


# Servicing the United Nations and its Member States







UNITAR was founded in 1965 to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations in achieving its major objectives through training and research.

Although first known for its work supporting UN-accredited diplomats, UNITAR has grown to become a leading international institute providing cutting-edge programming on global and strategic challenges, as well as a source of expertise in developing and delivering knowledge for the international community.

## Objective 1:

### Supporting capacity of Member States at the UN

The full and meaningful participation of all Member States is necessary for the UN to respond effectively to the wide range of concerns and challenges before it. UNITAR works closely with Member States and other partners to strengthen the capacities of diplomats and other government officers working in a multilateral environment, in areas such as diplomacy and human rights.

### Towards a more effective multilateral system

UNITAR strives to develop knowledge, awareness and capacities for enhanced performance in the United Nations multilateral working environment.

### Key achievements

- n 3,000 diplomats trained each year from virtually the entire UN membership;
- n Training package and comprehensive courses made available on the UN documentation; UN reform; election procedures for UN organs; and advanced negotiation;
- n Strategic collaboration with South Africa and Mexico strengthening capacity for diplomatic communities in their region through face-to-face and e-learning;
- n Two annual regional capacity development workshops for Asia and Pacific, organized with national diplomatic training institutes.

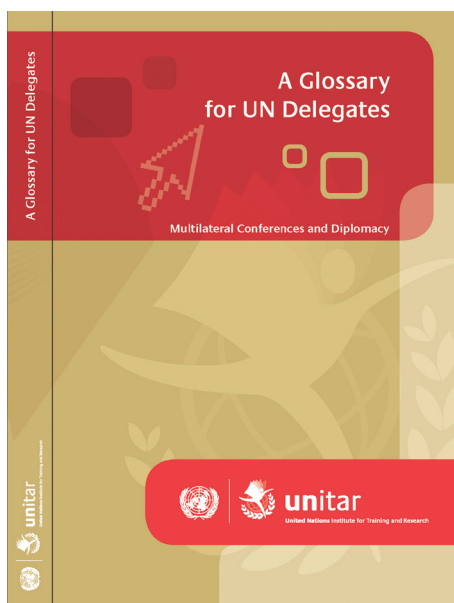
### Activities

UNITAR provides a platform for informal dialogue between government delegates and UN staff on reform initiatives. Activities take the form of orientation briefings for delegates, practice workshops on specific processes, and skills development training.

UNITAR disseminates knowledge on recent innovations in the areas of UN Secretariat management, system-wide coherence and institutional adaptation of the governing bodies.

Drawing on the expertise of the UN system, Member States, leading practitioners and independent experts, UNITAR delivers world-wide practice-oriented training on UN affairs, international cooperation and multilateral diplomacy for Member States.

Strategic partnerships with national training institutes, universities and international organizations allows UNITAR to reach out and develop the capacities of decision-makers in countries, with a particular focus on training the leaders of Least Developed Countries (LDCs).



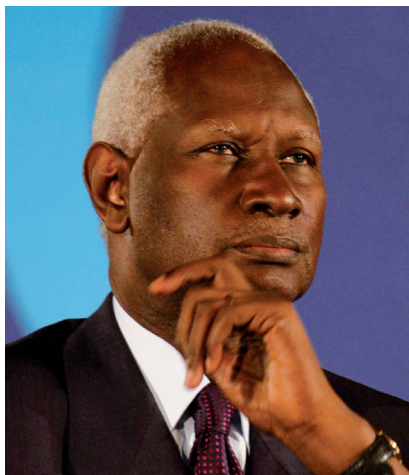
## **Helping diplomats adapt to the UN work environment**

*Imagine arriving in Geneva, New York or any other city where the UN maintains a significant presence. This can be a daunting experience, whether it is a first diplomatic posting or a reassignment. Integrating quickly into the UN work environment and participating effectively and meaningfully in a multilateral setting requires knowledge, understanding and a set of core diplomatic skills.*

*As training "on the UN, by the UN and for UN Member States", the UNITAR's Core Diplomatic Training (CDT) focuses on contemporary topics and issues. It also includes core process skills, such as drafting resolutions, chairing international conferences, negotiating effectively at the UN, understanding conference diplomacy, or developing relations with the media.*

*CDT provides the information to guide, the capacity to perform and the knowledge to empower. These allow diplomats to represent their governments as effectively as possible, even though they may be working in a daunting political environment.*

*UNITAR attaches a great deal of importance to engaging diplomats before, during and after they have attended the Institute's activities. Annual surveys and systematic post-workshop evaluations help identify ways of further improving on contents and methods and select topics for future courses and trainings. Almost all (96 per cent) of diplomats who attended one of UNITAR's CDT activities in 2009 said they would recommend the training to a colleague. The Institute also encourages diplomats to share and disseminate the knowledge and skills they have acquired in their training.*



