doha Pre-Forum of Civil Society expressed renewed importance of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue not only for personal fulfillment and the promotion of peaceful relations, but also as a driver in poverty alleviation and the build-up of dynamic knowledge based societies.

To download the 'Unity in Diversity' presentation by Global Dialogue Foundation's Co-founder & C.E.O. Mr. Peter (Pece) Gorgievski, <http://www.globaldialoguefoundation.org/files/Doha3May2011.pdf>

For more information about the Pre-Forum, visit <http://www.qatar4unaoc.org/>

Web links:

UN Alliance of Civilization: <http://www.unaoc.org/>

Global Dialogue Foundation: <http://www.globaldialoguefoundation.org/>

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