

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 13, 2007

Contact: Mona Strassburger
(818) 345-6734

ATHGO International
13636 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 222
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, USA

Study Center on Public Policy Development and Human Capacity Building to Open in Yerevan, Armenia
ATHGO Legitimizes Young People's Involvement in the Public Policy Arena

Yerevan, Armenia – *ATHGO International* is proud to announce that as part of its “Emerging Global Leadership Initiative” it will be launching its first Advanced Study Center (ASC) on November 19, 2007 in Yerevan Armenia.

“Youth is one of the most precious resources we have,” said Minister of Trade and Economic Development of Armenia, Nerses Yeritsyan. Adding, “We welcome ATHGO’s commitment to young people and the Republic of Armenia and will work with them to ensure that young people have a solid platform to get engaged in all aspects of public policy development.”

The Study Center is a partnership between ATHGO, the Armenian Government and the UN GAID and aims to provide college students and young leaders with the critical research and entrepreneurial skills, resources, and practical platforms needed to actively participate in the planning and design of solutions on some of the most pressing issues across the globe. ASC studies in Yerevan will focus on the role of Information, Communication Technologies (ICTs) and High Technologies in Economic Development.

“It is a collaborative partnership among organizations committed, as ATHGO has been, to developing highly skilled decision makers ready to tackle the many challenges that await our youth in today’s global world,” said Armen Orujyan, Ph.D., Founder and Chairman of ATHGO.

ATHGO was established in 1999 in Los Angeles, California as a not-for-profit organization and is a member of the UN Global Compact, the world’s largest, global corporate citizenship initiative, which exhibits and builds the social legitimacy of business and markets. It also holds consultative statuses with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Department of Public Information (DPI). Its mission is to provide young leaders with the necessary resources to make positive, lasting contributions in their communities and beyond.

“Promoting young individuals is a priority at the UN,” stated the Executive Director of United Nations Global Alliance for ICT Development (UN GAID), Sarbuland Khan.

ATHGO is committed to educating and engaging young people ages 18 to 32 in core aspects of social, political and economic developments that lead to peace and prosperity. Its proprietary solution equips college students and young entrepreneurs with hands on experience and skills that are generally not offered within traditional higher education frameworks.

The programs offered by ATHGO are designed to advance the abilities of youth in leadership and teamwork, as well as in project development and management, including strategic thinking and international partnership building and maintaining.

“Throughout the years, ATHGO has been a champion in ensuring success for young people in their academic and professional endeavors. In partnership with ATHGO we plan on building on their vital contributions to global capacity development by bringing ICTs to the door steps of every young individual in the world,” said Khan.

The ASC, which will be exclusively managed by college students and young entrepreneurs from around the world, will develop and oversee a multitude of projects geared toward the use of ICTs and high technology in economic development, including the UN GAID Global Youth Coalition.

The official launching of the ASC will be followed by ATHGO’s third annual Global Forum, “Bridging the Development Gap: Sustainable Growth in Information and Communication Technologies and Hi-tech through Education,” which expects the participation of 300 students and young entrepreneurs from over 80 academic institutions of 20 countries. The Forum will take place on November 20-23, 2007.

“Establishing the ASC and the UN GAID’s Global Youth Coalition in Armenia is the first in many steps ATHGO will be taking to bring together and train young people worldwide, while employing their ideas to help improve local and global communities,” stated Orujyan.

To celebrate the official opening of the ASC, the Government of Armenia and the event sponsor VivaCell, will host a celebratory dinner reception on November 19, 2007 in Yerevan at the Marriott-Armenia. The media event will include several ceremonial MOU signings, including GAID-Government of Armenia partnership and ATHGO-GAID cooperation.

Among the notable attendees are H.E. Nerses Yeritsyan, Minister of Trade and Economic Development; H.E. Levon Mkrtychyan, Minister of Education and Science; Sarbuland Khan, Executive Director of UN GAID and other prominent guests and dignitaries.

For additional information on ATHGO (Alliance Toward Harnessing Global Opportunities) or to learn about sponsorship or partnership opportunities with the ASC, please visit www.athgo.org.