

The Commission for Social Development, 6-15 February 2013

By Winifred Doherty, GS NGO Representative in New York



The Commission for Social Development begins on February 6th and will discuss ***“Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all.”*** Good Shepherd contribution to the commission over the years has been significant and this year is no exception. We have our statement promoting the Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights and secondly implementation of the Social Protection Floor, International Labour Organization (ILO) Recommendation 202 which was adopted in June 2012. We have been involved in preparing the Civil Society Declaration.

You can read the full declaration on my blog at <http://winifredd.wordpress.com> Page 8 is a list of recommendations to governments. Do any of them resonate for your country or ministry?

Member states and NGO's are highlighting various aspect of the theme in side events. Good Shepherd has been able to partner with the ILO in a side event entitled ***‘Social Protection Floor – Implementation of ILO Recommendation 202***

– A Tool towards Empowerment. This promises to be a very interesting and informative event with Mrs Tuti Irman from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia sharing the outcome of the study that Indonesia has done with a view to having a social protection floor. Another side event entitled ***‘Grass Root Voices do have Choices: Human Rights + Participation = Empowerment,*** we will share your responses to the recent questionnaire on participation of people living in poverty in decision making.

If you visit:

<http://social.un.org/index/CivilSociety/NGOParticipation/CSocD51Session/SideEvents.aspx> you will find more than 30 events listed. See February 8th for the flyer and concept note on the Social Protection Floor.

Statements to the Commission are here:

<http://social.un.org/index/CommissionforSocialDevelopment/Sessions/2013/NGOsStatements.aspx> and our is N° 38.

On Thursday February 7th I will facilitate a reflection on ***‘Empowerment: Of whom? By what means? Towards what ends?***

As many of you are on facebook why not follow the commission's activities on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/commissionsocial>