Citizens in India working with the United Nations to build inter-cultural, inter-religious, inclusive & sustainable societies

12 March 2016

On 15-16 March 2016, the Shahani Group India and Global Dialogue Foundation Australia, in collaboration with UN Alliance of Civilizations and NGO DPI, will launch Unity in Diversity-World Civil Society, India. The organisers are inviting all people interested in Unity in Diversity to attend.

Taking place in Mumbai, representatives from NGO's, private business, government, religious and spiritual organisations will come together to align efforts towards building inclusive societies.

Unity in Diversity - World Civil Society is the nucleus of a planetary citizens assembly, which aims to establish a collaboration by Citizens with Governments and Religions, at local, regional and global (UN) levels.

The Mumbai event will focus on projects that strengthen communities and support people from all cultural background to better integrate with society while maintaining their cultural identity and heritage.

Dr. Hanifa Meziou…. stated, "I will welcome any NGO ready to hear what is happening right now at the UN, what are the new priorities under the SDGs. How can Civil Society make the difference? We are going from commitment to results!!

The welcome session will be held on Tuesday 15 March, starting at 5:00pm, at KC College Auditorium, Churchgate Mumbai 400020.

The event continues on Wednesday 16 March, from 9:30am to 3:30pm at Thadomal Shahani Centre for Management, 257 SV Road, (next to Shroff Eye Hospital, Bandra, Mumbai 400050). From 4:00pm to 5:00pm, the Unity in Diversity Peace Garden will be inaugurated at Muktanand Peace Garden, off Linking Road, Mumbai 54

Objectives of the India launch event:

• to form a "National Steering Committee" in India; which will coordinate continuous collaboration among civil society, private business sector, governments, religions, spiritual organisations, and work towards building inclusive societies,

• to establish a grassroots "Community Leadership Team; which will work with local communities in creating and implementing projects to strengthen civil society via dialogue and understanding,

• to lay the foundation of the Policy of the Indian Unity in Diversity - World Civil Society Assembly and to create the first action plan based on this policy, and

• to establish collaboration between the UN Alliance of Civilizations India Focal Point, UN associated organisations and the India civil society; in order to contribute to reaching the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Since 2010, Global Dialogue Foundation, the Shahani Group and numerous civil society partners around the world have been working with the UN Alliance of Civilizations to promote intercultural dialogue and understanding. Currently, Unity in Diversity-World Civil Society is lead by a Global Presidency, representing 19 countries from; South Pacific, South Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. It is supported and guided by a Consortium-Global Consultative Advisory Body, which has a registered membership from over 45 countries.

The UN welcomes and requires these endeavors of bringing together governments, international organisations, private business sector, civil society organisations and individuals to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue and to boost the implementation of the UN sustainable Development Goals.

For more information, visit http://www.gdfunityindiversity.org/indialaunch.htm