



**Response to Invitation to the Secretary-General: 25th Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) General Assembly, New York, 2 to 4 April 2014**

Jackilyn Punsal to: president

24/03/2014 03:31 PM

Cc: Wook-Jin Chang, Josiane Ambiehl, Alexandra Barahona Posada

Date	Subject

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

I am writing on behalf of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to thank you for your e-mail dated 5 February 2014, inviting the Secretary-General to participate in or send a representative to the Opening Plenary of the 25th Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) General Assembly, to be held in New York from 2 to 4 April 2014.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind invitation. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that neither he nor his representative will be unable to attend the event, in view of prior commitments and pressing demands already on their schedules during the said dates. Nevertheless, allow me to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes for a successful General Assembly.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Jackilyn Punsal  
Scheduling Office of the Secretary-General  
Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
United Nations  
Room S-3862  
Tel: 212-963-7428  
e-mail: punsal@un.org



14-01056  
SCH/08/002  
SCH/08/006  
Com/01/002



Re: For DU's Final Advice and Draft Response: 25  
Assembly\_2-4 April 2014 in UNHQ

Haitian Lu to: Alexandra Barahona Posada

Cc: Daw Yi Mon Aung, Deirdre Boyd, Jackilyn Punsal, Kay G  
Montiel

Simple regret

+

No message

+

No representation

Dear Alexandra,

There is a generally shared perception that CoNGO, which has been ur efforts to mobilize NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC to work c did not live up to expectations of both, civil society and the UN with reg critical intergovernmental processes. The CoNGO NY Office has been firm prospects for reopening. A number of its member NGOs no longe questioning whether there is any value added by the present CoNGO. I stopped its support and there are no other donors in sight.

In this light, the UN presence at the General Assembly of the CoNGO has been gradually downgraded from the SG to USG/DESA, to the Director of OESC/DESA and further down to the Chief of the NGO Branch/OESC/DESA. Last year, no officials of the UN attended the CoNGO General Assembly. Despite these signals, the current leadership of the NGO has shown no will nor effort to reform and revitalize the Association.

At this stage, any high level UN participation in the CoNGO General Assembly would send a wrong political signal to the Association and other NGOs members of the CoNGO that the UN condones the current course of the CoNGO leadership. However, it may be advisable to have an official of OESC/DESA to be present to observe the proceedings, without addressing the Assembly. It is hoped that such a symbolic presence of the UN stimulate a revival of the NGO and change of its course while maintaining the engagement and support for a revitalized CoNGO.



Mr. LU Haitian

Chief

Office of the Under-Secretary-General  
for Economic and Social Affairs(DESA)

United Nations

Tel: 1-917-367-9376

Fax: 1-212-963-5958

Email: lu9@un.org

Alexandra Barahona Posada

Dear Lenni, Grateful for DU's kind ad...

19/02/2014 07:07:37 PM

From: Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO  
To: Lenni Montiel/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Haitian Lu/NY/UNO@UNHQ,  
Cc: Deirdre Boyd/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Jackilyn Punsal/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Daw Yi Mon Aung/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Kay Govia/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Date: 19/02/2014 07:07 PM  
Subject: For DU's Final Advice and Draft Response: 25th CoNGO General Assembly\_2-4 April 2014 in UNHQ

Dear Lenni,

Grateful for DU's kind advice after consulting with respective colleagues (DESA in copy) on the following:



**For DU-DESA's Advice: Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship  
with the United Nations\_2-4 April 2014, UNHQ**

Alexandra Barahona Posada to: Lenni Montiel, Haitian Lu, Kay  
Govia

10/02/2014 03:38 PM

Cc: "Josiane", Jackilyn Punsal, Sanghwa Lee, ferascu, Aminata Sy,  
Deirdre Boyd

Dear Lenni and Haitian,

I refer to the above mentioned invitation (attached for ease of reference). EOSG would appreciate receiving DU's recommendation in consultation with DESA's as to whether:

- (1) If this event merits the participation of the Secretary-General or another Senior Official should attend on his behalf.
- (2) If a representation is recommended, grateful to receive advice as to the name/title and confirmed availability of the UN Senior Official who should be designated to attend this event on behalf of the Secretary-General (i.e. USG Wu etc..)
- (3) Whether it would be necessary for the SG to send a written message to this event.

Most grateful to receive DU's final recommendation for CdC's final approval by Thursday, 13 February 2014.

Many thanks in advance,  
Alex



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**For DU's Final Advice and Draft Response: 25th CoNGO General Assembly\_2-4 April 2014 in UNHQ**

Alexandra Barahona Posada to: Lenni Montiel, Haitian Lu  
Cc: Deirdre Boyd, Jackilyn Punsal, Daw Yi Mon Aung, Kay Govia

19/02/2014 07:07 PM

Dear Lenni,

Grateful for DU's kind advice after consulting with respective colleagues (DESA in copy) on the following:

- (1) The name/title and confirmed availability of the UN Senior Official who should be designated to attend this event on behalf of the Secretary-General
- (2) Whether it would be necessary for the SG to send a written message to this event.

