

Press Invitation

To:

From: Yves De San, Resident Representative, United Nations of Development Program.

Subject: Press Conference to launch UNDP Human Development Report 2002.

We are pleased to invite you to a press conference for the Lebanese launch of UNDP's Global Human Development Report (HDR) 2002 on Wednesday 24 July at the UN House, Riad El- Solh Square, B1 level at 10:00 am. UNDP's Administrator Mr. Mark Malloch Brown will officially launch the report, on 24 July in Manila, the Philippines.

This year's report emphasizes the importance of political freedoms as a goal of human development, and explores how democratic institutions can and do promote equitable social progress and economic growth.

The Report says that the second stage of democratic reforms, following the democratic wave of the 1980s and 1990s, should be deepening democracy, that is by giving ordinary people a greater say in both national and global policy making.

As in previous years, the Report ranks 173 countries according to their level of human development. In addition, this report provides a country by country assessment of trends towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals, two years since world leaders set measurable objectives for development and poverty eradication by 2015.

Mr. Yves De San, UNDP Resident Representative, will present an overview of the main messages during the press conference, along with some of the most important facts and figures captured in the Report.

We are confident that the Report will serve as a source for both news stories and editorials, and as an important reference for all of you.

For more information kindly contact, Mona Yassir, Information and Communication, on 981301 extension 1702.