



Friedrich Ebert Foundation and Global Action on Aging
Present a side event during the Commission on Social Development

Social Security for Older People How Do We Protect Pensions and Social Services for the Aging in the Midst of Economic Crisis?

February 13, 2009

1:15 – 2:45 pm

United Nations Conference Room B

Welcoming Remarks: **Mr. Werner Puschra**, Director, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New York Office

Speakers: **Ms. Susanne Paul**, President, Global Action on Aging and Head, NGO Sub-Committee to Promote a Human Rights Convention on Aging

Gemma Adaba, Representative of the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation) to the United Nations

Ms. Ashwini Sukthankar, Director, International Commission for Labor Rights

Mr. Christopher Rude, Adjunct Professor of Economics, New School University, former Federal Reserve Bank and Wall Street economist

Moderator: **Ms. Sara Burke**, Policy Analyst, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New York Office

The current economic crisis threatens protections for older people around the globe, as falling asset prices devalue their homes, savings and pensions. This panel will discuss some of the challenges now facing retired people, aging workers and the aging poor and what is needed – beyond a reliance on the recent proliferation of financial products – to craft a human-rights based response to the needs of an aging society.