

The Department of Public Relations now requires an annual review of NGOs. The following are the questions and answers submitted in December, 2010.

How often do the United Nations Representatives of your organization visit the Resource Centre? *

About one a month, more often when we can have meetings in the Resource Center room. Also, we come when we need hand-outs on the racks to give out at various presentations.

How does your organization disseminate information provided by DPI/NGO Relations? *

(1) A website area on our organization website is devoted to reports about our UN-related activities, programs, and reports on DPI/NGO briefings

(2) Reps write about DPI/NGO information in our organization newsletter (a special issue is being devoted to this, including reports about the recent DPI/NGO conference, GA and MDG Summit meetings, and activities related to various Committees and MDG-related projects

(3) Members work with public media outlets and professional groups, commenting, speaking or writing about UN and DPI/NGO- related issues (e.g. DPI Main rep Judy Kuriansky is a journalist for print and electronic mainstream media and refers to such issues at various opportunities, including when she and Australian IAAP member Amanda Gordon, mentioned the annual DPI/NGO conference when doing commentary on television and on radio while in Melbourne)

(4) Reps and members often give speeches, panels and workshops at conferences and meetings, referring to UN and DPI/NGO-related information, both within the UN system and to the general public; for example, at our organization meetings, local, Psychology Day at the UN, private and public group gatherings and collaborations with groups on local, regional and international levels ranging from “New York Together” to Action Networks with the Clinton Global Initiative

(5) We invite other NGOs to be part of events that we sponsor or co-sponsor that spread the messages of the DPI/NGO cluster

(6) We do field projects advancing the MDGs and consistent with guidelines (presented at briefings or meetings) which become reported in UN-related sites and also mainstream media. For example, (a) our work on eliminating extreme poverty in Haiti, spearheaded by DPI reps Kuriansky and Wismick Jean Charles, has been covered by ABC News Now, written about on the Huffington Post and gotten awards at public gatherings. An award was given to Kuriansky and Jean Charles at a public event. Both have spoken publicly about the project and MDG issues, including for example, Kuriansky at the National Press Club in Washington DC with HE Ambassador of Haiti Raymond Joseph as well as at Columbia University Teachers College to graduate students, and Jean Charles to the Haitian diaspora. Both are collaborating with other groups, including Haitian American Care and the Girls Action Network against abuse in Haiti refugee camps. In addition, (b) our project in Lesotho Africa, spearheaded by Kuriansky and Mary O’Neill Berry with Martin Butler, with the goal to empower women and combat HIV/AIDS has been posted on the UN website about the MDGs and also a video about the project has been posted on a news site and presentations have been made at innumerable public forums..

- (7) Members write books that include information about issues related to DPI/NGO Relations information (e.g. about poverty, sustainable development).
- (8) Reps and members give many speeches to youth at campuses and conferences about getting involved in the UN DPI/NGO system and issues from DPI, including for example, at Fordham University in October, 2010.
- (9) We also engage interns from various schools and encourage them to go to briefings and inform their campus and peers about their experiences at the UN and DPI/NGO events.
- (10) Members have started to become involved with the new UN entity presented at a DPI briefings--UN Women – as well as projects headed by IAAP’s Martin Butler related to the International Year of Youth. (11) IAAP had its membership meeting this summer in Melbourne Australia, and IAAP reps had several sessions discussing their work with DPI and the UN, including a plenary presentation and other sessions by Reichman and Kuriansky.

During the last year, has your organization engaged in any joint information projects with UN agencies or programmes? *

Yes.

- (1) Members Walter Reichman and Mary O’Neill Berry have consulted for UNDP on topics for their brown bag lunches hosted by the UN Interagency Framework Team.
- (2) IAAP partnered with two other organizations to present a booth on the exhibit floor of the DPI/NGO conference in Melbourne. Among other postings and hand-puts, we posted the IASC Guidelines from the MHPSS network on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings, on the wall.
- (3) In connection with our project in Africa to launch a camp program for orphans and vulnerable children, IAAP’s Kuriansky and Berry collaborated with the local office of UNICEF (who contributed in-kind trainers from the Girl Guides Association) and we met with UNDP in Lesotho.
- (4) In connection with our projects regarding mental health programs and trainings for disaster recovery (for example, after the earthquakes this year in Haiti and China), we have interfaced with the UNICEF contact for disaster recovery and also with various UN agencies and contacts about the IASC Guidelines, which we have promoted in various contexts.
- (5) Members have participated in the Commission on the Status of Women, and also DPI/NGO Main rep Kuriansky was on a CSW panel last March about “The Critical Role of Women in the Attainment of the MDGs.”
- (6) Members have participated in drafting, and signed on to, various position papers presented to UN Commissions. For example, IAAP’s Pete Walker joined other NGO reps in preparing and distributing a position paper on “Older Persons and Transportation.”
- (7) Members have been on panels with the CoNGO President about the activities at DPI/NGO cluster and international activities of psychologists, for example, a recent conference held at Fordham University where Jeff Huffines spoke about the DPI/NGO conference, Levi Bautista spoke about CoNGO, and IAAP DPI rep Judy Kuriansky presented with Kelly Roberts about youth activities and opportunities at the UN.

