



UN To Mark First World Day of Social Justice

20 February 2009, Bucharest – The United Nations System in Romania, together with the Romanian National Anti-Poverty - Social Inclusion Network / EAPN Romania (RONAPSIN) and the Romanian Development NGOs Platform (FOND) will mark the first celebration of the **World Day of Social Justice** with a round table on February 20, 2009, 10.00 am.

The Roundtable will be chaired by Mr. Jan Sorensen, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative in Romania, and will be attended by representatives of Romanian Presidency, Government, Civil Society and UN agencies. At its sixty-second session, in November 2007, the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 20 February as World Day of Social Justice. The day is to be observed for the first time in 2009.

The World Day of Social Justice aims at consolidating the efforts of the international community in poverty eradication, promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and access to social well-being and justice for all. Identifying the groups at greatest risk and the issues facing them are tasks which need to be reflected in our actions. Subsequently, documenting these findings in a comparable way provides valuable evidence on which to base policy making.

The first celebration of the UN World Day of Social Justice in Romania draws particular attention to the effects of the current financial crisis upon vulnerable groups and poverty affected communities which may suffer further from disruption of the social imbalances. It is critical to ensure that all the necessary actions are being considered and concrete measures are adopted to lessen the impact of the financial crises and to address the needs of those in poverty. On 20 February, the UN and its Romanian partners will explore the poverty realities beyond the economic aggregates and the impact on human lives as, much too often, those consequences are often hidden from economic analyses that drive policy choices.

More information on the concept of Social Justice and the United Nations' role in promoting Social Justice in an Open World can be found here:

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/social/intldays/IntlJustice/> .

For media inquiries contact:

Alexandra Ares, alexandra.ares@undp.org, 21-201-7826
Cristina Balan, cristina.balan@unic.org, 21-201-7877

