

4TH WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

NANTES - FRANCE JUNE 28 TO JULY 2010
NANTES METROPOLE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER

In a world in crisis, what about Human Rights?

Nantes, 1st February 2010

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

The 4th World Forum on Human Rights will be held in Nantes, France, from Monday June 28 to Thursday July 1, 2010.

Since its creation in 2004, under the aegis of UNESCO, the Nantes Forum – every two years – aims at bringing together, on an equal footing, all individuals and organisations that work to defend human rights. Its objective is to help strengthen the **networks of solidarity that are so essential to implementing, enforcing and protecting human rights**, by providing an environment that enables the free exchange of knowledge and best practice.

In a world in crisis, what about Human Rights ? is the key theme of the 2010 forum, which will examine the impact that the global crisis and its various financial, economic, social, moral, political and environmental implications have had on human rights throughout the world. The forum will focus on four key issues:

- Labour in a globalized world: «*Defending and strengthening labour law despite the crisis*»
- Defending freedom of expression and opinion: «*A constant battle*»,
- Identities issues: «*Identities and minorities – living and acting together, in diversity*»
- The right to food: «*From Land to Food / From Values to Rules*».

The Nantes Forum seeks to defend human rights at the local level, in accordance with the principles of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and other local government networks. This is why the Nantes Forum is supported by the local authorities of Nantes and its region, which include Nantes Métropole (the Nantes urban community), the Pays de la Loire Regional Council, the Department of Loire-Atlantique and the City of Nantes. The forum is also supported by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the International Organisation of La Francophonie, and the Caisse des dépôts, and works in partnership with various regional and international organisations.

We are proud to invite you to the 4th World Forum on Human Rights. Attached you will find a booklet that provides detailed information about the forum, its organization, themes and selection criteria for round tables and other events..., as well as all of the information and forms you will need to register.

The Nantes Forum is open to all members of the international human rights community and we look forward to seeing you here.

Yours faithfully,



Emmanuel DECAUX
President of the board of directors
Professor of Public Law at
Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas



Jean-Marc AYRAULT
Member of French Parliament
Mayor of Nantes
President of Nantes Métropole