United Nations

ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS

Second Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations
Istanbul, Turkey, 6-7 April 2009
Breakfast Session #3: Launch of UN AoC Research Network
Monday, April 6 2009, 07:45-08:45
Organized by the AoC Research Network

Objectives and Expectations of this Session

The United Nations Alliance Research Network comprises a founding network of universities, think-tanks and research centers that will bring together a small group of institutions who have interests in the areas of focus for the Alliance -- education, media, migration, and youth plus other topics with special reference to cross-cultural understanding, good governance of cultural diversity, and conflict resolution such as women and peacemaking, city diplomacy and other areas. Participants in this breakfast have signed MoUs with the Alliance of Civilizations.

Apart from getting to know one another in person – always important for sustainable networks -- this breakfast session will discuss research gaps in areas of interest to the Alliance, potential areas of collaboration between institutions across cultures and nations, suggested candidates for expansion, and a plan of action for the way forward.

Outcome: Plan of Actions in the Year ahead, expansion of network.

Questions to Frame the Discussion

- What are the respective intellectual strengths of the institutions that can be brought to bear light on the issues of interest to the Alliance?
- What kind of collaborative work can be done using inexpensive technology?
- How does one link academic theory with policy?
- What are the challenges and opportunities of such networks?

Organization of this Session

Partners will be invited in an informal way to share the strengths of their institutions in areas of interest to the Alliance, and discover commonalities for potential collaboration. University leaders and/or focal points will explore these issues and put forward practical proposals for a plan of action in the year ahead and make suggestions for expansion.

Chair: Dean Baris Tan, Koç University (Turkey)