



Are refugees victims of our times?

With the 20th century known as historically one of the cruelest times ever in terms of wars and conflicts, the world has seen an explosion in refugees.

Mrs Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, believes, however, that a certain set of actions exist by which to break the vicious circle of humanitarian emergencies and forced displacements.

Mrs Ogata is to address the AIC on the subject of "From Crisis to Crisis: Are Refugees the Victims of Our Times?"

She will give an overview of the major refugee crises and challenges facing UNHCR today. Then she will discuss the evolving role of UNHCR in response to the increasing complexities of refugee movements and the shortcomings of the international community in

mustering the necessary political will to address the causes which force people to flee, to identify solutions and pursue preventive policies.

Mrs Ogata assumed office as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on February 18, 1991. She was elected to this post by the UN General Assembly on December 2, 1990 for a period of three years starting January 1, 1991. She was re-elected on November 4, 1993 for a further period of five years.

She was Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Studies at Sophia University in Tokyo since 1989. Prior to that she was Director of the Institute of International Relations at the same university. Since 1980, she was Professor at the Institute.

Mrs Ogata was the Independent Expert of the UN Commission on Human Rights on the Human Rights Situation in Myanmar in 1990. From 1982 to



Sadako Ogata

Friday, November 22, 1996

Members and Guests

Hotel Intercontinental

Sadako Ogata

UN High Commissioner for
Refugees

1985, she was the Representative of Japan on the UN Commission on Human Rights.

From 1978 to 1979, she was chairman of the Executive Board of UNICEF.

Also during 1978 and 1979, Mrs Ogata was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN, having served as Minister there from 1976 to 1978.

She was delegate of Japan to a number of sessions of the General Assembly and also to the Tenth Special Session which was devoted to disarmament.

From 1974 to 1976, she served as Associate Professor, Diplomatic History and International Relations at the International Christian University in Tokyo, while from 1965 to 1974 she lectured in International Relations at that university

and at the University of the Sacred Heart also in Tokyo

Mrs. Ogata received a Ph.D in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley in 1963, an M.A. in International Relations from Georgetown University in Washington D.C. in 1953 and a B.A. from the University of the Sacred Heart in Tokyo in 1951.

She has published a number of books on diplomatic history and international relations as well as numerous articles.

Since 1984 she has been a member of the Trilateral Commission and, since 1986, she has sat on the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Center. From 1983 to 1987, Mrs. Ogata was a member of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues.

This luncheon, which is open to members and guests, will take place at the Hotel Intercontinental. Lunch, including aperitif, wine, coffee and service, will be Sfr. 35.- for AIC members and their spouses and Sfr. 65.- for guests. Aperitifs will be available from 11:45 and lunch will be served at 12:15. Please arrive on time WITH your guests. Please mail your reservation form to the club office without delay. Payment should be made at the entrance ONLY.