Regards,  
Alex



14-01056.pdf



ACTION JA ✓  
COPY RA

ABP: pls consult w/ DGACM + DPZ.



**Fw: CoNGO 25th General Assembly - 2014**  
SGCentral to: Maria Antonette Sason  
Sent by: Jill Annitto

05/02/2014 01:54 PM

**RECEIVED**

----- Forwarded by Jill Annitto/NY/UNO on 05/02/2014 01:54 PM -----

From: president@ngocongo.org  
To: sgcentral@un.org,  
Cc: abramov@un.org, ngls@un.org  
Date: 05/02/2014 01:53 PM  
Subject: CoNGO 25th General Assembly - 2014

FEB - 6 2014

14-01056  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

H.E. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary General  
United Nations Organization

Mr Secretary General:

We approach you in the spirit of the long-standing sharing of ideals between the United Nations Organization and the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO)

We invite you to attend the 25th CoNGO General Assembly, to be held in New York on April 2-3-4, 2014. We invite you to address the Opening Plenary at 10.00 on April 2, or to delegate one of your senior officials to deliver a message on your behalf.

We also invite you to designate officials to be present throughout the Assembly for the debates that will cover so many common issues for the UN and NGOs/CSOs.

We invite you and your officials to honour us with your presence at the Conference Reception on April 2 at 18.00.

You will find the provisional agenda and programme attached, together with information on the Assembly location and initial arrangements. [www.ngocongo.org](http://www.ngocongo.org) will provide more information.

The Assembly meets under the theme

**DEFINING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.**

This recalls but goes beyond the many major discussions taking place in United Nations and Civil Society on the post-2015 Agenda, which of course has ramifications in such spheres as humanitarianism, human rights and democracy, peace and disarmament, education, women's empowerment, ageing and future generations, health and migration, social justice - indeed all the issues with which the United Nations and Civil Society grapple on a daily and monthly basis.

The 25th CoNGO General Assembly will review our past collective work in these areas and lay groundwork for future collective action.

Together with CoNGO members, your presence, your shared commitment and determination will make our common work more meaningful, more robust,

SC4/08/002

SC4/08/006

COM/11/002

more lasting, more effective.

We are at your disposal for such further information as you and your office may require.

Cyril Ritchie, President of CONGO



CoNGO,2014 GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 1.odt

ACTION JA ✓

COPY RA



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Cyril Ritchie, President of CoNGO



CoNGO.2014 GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 1.odt



**CONFERENCE OF NGOS IN CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP  
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (CoNGO)**

**25<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**New York, April 2-3-4, 2014**

**« DEFINING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE »**

**Provisional agenda and programme**

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**Venue : Salvation Army : International Social Justice  
221 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York NY**

**Commission**

**-**

**CoNGO 25<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
**Provisional agenda and programme**

Wednesday April 2 - 09.30 - 17.30

1. Official Welcome ; Messages and Greetings from United Nations and other partners ; Tribute to deceased eminent persons
2. Distinguished Address : Jakob von Uexkull, Founder of the Right Livelihood Award , Founder of the World Future Council
3. Adoption of the agenda and of the minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly
4. Appointment of Organs of the Assembly
  - Credentials Committee
  - Resolutions Committee
  - Tellers Committee
5. Reports of Officers
  - Cyril Ritchie, President
  - Adama Diop, First Vice-President
  - Wolfgang Beiglboeck, Vice President, Vienna
6. Report of the Treasurer
  - Treasurer : International Federation of Business and Professional Women - Elizabeth Benham
  - The financial position of CoNGO 2011-2014
  - Triennial budget 2015-2017
7. Report on the audits of CoNGO accounts

Thursday April 3 - 09.30 - 17.30

8. Principal actions during 2011-2013
  - CoNGO Board, Board Committees and Working Groups, Regional Committees
  - CoNGO Substantive Committees in Geneva, New York, Vienna
  - Relevant decisions resulting from the above reports

9. Report of the Nominations Committee  
(Chair: Liberato Bautista, Immediate Past President)
10. Reports of Assembly Committees
  - Credentials Committee
  - Resolutions Committee
11. Amendments to CoNGO Rules
12. Principal actions for 2014-2017

Friday April 4 - 09.30 - 13.00

13. Election of the CoNGO President and the CoNGO Board
14. Closing Session
  - Closing address on the theme « Defining a Sustainable Future »
  - Remarks by the Incoming President
15. Other business and adjournment

((A separate notice will be sent shortly indicating procedures and costs for registration.

Each individual organization/participant is responsible for relevant transportation and accommodation costs.

Further identification of Assembly speakers and introducers will be given in an updated programme that will be circulated in March to all CoNGO Members and invitees.

Tea/coffee/health breaks will be defined in the final programme.))

Cyril Ritchie

President of CoNGO