

# International Committee for October 17



## INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

### **International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Benoît Reboul-Salze**

**February 4, 2016, Pierrelaye, France**—We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Benoît Reboul-Salze 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.

“I am delighted to welcome Mr. Benoît Reboul-Salze as a member of the Committee,” said Donald Lee, President of the International Committee. “Mr. Reboul-Salze’s commitment to fighting extreme poverty through his links since 1987 with the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty, has been impressive. His vast experience of “building together” during more than twenty-eight years with the people living in poverty will strengthen the Committee’s capacity to promote the spirit of October 17.”

Mr. Benoît Reboul-Salze has a background of higher electronic technician. He is a volunteer in ATD Fourth World Movement since 1987 either in local or international responsibilities, both in Canada and in France. From 2008 to 2014, with the team of the Permanent Forum on Extreme Poverty, he was coordinator of the International Committee for October 17. Since 2015, he is based in Sofia (Bulgaria) with his wife Véronique from where they are in a process of uncovering initiatives against poverty undertaken in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

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### **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> )