



MBB World Mediation News

Issue 11, April 2009

Oceania

Australia: High Court Judge Appoints Mediator in Dispute Between Church Congregation and Catholic Hierarchy, [ABC Radio](#) (February 24, 2009)

South-Eastern Asia

Cambodia: Regional Peace Seminar Co-Organized by Cambodian National Assembly and Inter-Parliamentary Union for March 9, 2009 to Study Role Played by Parliaments in Conducting Conciliation and Peace Building in Conflicts in Southeast Asia and Advancing Institutional Reforms to Ensure Successful Conclusions to Conflicts, [VietNamNet Bridge](#) (March 9, 2009)

Thailand: Understanding of and Respect for Cultural Realities Needed in Southern Thailand, Not Military Action, [Common Ground News Service](#) (March 17, 2009)

South-Central Asia

Pakistan: US and British Officials Involved in Intense Mediation to Avert Collapse of Nuclear-Armed Pakistan Government, [The Seattle Times](#) (March 13, 2009)

Western Asia/Middle East

Syria: Government Ready to Negotiate with Israel for Regional Peace If US Will Act as Mediator, [The Jerusalem Post](#) (March 11, 2009)

Israel/Palestine: Some Hope, More Pessimism, on Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process; Apparent That Parties Will Not Reach Compromise Without International Mediation, [Daily Star](#) (March 13, 2009)

Palestine: Hamas Encouraged by US President's "New Language"; May Herald Mideast Policy Change, [BBC International Reports \(Middle East\)](#) (March 23, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Eastern Europe

Russia: President Medvedev Brokers Moldova Peace Talks, [Reuters](#) (March 18, 2009)

Inside MBB:

Trevor Maisri, Founder of the African Reform Institute and In-Country Project Leader for MBB's Zimbabwe Initiative, writes frequently on politics and conflict in Zimbabwe; several of his articles are featured on MBB's Web Resource, [Conflictpedia](#), including "New Political Leadership Discharge," (March 2009). Trevor was a Keynote Speaker at MBB's 2nd Annual Congress in New Orleans in March.

Meditation:

"One of the best ways to persuade others is with your ears—by listening to them."

Dean Rusk, US Secretary of State Under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson

Art and Dialogue:

In Cooperation with League of Arab States, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Hosts Arabesque Festival, Celebrating Arts and Diversity of Arab Culture, Featuring 800 Artists from 22 Arab Countries, [Common Ground News Service](#) (March 24, 2009)

[ChangeTheStory.net](#)
Encourages Dialogue Between Muslims and Non-Muslims,

Southern Europe

Croatia: Government Conditionally Agrees to Mediate Border Dispute with Slovenia; Mediation Group Led by Nobel Peace Prize Winner Martti Ahtisaari, Former Minister of Finland, [RTT News](#) (March 10, 2009)

Mediation Important Test for Entry Into European Union, Claims Slovene President, Encouraging Croatia to Mediate Border Dispute, [BBC International Reports \(Europe\)](#) (March 17, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Europe

United Kingdom: Increased Incidence of Claims of Persecution by Christian Groups in Europe Calls for Mediation, Not Agitation, to Diffuse Tensions, [Ekklesia](#) (March 2, 2009)

Anglican Church Agrees to Mediation in Dispute Over Ordination of Homosexuals, [The Times](#) (March 30, 2009)

Northern Africa

Sudan: Mediators in Darfur Peace Process Failing to Be Inclusive, Leading to Failures in Process, [Sudan Tribune](#) (March 25, 2009)

Government and Anti-Government Forces Sign Framework Agreement on Reconciliation, First Step Toward Mutual Trust, with Mediation by African Union, League of Arab States, and Qatar Government, [People's Daily Online](#) (February 18, 2009)

Western Africa

Guinea-Bissau: Mediation and Security Council of the Economic Community of West African States to Meet After President Assassinated, [Xinhua News](#) (March 19, 2009)

Ghana: ADR Centre at Ghana Broadcasting Corporation in Accra Opens to Offer Faster Dispute Resolution Opportunities for Management and Staff; Lower Courts in Accra in 2008 Achieve 47% Success Rate with Court-Connected Mediation Program, [AllAfrica](#) (February 20, 2009)

