INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Maximiliano Araujo Araujo

February 4, 2016, Pierrelaye, France—We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Maximiliano Araujo Araujo 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. Maximiliano Araujo Araujo as a member of the Committee,” said Donald Lee, President of the International Committee. “Mr. Araujo Araujo’s commitment to human rights through his involvement in October 17 celebrations and in fighting poverty through development of cultural rights in Guatemala, has been impressive. His work during more than twenty-five years for the success of October 17 has been decisive. His vast experience and commitment to cultural development will strengthen the Committee’s capacity to promote the spirit of October 17.”

Mr. Maximiliano Araujo Araujo is a lawyer and notary in Guatemala. Expert in cultural right, he is a specialist in human rights. Adviser of the Ministry of Culture of Guatemala and former President of the Institution for Decentralization of Culture of Guatemala, he published 17 books. He was referenced in literature anthologies of Guatemala and Central America. He is a member of Guatemala’s official delegations to UNESCO conferences, the Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro in Latina y el Caribe Amèrica (CERLALC) and the Central American cultural Coordinación educativa there (CECC / SICA).

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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)