

02 November 2007
MR/E47/07



**UNITED NATIONS
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Working Seminars and Public Symposium on “New Stakes for Cultural Diversity: In Search of Transversal Values through Dialogue”

- Event:** A discussion on the need to deepen our understanding of new stakes for cultural diversity and its corollary, dialogue
- Date/Time:** 7–8 November 2007 (Wed. & Thurs.)
- Venue:** UN House, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
- Co-organizers:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations University (UNU), Research Center for Moral Science (Japan) and Kyoto Forum
- Co-operators:** Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs and Japanese National Commission for UNESCO

- The idea that while groups of people may clash, “civilizations” will not, arose at the November 2005 international symposium on “Cultural Diversity and Transversal Values: East-West Dialogue on Spiritual-Secular Dynamics”, held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. To further deepen this dialogue, a second symposium in the series will be held from 5 through 8 November in Kyoto and Tokyo with the participation of some 25 eminent scholars and researchers.
- At UNU House in Tokyo, Working Seminars will be held in the Elizabeth Rose Conference Hall on 7 November and the morning of 8 November, and a Public Symposium will be convened in the U Thant International Conference Hall on the afternoon of 8 November (2:00—5:30 PM).
- Event participants will pursue the answers to two challenges:
 - how to ensure the harmonious coexistence of individuals and groups from diverse cultural backgrounds living in the same space, and
 - how to defend creative capacity through the many different tangible and intangible forms of cultures, as has been expressed in the past.
- Cultural diversity carries within itself the responses to this dual challenge. At the same time, it also is a source of unity; through intercultural dialogue, cultures can discover their profound affiliations with other cultures, and reflect on that which is common to all.
- Participants in the Public Symposium will include Hans van Ginkel, former Rector of UNU; Tae-Chang Kim, President, Institute for the Co-Active Study of Public Philosophy; Naoshi Yamawaki, Professor, University of Tokyo; Michael Palencia-Roth, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois; Jun Feng, Vice President, Renmin University; John Miller, Professor, University of Toronto; Kousei Morimoto, Abbot Emeritus, Todaiji Temple; Hatsuhsa Takashima, Special Adviser to the Rector, UNU; Shuntaro Ito, Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo; Heita Kawakatsu, President, Shizuoka University of Art & Culture; Bhuvan Chandel, Vice Chairman, Indian Philosophical Congress; Wei-Ming Tu, Professor, Harvard University; Yuzo Itagaki, Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo; and Eiji Hattori, Deputy Director, Research Center for Moral Science.
- Simultaneous English–Japanese–French interpretation will be provided.
- For a complete programme of this event, see http://unu.edu/events/index.html#diversity_200711.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend the Working Seminars and/or Public Symposium. For more information, or to reserve your space, please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).