



Program
Financing the United Nations in Times of Economic Insecurity
Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Church Center for the UN
777 UN Plaza (44th street)
8th Floor Conference Room
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Co-Sponsors:

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung,
The Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation,
and Global Policy Forum

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration and Light Breakfast

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. Welcome
James Paul (Director, Global Policy Forum); Werner Puschra (Director, FES New York); Magnus Lennartsson (Resident Representative, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation New York Office)

9:45 – 11:15 a.m. Panel I: Rising Demands and Shrinking Resources for the UN?

Topics: How badly has the global financial crisis hit the UN? Do the European financial difficulties spell more problems ahead? Are there near-term solutions that can ease the UN's budget pains? Where are we headed with the scale of assessments? Can a broader base of mid-level contributors help? How can we look innovatively at financing mechanisms and the issue of voluntary vs. assessed contributions? What impact will the current reassessment of peacekeeping costs have for the regular budget?

Speakers: Ren Yisheng (Counsellor, Permanent Mission of China to the UN)

Thomas Gürber (Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN)

Klaus Hufner (Member of Executive Board, UNA Germany; Senior Research Fellow, Global Policy Forum)

Moderator: Barbara Adams (Senior Fellow, Global Policy Forum)

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:30 – 1:15 p.m. Panel II: Looking Ahead: How to Move Forward on Key Issues

Topics: What are means to build bridges among member states for a common political project? Is a grand bargain possible that addresses the priorities of all member states? Vast resources have been mobilized when needed for economic rescue packages. Why is the UN often bypassed by these measures? What would be global priorities and how can their financing be advanced? What kind of world institution is envisioned? How can finance coalesce around a shared governance vision?

Speakers: H.E. Kaire Mbuende (Permanent Representative of Namibia to the UN)

H.E. Morten Wetland (Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN)

H.E. Bengt Säve-Söderbergh (Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, ret.)

Moderator: Jeffrey Laurenti (Senior Fellow, The Century Foundation)

1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Concluding Comments (from the co-sponsors)

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Light Lunch and Conversation

This event is also sponsored by CONGO, the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations.