

International Committee for October 17



INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Mrs. France Fournier

October 17, 2017, Pierrelaye, France—We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs. France Fournier to the International Committee for October 17. The Committee was established in 2008 to promote and support the observance of the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty, observed on October 17th each year, which is recognised as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by the United Nations.

“We are very proud that Mrs. France Fournier is joining the Committee,” said Donald Lee, President of the International Committee. “Through her commitment to 17 October in Quebec for many years, France Fournier has contributed to developing the mobilization to make clear that wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, their human rights are being violated. Her personal knowledge, reflections and experience will enrich and strengthen the work of the Committee to promote and support the spirit and objectives of October 17.”

Mrs Fournier, a native of Quebec, Canada, is currently a member of the “Collective for a Quebec without Poverty”, and takes part in its project AVEC = WITH. This project aims to lay the foundations of a Quebec without poverty through the participation of people experiencing poverty, by promoting the practice of associating these persons, as well as the organizations that represent them, in the conception, implementation and evaluation of measures that concern them. Mrs Fournier has strongly supported the October 17 commemorations and mobilisation for many years and has contributed, with many others, to raising awareness of the necessity to unite efforts with the poorest in order to overcome extreme poverty.

-end-

For more information, please contact:

Anne-Sylvie Laurent

Hugues de Courtivron,

international.committee@oct17.org

++ 33780577819 <http://www.overcomingpoverty.org>

TO KNOW MORE

The International Committee for October 17 was established in 2008 with the following goals: to promote the 17 of October as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as recognised by the United Nations, uniting those who are striving together to end poverty; to promote the observance of the 17 of October in its original spirit; and, to promote opportunities where people from a variety of backgrounds, including those whose lives are most difficult, can work together in the fight against extreme poverty as a violation of Human Rights.

(<http://overcomingpoverty.org/article/international-committee-for-october-17>)

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was first celebrated as the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty at a major public rally held on the 17 of October 1987 in Paris, where one hundred thousand people from all backgrounds responded to a call from Father Joseph Wresinski, founder of ATD Fourth World, to gather at the Plaza of Liberties and Human Rights. On this day, a declaration was engraved on a Commemorative Stone proclaiming that extreme poverty is a violation of human rights and affirming the need for all people to unite to ensure that these rights are respected.

(<http://overcomingpoverty.org/article/history-of-october-17>)

In 1992, the United Nations proclaimed the 17th of October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Since then, governments, local authorities, members of civil society and the private sector have recognized the importance of this International Day, which has become a key rallying point for a growing number of citizens and organizations from all backgrounds, in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty.

(<http://www.un-documents.net/a48r183.htm>)