

UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

The <u>Department of Public Relations Non-Governmental Organizations</u> briefings are organized each Thursday morning from the end of September to the second week of June. These briefings are open to the public but you need to RSVP. Please view the list of <u>scheduled Thursday briefings</u>.

The briefing was held on 4 February 2016 at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY

Report Submitted by Constance Sobon Sensor, STTI United Nations Liaison

The topic of this 'Focus on Faith' briefing was to promoting peace and reconciliation to counter violent extremism.

The primary focus of the briefing was to explore the work of faith-based organizations and how their work ties with the mission of the United Nations.

Religious leaders have a pivotal role to play in times of turmoil, during which they can provide a values-based glue to hold communities together and common ground for peacemaking and problem solving. This point was also raised in discussion at a high level meeting on HIV/AIDS, which cited religious leaders as power brokers between political or health issue advocates and the community, noting the potential of their role in prevention and treatment of HIV and TB.