(8) IAAP DPI Main rep Kuriansky coordinated youth projects with the Chair of the Youth Subcommittee for the DPI/NGO conference.

Has your organization been in contact with a UN Information Centre (UNIC) where your headquarters is located over the last year? If yes, please describe. *

No

How often do the United Nations Representatives of your organization visit the Resource Centre? *

About one a month, more often when we can have meetings in the Resource Center room. Also, we come when we need hand-outs on the racks to give out at various presentations.

How do you think relations between DPI and NGOs can be improved? *

A few years ago, we did a research survey about this and would be happy to repeat it again. IAAP reps Reichman and Berry, with the support of DPI, surveyed the NGO representatives at the UN about the working relationship between the reps and the UN. The survey findings included helpful information on the reps' views about DPI and the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, which subsequently implemented a number of changes in their way of working. The results were shared with the reps during a DPI Communications Workshop, followed by break-out sessions where reps brainstormed on the key issues raised by the survey.

How often does your organization use the information available on the DPI/NGO Relations website? *

Often.

Describe the major UN related events organized by your NGO over the last year. Include three samples, including reports, press releases, flyers, websites, videos, etc. *

(1) We launched a new exhibit and website called PsychologyForGlobalHealth.com at the recent DPI/NGO conference and a booth on the exhibit floor.

(2) Members co-organized an event at the World Trade Organization in Geneva to present recent research about trade policy which included the Counselor for Free Trade and Development from the Permanent Mission of Switzerland on the panel and was attended by Mission delegates of developing and developed countries and NGOs (ARTICLE ATTACHED TO SUBMITTED REPORT).

(3) Our multi-stakeholder project in Lesotho Africa for orphans and vulnerable children involved a partnership of NGOs, government (the First Lady of Lesotho and her office), UN agencies (UNICEF), media (HUMS News) and students. A report was posted on the website GLOBAL DIALOGUE supported by the United Nations Foundation on Making the Millennium Development Goals Happen (<http://mdg.devex.com/mdg3-topic1-promote-gender-equality-and-empower-women/#respond>) (ATTACHED TO SUBMITTED REPORT).

(4) Related to our project in Haiti to reduce poverty and develop comprehensive health services, we produced videos, including about trainings following the IASC guidelines promoted by UN agencies, that were shown at many events (including Psychology Day at the UN) and posted on news websites

(<http://www.humnews.com/humnews/2010/4/13/stories-of-haitiapril-13-2010.html>). Also, the project was discussed by Kuriansky on TV (e.g. ABC News Now), and written about in mainstream media, including on Belief Net, Huffington Post (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jim-luce/dr-judy-on-the-trauma-of_b_461779.html) and in the American Psychological Association International Division newsletter (http://www.internationalpsychology.net/newsletter/IPB_Spring_2010_4_27_10.pdf).

(5) DPI/NGO rep Judy Kuriansky directed the International Student Journalism Program at the recent DPI/ NGO conference, resulting in a student blog and other reports for their campus media outlets and mainstream press including in their own language (www.globalhealthstudents.wordpress.com).

(6) Members were on the organizing committee of 2010 Psychology Day at the UN, "Psychology and Diplomacy: Negotiating for Peace and Human Rights" held February 2010, with UN officials and agencies attending. Also, DPI rep Florence Denmark was the chair, DPI Main rep Kuriansky gave a plenary address on Accessing Humanitarian Aide, and member Pete Walker chaired the opening session on "Negotiating Humanitarian Access" (PRESS RELEASE ATTACHED TO SUBMITTED REPORT).

(7) Members are on the Executive Committee of the Committee on Mental Health (Kuriansky, Simon, and Denmark) which holds monthly meetings at the Church Center, covering UN-related issues with UN staff on various panels (www.mentalhealthngo.org).

(8) A member on the NGO Committee on the Family was invited to speak on climate change at the monthly meeting in February.

(9) Several members are active on the NGO Committee on Ageing: DPI rep Denmark and member Norma Simon serve on the Executive Committee and the planning committee for the International Day of Older Persons in May 2010, where Denmark was honored (with the Executive Director of UNPF), and IAAP member Walker led a team drafting the Mission Statement of IDOP 2010.

(10) Members are active participants on, and report about, UN Commissions; e.g. In conjunction with the 18th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in May, a member led a team of NGO reps from the NGO Committee on Ageing preparing a position paper on "Older Persons and Transportation" supported by 13 NGOs and circulated to 18 select UN Missions and two CSD Major Groups (ATTACHED). IAAP also offered to co-sponsor the CSD-18 side-event "Consumption and the Rights of Mother Earth: Perspectives on Needed Change from the Fields of Economics, Jurisprudence, Psychology, Science, and Theology."

Did a representative from your organization attend the UN DPI/NGO Conference that took place in Melbourne, Australia from 30 August to 1 September 2010? *

Yes. Several international and local members were in Melbourne for the DPI/NGO conference. The President of our NGO attended, as did several members. In addition, the main DPI rep, Judy Kuriansky, organized a booth called PsychologyForGlobalHealth on the exhibit floor, and also directed the International Student Journalism Program. She

also sponsored many students (including student members of the organization) to come to the conference, including personally financing the trip of three students and encouraging several other students (from other countries, including China) to get funding for their trip.