



**Proposal of the Universal Esperanto Association
to the
63rd Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference
Melbourne, Australia, 30 August to 1 September 2010**

During the recent UN DPI/NGO Conference in Melbourne delegates expressed frustration and concern that not enough practical steps are being taken to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

There was a sincere desire for collaboration among the NGOs. Health organisations have identified the need for education to inform the poorest and most needy people of self help and prevention measures that they themselves could use to help achieve some of the MDGs. Already great things have been achieved in this area with the people where they have had contact.

Our organisation, the Universal Esperanto Association (UEA) would like to help with the distribution of information to many more people in areas where contact has not yet been made.

Every language has a unique footprint and Esperanto is no exception. We have a few million speakers in over 100 countries including many of the poorest and those who have least contact with the world's big languages.

We could offer to extend the benefit of the experience and information which NGO and UN medical and community teams have already developed and tested in the field. Esperantists are among and have access to many more people who are contributing to the horrendous statistics of the needy throughout the world.

Our world-wide network could be used for distribution and reception of information. We could present life-saving messages to some people that have never been contacted, or often encounter great problems of accessing vital information due to language barriers. We could convey messages under the auspices of the UN, its organs or NGOs concerned and could report to them about the situations and needs that the people themselves wish to express.

*Penelope Vos and Dianne Lukes,
delegates for the Universal Esperanto Association
to the UN DPI/NGO Conference in Melbourne*