



# PROGRESS REPORT

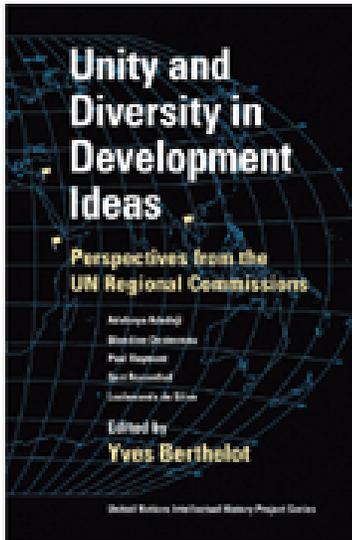
UNITED NATIONS INTELLECTUAL HISTORY PROJECT / UNIHP

no. 5 December 2003

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## UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS STUDY PUBLISHED

The volume *Unity and Diversity in Development Ideas: Perspectives from the UN Regional Commissions*, (edited by Yves Berthelot with contributions from Adebayo Adedeji, Paul Rayment, Leelananda de Silva, Gert Rosenthal, and Blandine Destremau), was published this month.



The only edited volume in the series, it documents the work and ideas of the five regional commissions from their founding. In addition to drafting the chapter on the Economic Commission for Europe, Yves Berthelot, the book's editor and director of our Geneva

Liaison Office, contributed a summary chapter comparing and contrasting the record and contributions of the UN's five regional commissions. The volume provides a fascinating contribution to UN history, which we hope will be of special interest to those in the regions concerned.

Because of this special interest, and in addition to Indiana University Press's English-language publication of the book, the project is planning for each chapter and the overview analysis to be translated and published separately for dissemination within that region.

From the publisher, Indiana University Press: "*Unity and Diversity in Development Ideas* retraces the contribution of each of the UN's five regional commissions—Europe, Asia and the Far East, Latin America, Africa, and Western Asia—and how they have approached their mission of assessing the condition of regional economies and making prognoses about future conditions. The essays describe how each commission has added local perspectives to global debates over economic development and brought an authentic regional voice to the UN."

## 3 MORE BOOKS OUT IN MAY 2004

We are pleased to report that the next three volumes of the Project's publication series will be published in a few months: *The UN and Global Political Economy: Trade, Finance, and Development*, by John Toye and Richard Toye; *UN Contributions to Development Thinking and Practice*, by Richard Jolly, Louis Emmerij, Dharam Ghai, and Frédéric Lapeyre; and *Quantifying the World: UN Contributions to Statistics*, by Michael Ward will be available in bookstores in May 2004. The tables of contents of these volumes appeared in our last newsletter and are available on our website at [www.unhistory.org](http://www.unhistory.org).

## 5 MORE BOOKS GOING TO PRESS IN 2004

Five more volumes of the Project's publication series will be going to press in 2004 after they complete a thorough peer review process. This means that 10 of the 14 scheduled volumes in the series, and three translations will either be published or in press in 2004, the fourth year into this six-year effort. Clearly, a publication series of this size demands some degree of adjustment to changes in schedules to respond to external events and to the demands on the worldwide network of scholars whom we have mobilized for this effort. However, we are especially pleased to have been largely on target with our research products, while keeping the quality of scholarship high.

The next five books scheduled to go to press this year are:

*Human Security and the UN: A Critical History* by S. Neil MacFarlane and Yuen Foong-Khong. This is an assessment of the evolution of the concept of human security, the UN's role in its development, and its utility as a conceptual device around which to harmonize international responses to instability and insecurity.

*The UN and Human Rights Ideas: The Unfinished Revolution* by Sarah Zaidi and Roger Normand is an assessment of the idea of human rights, beginning with the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration, and ending with the contemporary emphasis on the holistic package of civil, political, economic, social, and group rights.

*UN Voices: The Struggle for Development and Social Justice* by Thomas G. Weiss, Tatiana Carayannis, Louis Emmerij, and Richard Jolly is the story of the role of UN ideas in development discourse and policy using extracts from the 73 oral history interviews we have conducted with key participants in UN development work.

