Since 2006 UNESCO has sponsored an Inter-religious Dialogue for Intercultural Understanding to promote meaningful dialogue among the different religious, spiritual and humanistic traditions to reduce violence at a time when religious affiliations are increasingly used as a pretext for violent conflict. Dialogue can be an effective means for reducing violence, but only when it is followed by meaningful action.

In 2010, His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan proposed that the United Nations encourage meaningful action by sponsoring an annual World Interfaith Harmony Week. Through this event we aim to showcase practical initiatives of interfaith action by NGOs and faith-based organisations which may meaningfully contribute to alleviate conflicts associated with religious or spiritual traditions.

**Speakers**

**First Session: 14:00  Introduction**

14:10 S.E. Mme N.S. KHAN b/c
Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United Nations

14:30 Mohammed BECHARI
World Muslim Communities Council
Dialogue as a Necessity

14:50 Lea WYLER
ROKPA International
Helping where Help is needed

15:10 Gilles FRANÇOIS
LDS Charities
A Shared Purpose: European Interfaith Initiatives

15:30 Q & A
15:45 Refreshment Breaks

**Second Session: 16:00**

16:00 Alexandra GOOSSENS ISHII
Soka Gakkai International
Universal Values and the SDGs

15:15 Diane ALAVI
Baha’i International Community
Challenges of Inclusivity in Interfaith Dialogue

16:30 Mintze VAN DER VELDE
World Goodwill
A Will for the Highest Good

16:45 Vita de WAAL
Foundation for GAIA
Hope in a Fractured World

16:50 Q & A
17:00 End

**Moderators:** Ursula BARTER HEMMERICH (INPEA) and Gerald WILLIAMS (LDS Charities)