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PRESS RELEASE

YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS WEBSITE LAUNCHED, PROVIDING  
FREE AND UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The United Nations Department of Public Information today launched the first-ever online version of the *Yearbook of the United Nations* - the world Organization's flagship reference publication. The new website - [unyearbook.un.org](http://unyearbook.un.org) - provides free public access to the 59 volumes of the *Yearbook* collection, detailing the work and achievements of the United Nations system over the first 60 years of its existence (1946-2005). New useful features and volumes will be added as they become available.

The launch of a Web-based version of this extraordinarily rich resource of information about the UN system took place at the opening of first-ever UN Book Days, organized by the Department on 9 and 10 October 2008 at UN Headquarters to showcase information products and services of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations.

"The *Yearbook* is an indispensable resource for anyone interested in the United Nations and its work", said Kiyoko Akasaka, Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, who presided over the event. "The online edition brings our history and accomplishments to life for countless people across the globe, at a time when knowledge and understanding of the issues affecting our world are crucial to the achievement of the United Nations mission."

The new site incorporates a user-friendly search function, allowing users to locate any *Yearbook* reference using key words, phrases or document symbols, by year or range of years. Search results can be displayed in plain text or as a printable PDF file. It is expected that the new website will not only serve as a strong research tool, but it will also help users better understand global issues as they affect them today. It will broaden the Organization's outreach to the public, increasing awareness of, and support for, the United Nations throughout the world.

The *Yearbook of the United Nations* remains the most comprehensive and authoritative work on the Organization. Each *Yearbook* volume provides analysis, is fully indexed, and includes the texts of, and votes on, all major General Assembly, Security Council and Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions. *Yearbook* chapters are currently divided into five parts covering political and security questions; human rights; economic and social questions; legal questions; and institutional, administrative and budgetary questions. The online version reproduces all *Yearbook* volumes up to and including the 1,682-page 2005 edition.

For more information on the *Yearbook* and access to the entire *Yearbook* collection, visit <http://unyearbook.un.org>. For more information on the UN Book Days

event, go to <http://unp.un.org/bookdays.aspx>. The *Yearbook of the United Nations, 2005* and earlier editions are available for purchase at the UN Bookshop and through UN Publications at <https://unp.un.org/default.aspx>.

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