

Dear colleagues;

2005 Global Workshop (GLOW2005)
14 to 20 May 2005
Seminaris Hotel -- Bad Honnef -- (near Bonn)

First, let me wish you and your families all the best for the coming year. As we ended 2004, some of us were able to take some holiday time, while others were intensely involved in responding to the Tsunami disaster in Asia and other difficult situations in countries around the globe. No doubt 2005 will continue to be eventful for UNV – filled with both challenges and opportunities.

A key event for UNV this year is our Global Workshop (GLOW), now set for 14 to 20 May. The overall goal of the Workshop **is to engage all parts of UNV in developing a common understanding and collective ownership of where UNV is today and where we are going in our continuously changing environment** . Our **objectives** are to:

- Encourage open dialogue about issues affecting UNV;
- Promote exchange of ideas on opportunities and challenges for the future;
- Clarify the diversity of roles and expectations throughout UNV;
- Develop commitment across all parts of our organization;
- Promote learning, while celebrating and appreciating our significant experiences.

We will rely on the following **principles** to guide both the planning process and the workshop itself:

- Inclusion;
- Participation;
- Equality;
- Opportunity;
- Respect.

I have asked ***Douglas Evangelista*** to lead this project, assisted initially by a small team, consisting of ***Linda Starodub, Robert Toé and Marilen Sanchez***. Planning will benefit from the experience of the first and very successful global workshop in 1999, which demonstrated that the process of organizing the event is as - if not more important - than the workshop itself.

The General Staff Retreat on 25 January and the Senior Staff Retreat a week later provide initial venues for expanding ideas and gaining commitment around the above framework. ***Raymond Clark***, as external facilitator, is already in Bonn to support these retreats, and will also be working with the Planning Team on GLOW2005.

The Planning Team will soon be expanding its membership and seeking your views and inputs. I encourage you all to already start thinking about how you will involve yourselves, and commit to take active part, from the planning stages through to the event itself. Do have a look at the website for the 1999 Workshop:

<http://www.conet.unv.org/events/global99/index.html>

In principle, all Programme Officers, Country Office Assistants, Programme Managers, selected members of Programme Support Units, and Headquarters staff will take part in GLOW, with some possible refinements to account for assignments beginning/ending mid-year.

GLOW2005 promises to be a great -- and for some of us -- a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in building a dynamic, committed and future -oriented UNV. I look forward to your contributions over the coming months to organizing and implementing GLOW and making it a truly memorable and fun event.

My best regards to you, and throu gh you to all UNVs. Let's have another great year!

Ad