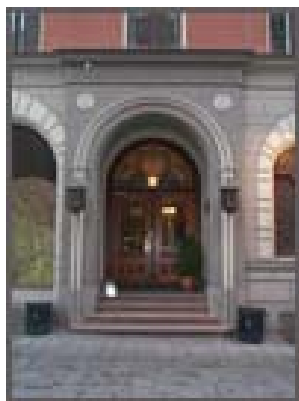




NUPI Conference 2–3 December 2004

The United Nations and Economic and Social Development: Past Performance and Future Challenges



2–3 December
Håndverkeren Konferansesenter
Rosenkrantzgate 7, Oslo

Please notify your participation by 8 November to seminar@nupi.no or phone 22 99 40 00 and indicate whether you wish to participate both days or which one! Participation at a first-come basis.

In mid-1999, the United Nations Intellectual History Project (UNIHP) began planning and organising a most ambitious undertaking, namely to relate the history of the United Nations, with particular focus on its role in economic and social development. The project is co-directed by Louis Emmerij, Richard Jolly and Thomas G. Weiss, and its international Secretariat is situated at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. The distinguished members of its International Advisory Council take an active part in the project's work. Funding for the UNIHP has been received from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Government of the Netherlands, the Government of the United Kingdom, the Government of Sweden, the Government of Canada, the Government of Switzerland, the Government of Norway, and the Republic and Canton of Geneva. Help with conference costs has also been received from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation.

The UNIHP started out with a two-pillar programme: (1) a series of recorded oral history interviews with 73 veterans who have had an impact on the UN system and its development thinking, and (2) a series of 14 books on the role of the UN system on specific development topics, ranging from human rights to trade and finance. Contributors to this book series include a specialist from the Nordic countries based at NUPI, Olav Stokke, whose forthcoming volume in the series, *The United Nations and International Development Assistance*, is supported by the UNIHP and the Research Council of Norway.

The first results of this project have started to emerge. The first volume, *Ahead of the Curve? UN Ideas and Global Challenges*, was authored by the three project directors, and was published in 2001. This volume won the Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award of 2003 and has been translated into Arabic, French, and German. In December 2003, the next volume followed, edited by Yves Berthelot: *Unity and Diversity in Development Ideas: Perspectives from the UN Regional Commissions*. In 2004, three more volumes were published, namely *Quantifying the World: UN Contributions to Statistics* by Michael Ward; *The UN and Global Political Economy: Trade, Finance, and Development* by John Toye and Richard Toye; and *UN Contributions to Development Thinking and Practice* by Richard Jolly, Louis Emmerij, Dharam Ghai, and Frédéric Lapeyre.

These first results emanating from UNIHP research will be presented and discussed at a two-day conference organised by NUPI on 2-3 December 2004. During the first day, focus will be on development and development co-operation, past and future. During the second day, focus will be on two themes, namely highlights of the oral history project, and a discussion of international economic relations, regional perspectives, and statistics. It will end with a panel discussion about the future of the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions.

The programme for this conference is attached.



NUPI Conference 2–3 December 2004

THE UNITED NATIONS AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: PAST PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

Day One

I. Development and Development Co-operation: Past and Future

Thursday 2 December:

Chair: *Thorvald Stoltenberg*

- 09.15 Opening of Conference
Sverre Lodgaard
- 09.30 The Millennium Development Goals: The Norwegian Contribution
Hilde Frafjord Johnson
- 10.15 Discussion
- 11.00 Coffee/tea
- 11.15 How has the UN faced up to the Development Challenges in the Past?
Louis Emmerij
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 The UN and Development Thinking and Practice
Richard Jolly
- 13.45 Discussion, contributions by Louis Emmerij and Richard Jolly
Discussants: *Ingrid Eide*
Helge Hveem
- 14.45 Coffee/tea
- 15.00 Panel Discussion: International Development and Development Co-operation:
Challenges Ahead
Chair: *Olav Stokke*
Panelists: *Louis Emmerij, Richard Jolly, Hilde Frafjord Johnson, Gunnar Sørbø*
- 16.45 End of Day One



Day Two

II. Perspectives of the UN Veterans

Friday, 3 December:

Chair: *Richard Jolly*

09.00 Voices that made a Difference: Highlights of 73 Oral History Interviews
Louis Emmerij

09.45 Time for questions

10.15 Coffee/tea

III. International Economic Relations, Regional Perspectives and Statistics

10.30 Quantifying the World: The UN and Statistics
Michael Ward

11.15 International Trade and Finance: The UN Contribution
John Toye

12.00 Lunch

13.00 Regional Perspectives: The Role of UN Regional Economic Commissions in Promoting
Development
Yves Berthelot

13.45 Discussion, contributions by Michael Ward, John Toye and Yves Berthelot
Discussants: *Bjørn K. Wold*
Arne Melchior

14.30 Coffee/Tea

14.45 Panel Discussion: The Future of the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions
Chair: *Sverre Lodgaard*
Panelists: *Yves Berthelot, Louis Emmerij, Richard Jolly, Torild Skard*
and *John Toye*

17.00 End of Day Two