

For immediate release

United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide marks the first observance of the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime

[New York, 09 December 2015] Today marks the first observance of the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime. This day was established in September by the General Assembly following a recommendation by the Human Rights Council. Today also marks 65 years since the adoption in 1948 of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which was the first international human rights treaty.

This international day has two important elements: It is about the past, and also about the future.