

### Invitation to a Workshop

# What role for international volunteers in Humanitarian Aid and Development?

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011, Brussels

The Hungarian EU Presidency in cooperation with AVSO (Association of Voluntary Service Organisations) has the pleasure of inviting you to a workshop discussion on **“What role for international volunteers in Humanitarian Aid and Development”** as a contribution to the 2011 European Year of Volunteering. The event will examine the role of international volunteering in humanitarian crisis situations and in linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD) as well as examining the potential of the European Humanitarian Volunteer Aid Corps (EVHAC).

### DRAFT AGENDA

9.00 -	<i>Registration, coffee</i>
9.30 – 9.45	Welcome <i>Mr. Tamás Orosz, Chair of COHAFA</i> <i>Ms. Agnes Uhereczky, Director of AVSO</i>
9.45 - 10.00	The context of the 2011 European Year of Volunteering <i>Gabriella Civico, Project Manager EYV 2011 Alliance</i>
10.00 – 10.30	What role for international volunteers in Humanitarian Aid and Development? <i>Dr. Peter Devereux, United Nations Volunteers</i>
10.30 – 11.00	Views from the ground <i>Testimony of a former volunteer</i> <i>Testimony of a hosting organisation</i>
11.00 – 11.30	Discussion, questions from the participants
11.30 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 – 12.30	OCHA’s opinion on EVHAC <i>Representative of OCHA</i>
12.30 – 12.45	The latest news on EVHAC <i>Representative of DG ECHO</i>
12.45 – 13.00	Discussion, questions from the participants
	Conclusions and closing of the workshop
13.00 -	<i>Refreshments</i>

#### Core questions to be addressed in the conference:

- What is the added value of international volunteers in disaster situations?
- How can young volunteers best contribute?
- What do volunteers learn in terms of awareness of development issues?
- What are the real outcomes of international volunteering projects?
- What is in it for Europe and the hosting country?
- What would be the best shape and form for the EVHAC initiative?



## Background

This round table discussion takes place during the European Year of Volunteering 2011 and under the auspices of the Hungarian EU Presidency.

During the European Year there is a lot of discussion already about Europeans volunteering in Europe. However, more consideration and focus should be given also about how and in what capacity Europeans give their time and skills outside of Europe, especially in other regions of the world, which suffer from poverty, disasters, and complex humanitarian crises.

This round table discussion is deliberately held one day after the next Council meeting on Humanitarian Aid and relief, and would like to provide an input into the Council Conclusions on the EVHAC initiative.

For any additional information about the event, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Agnes Uhereczky ([agnes@avso.org](mailto:agnes@avso.org)), Mr Tamás Orosz ([torosz@kum.hu](mailto:torosz@kum.hu)) or Ms Erika Fodor ([efodor@kum.hu](mailto:efodor@kum.hu)).

**Meeting Venue:** Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU  
Rue de Trèves 92-98,  
1040 Brussels  
(see location [here](#))

### Registration

For security reasons registration is needed to access the Permanent Representation. To confirm your participation please send an e-mail to Tamás Orosz ([torosz@kum.hu](mailto:torosz@kum.hu)) and Bálint Szíjjártó ([balint.szijjarto@kum.gov.hu](mailto:balint.szijjarto@kum.gov.hu)) **before 18<sup>th</sup> March.**

**AVSO – Association of Voluntary Service Organisation**  
61, rue Henri Stacquet  
B-1030 Brussels  
Tel: + 32 2 230 68 13  
Fax: + 32 2 245 62 97  
Web: [www.avso.org](http://www.avso.org)

**Department for International Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
H-1027 Budapest, Nagy Imre tér 4.  
Tel: +36 1 458 1871  
Fax: +36 1 458 1127  
web: [www.kulugyminiszterium.hu](http://www.kulugyminiszterium.hu)  
[www.eu2011.hu](http://www.eu2011.hu)