



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to the seventh issue of ConSIDerations, your chapter's newsletter. This issue is the first of two planned for 2009-2010.

I am delighted to return for another term as the President of SID-OG, and to have at my side a dynamic and talented team. I invite you to visit our website ([www.sidottawa.ca](http://www.sidottawa.ca)) to learn more about them.

Following the June 2009 Annual General Meeting, I have held two strategic planning retreats where we agreed to a new programming approach and theme for the year. The theme for 2009-2010 is *Development Assistance in an Age of Reform*. Our approach will be to hold fewer but larger events, supplemented by smaller, more informal activities. We will be seeking to collaborate with academic, professional, diplomatic, student and government institutions. We also plan to hold a number of professional development and networking activities to cater to the diverse interests of our members.

To support this work, we recently refreshed our communications products – with a new

pamphlet for the chapter – and updated our website. We have also established a Facebook presence ([www.facebook.com/SID.OttawaGatineau](http://www.facebook.com/SID.OttawaGatineau)) and have set up automated event registration and membership payment systems online. Our hope is these small changes will make it even easier for you to connect with us.

Please take a look at the Programming section of the newsletter to see the amazing events we have lined up for this year. There are also many new volunteering opportunities.

Through our website, you can download the 2009-2010 Volunteer Package, which lists all current volunteer opportunities. For more information, please contact our co-ordinator Jenny Butterfield at [volunteer@sidottawa.ca](mailto:volunteer@sidottawa.ca).

As you can see, there is no better time to join or renew your membership with the Society.

We are growing, constantly innovating and working hard to serve our members.

On behalf of the SID-OG Board of Directors, thank-you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you at our next event.

Sincerely,  
Soraya Hassanali

President  
*Society for International Development  
Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter, 2007-2010*

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VOLUNTEER

Through volunteering, you can actively contribute your time and talents to the chapter's growing success.

Join our team as a volunteer in event organization, web content, translation, gender-equality, photography or writing/researching.

For more information, please contact Jenny Butterfield at [volunteer@sidottawa.ca](mailto:volunteer@sidottawa.ca)

# PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Under the theme *Development Assistance in the Age of Reform*, SID-OG presented the launch of the Global Report on Human Settlements in November 2009. Our chapter collaborated with the Canadian Institute of Planners, the United Nations Association of Canada and the Aga Khan Foundation, to launch in Ottawa the *2009 UN Global Report on Human Settlements: Planning Sustainable Cities*.

This year, we plan to offer a variety of events that promise engaging and thoughtful discussion, and address current international development issues.

In January 2010, we welcomed a former SID-OG President, Fauzya Moore as a SID-OG emeritus member. Moore spoke to the theme *Development and Leadership: The Harvard Growth Diagnostics*.

In February, SID-OG will collaborate with CIDA and Carleton University (NPSIA) to feature CIDA President, Margaret Biggs. President Biggs' presentation will focus on *Development in a Changing World*.

In March, SID-OG is planning to present the European view of development assistance, focusing on Sweden and the European Union. This will be followed by a presentation from Jan Pronk, the

current president of SID International, in April. Pronk has served as the Minister for Development Co-operation and the Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment for the Government of Netherlands. He was also the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Mission for the United Nations Mission in Sudan. He is a Professor of Theory and Practice of International Development at the International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague.

Our chapter is also working with the US Embassy on a potential event with USAID Administrator, Rajiv Shaw. This event is planned for May.



## EMERITUS MEMBER

This year, the Society for International Development, Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter is pleased to welcome Fauzya Moore as the fourth Emeritus Member, in recognition of her work in international development and her contribution to our organization. Moore has served as our Chapter President in 1995 and 1996, and has also served as our Vice-President for many



To find out more about Fauzya Moore's appreciation luncheon, go to <http://www.sidottawa.ca/en/events.php>

years. She recently returned to Ottawa to resume her professional responsibilities at CIDA following a year abroad as a fellow of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Based on her experience, Moore recently spoke at a SID-OG appreciation luncheon held to celebrate her SID-OG Emeritus status. The theme of her speech was *Leadership and Development: The Harvard Growth Diagnostics*.

## GOVERNING COUNCIL UPDATE

### **S** ID Governing Council Representative for Canada, Chris Braeuel, sends warm greetings from

**Afghanistan.** Last January, Chris Braeuel, former SID-OG President and current Governing Council member, left for Afghanistan on a one year assignment with CIDA. Posted to the Canadian Embassy in Kabul, Chris will be responsible for leading Canada's support for the development of Afghanistan's national education sector, which includes increasing student enrollment, training teachers, increasing literacy and building schools. "I'm really enjoying this experience,"

says Braeuel. "The Afghans are a resilient people and I'm inspired by the determination of many to create positive changes in their country."

While abroad, Braeuel also hopes to spur interest in SID among the young generation of visionary Afghans and explore the prospect of creating a Kabul chapter. "There is a lot of interest among Afghans in sharing and communicating their views and concerns about development issues affecting their country," says Braeuel. "SID has the potential to provide the perfect outlet and forum for such expression."

Braeuel is pleased that SID President,

Jan Pronk, will be visiting the Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter this spring before the Governing



Council convenes its next session in Washington in April. "Our chapter is in many respects a true success story, and this success has been recognized by our global family of over 47 Chapters," adds Braeuel. "Mr. Pronk's visit will allow us to explore new opportunities of mutual support between Rome and Ottawa."

## GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE

**T**he SID-OG Gender Network is a professional development forum for civil society members, who are actively engaged in gender equality work at their organizations.

The purpose of the Gender Network is to provide opportunities for practical professional development, information sharing and co-ordination among NGOs and consultants, who drive gender equality agendas at their organizations. To keep the group relevant, members choose topics to discuss and chair/host the meetings themselves. So far, the group has explored good practices in forming gender policies, methods for



coaching partners in gender mainstreaming and ways to implement gender audit recommendations in their organizations.

Network discussions are held quarterly over a Thursday noon hour and are open to anyone who is actively engaged in gender equality work at an international development NGO or consulting group. About 20 NGOs and individuals from the southern Ontario region participate actively in the network.

For more information, please contact us at [president@sidottawa.ca](mailto:president@sidottawa.ca)



## OUR VOLUNTEERS

Peter Christensen moved to Canada in 2005 from his hometown of Sonderborg, Denmark. Shortly after Christensen became a Canadian permanent resident, his daughter Emilia, or Mia as she is affectionately known, was born. Following Mia's birth in October 2006, Christensen became a full-time parent, whose days quickly filled up with dolls and tea parties. In 2009, Christensen started to



search for opportunities around Ottawa, which would allow him to get involved and learn more about international development. His girlfriend then introduced him to SID-

OG's President, Soraya Hassanali, and Christensen became extremely interested in the organization. He embraced this new experience, both as an excellent learning opportunity and a chance to meet other like-minded individuals in the Ottawa-Gatineau region. Christensen is looking forward to his role as a SID-OG volunteer and is excited to learn more about international development, in general.

## ABOUT US

The mission of the Society for International Development, Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter is to provide a forum for knowledge sharing on issues of development, globalization and human security.

Join us at [www.sidottawa.ca](http://www.sidottawa.ca) and [www.facebook.com/SID.OttawaGatineau](http://www.facebook.com/SID.OttawaGatineau)

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*Thank you to our supporters*



*Special thanks to*

SID-OG volunteers

**Dave Rogers**

and

**Peter Christensen**

for their ongoing technical support and development of SID-OG's website.