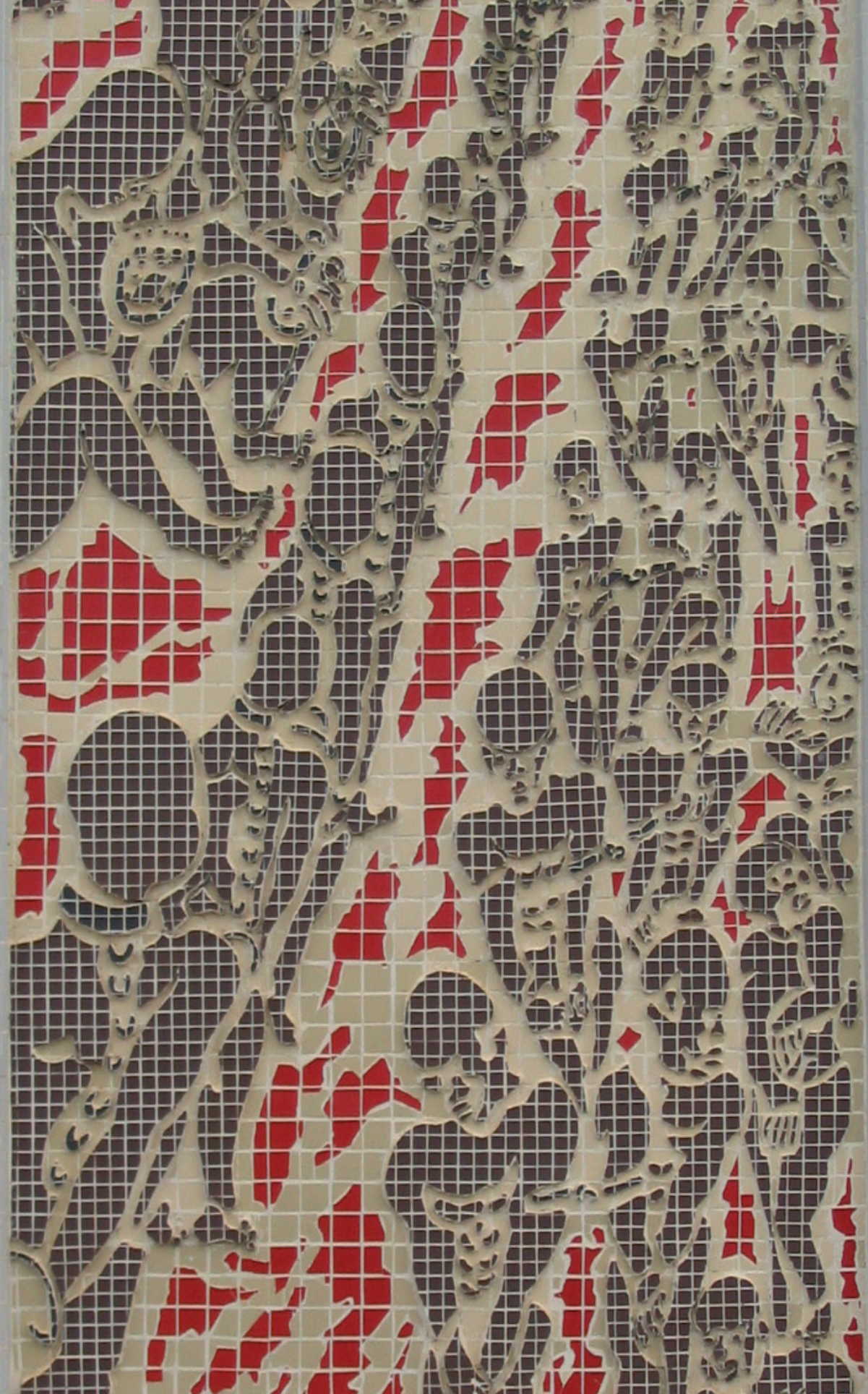
**"Ses compétences reconnues dans de nombreux domaines, sa capacité de premier plan à dispenser ses formations en langue française, son souci constant de promouvoir le français dans les relations internationales font de l'UNITAR l'un des partenaires privilégiés de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)".**

Abou Diouf, Secrétaire Général OIF



ORGANISATION  
INTERNATIONALE DE  
LA FRANCOPHONIE









“I am pleased that the overwhelmingly positive feedback on the briefings established a foundation for the extension of this programme through 2010 and for further collaboration with UNITAR in the development of a complementary human rights e-learning courses”.

Navanethem Pillay,  
High Commissioner for Human Rights



## Mainstreaming human rights within and outside the United Nations system

UNITAR is looking to develop in-depth understanding of current human rights issues at the international level, and to raise awareness of the instruments and mechanisms available for international human rights protection at international, regional and domestic levels.

### *Key achievements*

- n 109 diplomats accredited at the multilateral level trained in Geneva, New York and Addis Ababa on human rights diplomacy to strengthen their ability to perform human rights-related functions.

### *Activities*

In 2009, UNITAR implemented three briefings on human rights diplomacy. Designed to promote a culture and understanding of human rights concerns and legal obligations, they provide insights into the work of the UN and the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR).

As a neutral platform that bring together the main stakeholders in human rights protection, OHCHR staff and diplomats, in a semi-formal environment, the briefings allow the sharing of experience and knowledge away from polarized and politicized statements.

The Institute also designs and develops on-line learning material on human rights, providing a framework for overall training methodology by which course material can be integrated and disseminated.