

<http://www.un.org/en/events/autismday/2014/events.shtml>

Film screening, *Ocho pasos adelante* (Eight Steps Forward) and Q&A with Director

2 April, 1 – 3 p.m., ECOSOC Chamber



Sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Italy and Argentina to the United Nations.

- H.E. Mr. Sebastiano Cardi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations
 - H.E. Ms. María Cristina Perceval, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations
 - Mr. Maher Nasser, Director, Outreach Division, UN Department of Public Information
 - Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
 - Dr. Jessica G. Davis, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York Presbyterian Hospital
 - Selene Colombo, Film Director and Producer
- 'Ocho pasos adelante' tells the stories of five children in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and focuses on the importance of early detection and diagnosis. Written and directed by Selene Colombo.

What do we mean when we talk about Autism? How can it be detected early? What does the diagnosis mean for families? Autism today occurs in 1 out of 88 children. In 60 minutes, "Ocho pasos adelante" narrates the daily life of 5 children affected by different levels of Autism. The film explores the point of view of children and families, and shows the work carried out by PANAACEA, a civil association founded in Buenos Aires in late 2011, that consists of various health professionals and educators. The main objectives of the documentary are: to make comprehensive treatment available by focusing on the family, to promote awareness in society, and to promote the importance of early detection. The film is a beautiful journey in the world of Autism that will make you a better parent and a better human being.

