



MEDIA ADVISORY

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF YOUTH BRIEFING SESSION

Topic: Youth Employment

Tuesday, 8 February 2011
1:15 - 2:30 p.m.

*North Lawn Building, United Nations Headquarters
Conference Room 7*

A **briefing session** is being held to address youth employment. Across the globe, the economic crisis has had a dramatic impact on the challenges facing young people seeking jobs. Between 2008 and 2009, the youth unemployment rate has seen the largest annual increase on record. What's more, unemployment rates are only the tip of the iceberg. Young people are prone to working longer hours under informal, intermittent and insecure work arrangements characterized by low productivity and earnings and reduced social protection.

- ◆ **Ms. Jane Steward**, Special Representative and Director of the ILO Office for the United Nations, will moderate the Session
- ◆ **H. E. Ambassador Jean-Francois Zinsou**, Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations
- ◆ **Mr. Dirk Janssen**, Youth Delegate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations
- ◆ **Ms. Francesca Ricciardone**, Research Officer, International Trade Union Confederation/Global Unions, Washington D.C.
- ◆ **Mr. Adam Greene**, Vice President of Labour Affairs and Corporate Responsibility, United States Council for International Business

Young workers are more exposed to poverty than other age groups. As part of the International Year of Youth, this Session aims to highlight the importance of creating decent work for young people by bringing together representatives of Governments, employers' and workers' organizations. The UN Programme on Youth organized this Session as the third of twelve being held to celebrate the International Year of Youth (2010-2011) under the theme "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding".

For more information, please contact: Liz Scaffidi at UN Department of Public Information, 1 212 963-5834 or email scaffidi@un.org.