Nigeria: Lagos Multi-Door Courthouse Mediation Program Provides Efficient Path to Justice, [AllAfrica Global Media](#) (March 19, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Middle Africa

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Government Expects Conclusion to Mediation by US Special Envoy and African Union Representative After Rebel Threat Removed, [Xinhua News](#) (March 18, 2009)

Delivering Positive Image of the Faith

Peace It Together: Strategies for Violence Prevention Is a Virtual Community Providing Innovative Strategies, Including Tolerance Curriculum, to Combat Violence in Lives and Communities of Teens, [Peace It Together](#)

Project [Invisible Children](#) Partners with Affected Communities in Uganda to Improve Quality of Life in Conflict and Post-Conflict Regions, Documents Conflicts In Region to Educate West, [Grassroots Reconciliation Group](#)

Of Interest:

US President Obama Seeks Common Ground Among Religions with the Golden Rule, [Common Ground News Service](#) (March 3, 2009)

Leading Researchers Set Forth Findings on Restorative Justice Efforts in Seventy Countries That Have Suffered Protracted Internal Conflict, "Assessing the Impact of Transitional Justice" (US Institute for Peace Press February 2009)

Top Scholars, Experts, Diplomats Address Failed Policies Toward Iran, "Joint Experts Statement on Iran," [American Foreign Policy Project](#) (November, 2008)

Obama Exercises Negotiating Skills at NATO Summit, [ABC News](#) (April 4, 2009); Plays Peacemaker at G-20 Summit, [ABC News](#) (April 2, 2009)

Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution, University of Sacramento, Hosts 18th Annual Africa/Diaspora Conference, "Religion, Race and Ethnic

Eastern Africa

Uganda: *Renewed Clashes Among Muslim Leaders Require Conciliatory Efforts by President to Avoid Spreading Conflict*, [The New Vision](#) (February 13, 2009)

Somalia: *President Agrees in Mediation to Truce and Sharia Law, Accepting Demands for Reconciliation and Asking Opposition Parties to Halt Violence*, [AFP](#) (February 28, 2009)

Traditional Elders Successfully Mediate Between Government and Islamist Insurgents, [AllAfrica](#) (February 10, 2009)

Islamic Clerics Will Help New President to Negotiate Peace in Somalia, [World Politics Review](#) (February 4, 2009)

Kenya: *UN Mediates Successfully in Kenya with Rapid Response to Crisis, But Regional Influences Critical*, [World News Connection](#) (March 8, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Madagascar: *UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon Dispatches Senior UN Official to Madagascar for Mediation*, [Xinhua News](#) (February 27, 2009)

Southern Africa

South Africa: *Independent Electoral Commission Assembles Fifteen-Member Panel of Mediators to Intervene in Conflict Situations in Eastern Cape*, [Daily Dispatch](#) (February 28, 2009)

Organizations

International Fellowship of Reconciliation: *Organization Founded in 1919 and Dedicated to Non-Violence and Global Peace Building, Emphasizes Power of Human Community to Heal, with 82 Branches, Groups, and Affiliates in 48 Countries on Every Continent*, [International Fellowship of Reconciliation](#)

Relations in Africa/Diaspora: Creating Peace and Justice Dialogues," April 30-May 2, 2009, [Conference Details](#)

International Peace and Development Training Center Offers Advanced Certificate Program, "Peacebuilding, Conflict Transformation & Post-War Recovery, Reconciliation and Healing," May 11-16, 2009, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Peace and Collaborative Development Network Offers Free Professional Networking, Fosters Dialogue and Sharing of Resources in International Development, Conflict Resolution, Human Rights and Related Topics, [Network Web Site](#)

Noteworthy:

"An Overview of Media Development and Post-Conflict Transition," by Andrew Stroehlein, Director, International Crisis Group (April 3, 2009)

"Obama is the Right One to Address the Muslim World," by Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, Cordoba Initiative (March 27, 2009)

"Islamic and Peacemaking Since 9/11," by David Smock and Qumar Al-Huda, US Institute for Peace (January 2009)

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