*The UN and Development Cooperation* by Olav Stokke is an assessment of the UN's role in conceptualizing and advocating policies for the transfer of public resources, soft lending, and technical assistance.

*Women Enrich the UN and Development* by Devaki Jain is an examination of how gender analysis transformed the UN and development discourse, as well as a look into the UN's evolving role in fostering changes in values and policies toward women, and a look ahead at the unfinished agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

#### PEER REVIEW AND INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD IN UPPSALA IN 2003

As we have done for the last two years, we were grateful to have been able to gather project staff, authors, members of our International Advisory Council, and selected expert reviewers at the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation in Uppsala. This year's session reviewed progress on the manuscripts for *The UN and Transnationals*, *from Code to Compact*, and *International Development Assistance*, and marked the fifth meeting of the International Advisory Council.

### UN Voices:

#### The Struggle for Development and Social Justice

Thomas G. Weiss, Tatiana Carayannis,  
Louis Emmerij, and Richard Jolly

Introduction

Part One: Individuals Make a Difference

1. Background of the Cast of Characters

Part Two: Hope, Creativity, and Frustration

2. 1930s and 1940s: Disillusionment, War, and Hope Held High

3. 1950s: Reconstruction and De-colonization

4. 1960s: Broadening Development Avenues

5. 1970s: Creativity and Its Limits

6. 1980s: Development Frustrated

7. 1990s: Renaissance?

Part Three: The World Organization, Ideas, and Challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

8. The Power of Ideas, The Importance of Leadership

9. The Legacy and the Future

#### KNOWLEDGE CREATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING: ENSURING THAT PROJECT RESEARCH CONTRIBUTES TO ONGOING DEBATES ABOUT THE UN AND UN REFORM

The project has also begun planning for the dissemination of its research products and findings, to raise awareness and encourage discussion about the UN's role in contemporary world affairs, and to contribute to current debates on UN reform. Highlighting the importance of disseminating all of this research, project staff and the International Advisory Council held a half-day discussion on dissemination in Uppsala, Sweden in June 2003.

Suggestions ranged from continued knowledge creation and advocacy through the publication series and related seminars, to making project research and research products available for public and classroom use, and contributing to knowledge sharing through collaborative and catalyzing initiatives with research institutions and UN agencies.

Specific ideas included hosting substantive discussions and seminars about the UN and reform of the world organization around Project publications for academics, policymakers, publics, and UN staff in key cities around the globe; distributing on CD-ROM the collection of recorded life narratives to research institutions and to UN archival collections worldwide; making the project website a "one-stop shopping" site for UN historical research; packaging UNIHP material into course modules; amortizing the project's accumulated knowledge on oral history methods by offering training sessions for UN agencies to encourage them to document their own institutional histories; and finally, as the largest and only project documenting the intellectual history of the broader UN family, take the lead in two areas: in convening a conference for all UN history efforts to discuss coordination, and in helping to develop guidelines for all UN history efforts on the use of compatible dissemination technology. We welcome additional ideas on how to use the work of the Project to contribute substantively to current discussions about the future of the organization.

#### DISSEMINATION PLANNING BEGINS IN EARNEST

The Project has been developing a detailed plan for dissemination after discussions with funders and others in the last quarter of 2003. The Project's original subtitle was "a forward-looking history." The intention has never been to produce new findings and research for their own sake, as important as they are. The language of the Project's first volume is worth quoting: "In addition, we should declare our own normative agenda, which extends beyond improving our understanding of the sources, evolution, and impact of key ideas. We seek insights in order to improve the UN's future contribution to economic and social development. More specifically, we hope to understand better the role of the UN as an intellectual actor and the processes in the multilateral

marketplace of ideas, in order to identify workable strategies and tactics.” (*Ahead of the Curve*, p.10)

**PROJECT AUTHORS, RESEARCHERS, DIRECTORS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATIONS ON UN HISTORY**

The worldwide network of scholars affiliated with the Project is available for public speaking events and scholarly presentations and discussions. Bio-data is available on our website at [www.unhistory.org](http://www.unhistory.org).

**LINKS WITH OTHER HISTORIANS AND UN ARCHIVES**

The Project continues to participate in meetings on the UN archives, organized by Emma Rothschild at Cambridge University in October and in Geneva in the summer by Jens Boel of UNESCO (who is also chair of the Section of International Organizations of the International Council on Archives). Richard Jolly and the Project’s Geneva Liaison Office have taken the lead in Project efforts to work with librarians both at the UN libraries in Geneva and New York on archival research material. The Project also continues to meet and cooperate with related efforts to document the history of the UN, such as those being undertaken by Ambassador Lewin of UNA-France, Professor Helge Pharo at the University of Oslo, and Cleophas Torori on the UNDP in Kenya, to name a few.

**Human Security and the UN:  
A Critical History**

**S. Neil MacFarlane and Yuen Foong-Khong**

Introduction

1. On the State and Security
2. The UN and “Human Security” during the Cold War
3. The Emerging Critique of National Security
4. Reconceptualizing Security in the Late Cold War
5. The UN and the Emergence of Human Security in the Post-Cold War Era
6. The Idea of Human Security: A Critique
7. Conclusion

We are pleased to announce that Dame Margaret Joan Anstee, one of our most committed International Advisory Council members and the first woman appointed Under-Secretary General at the UN, has recently published her memoirs.  
Congratulations Margaret!

**Margaret Joan Anstee**

***Never Learn to Type:  
A Woman at the United Nations***  
(London: Wiley, John & Sons,  
Incorporated, 2003)

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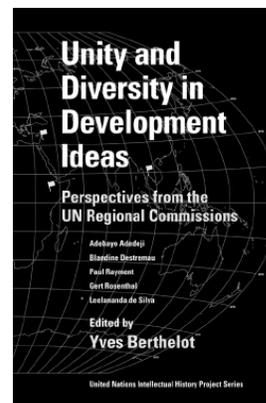
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**BEST WISHES FOR 2004 FROM  
THE UNIHP STAFF**

# Unity and Diversity in Development Ideas

Perspectives from the UN Regional Commissions

Edited by  
Yves Berthelot



January 2004; 472 pages, append., index, 6 1/8 x 9 1/4  
cloth 0-253-34335-6 \$74.95  
paper 0-253-21638-9 \$34.95

*"In showing the diversity of issues faced by the various regions and the diversity of answers developed by the UN Regional Commissions, this book clearly demonstrates that one-size-fits-all policies are inadequate to our world."* —Stéphane Hessel, Ambassadeur de France

*"The UN's economic commissions have been the source of much of the real innovation in our understanding of economic development. Such ideas, documented by this second volume in the series, are one of the lasting legacies of the United Nations system. Indeed, the UN Intellectual History Project is long overdue."* —Craig N. Murphy, M. Margaret Ball Professor of International Relations, Wellesley College

*Unity and Diversity in Development Ideas* retraces the contribution of each of the UN's five regional commissions to UN development thinking and also considers the adaptation of UN global principles to the specific conditions of each region. Confronted with the same broad issues—growth, employment, inequality, regional tensions, and globalization—the regional commissions generated different, and sometimes innovative, responses that reflected their economic and cultural diversity. The volume is an invitation to the UN system to undertake a serious reflection on the formulation of global initiatives and a plea for the UN to draw from its invaluable wealth of national, regional, and global experiences a vision of development adapted to the 21st century. Contributors are Adebayo Adedeji, Yves Berthelot, Blandine Destremau, Paul Rayment, Gert Rosenthal, and Leelananda de Silva.

**YVES BERTHELOT** is Senior Research Fellow at The CUNY Graduate Center and at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, UNITAR. He is director of the Geneva Office of the United Nations Intellectual History Project and President of the Comité Français de Solidarité Internationale.

**United Nations Intellectual History Project Series:** Louis Emmerij, Richard Jolly, Thomas G. Weiss, editors

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