



MBB World Mediation News

Issue 13, August 2009

Eastern Asia

China: *New Law on Mediation of Rural Land Contract Disputes Aims to Settle Conflicts That Affect Harmony and Stability*, [Xinhua Economic News](#) (June 29, 2009) (Subscription Required)

South-Central Asia

India/Pakistan: *US President Barack Obama Rules Out US Mediation in Kashmir; Direct Dialogue Between India and Pakistan Best Way to Reduce Tensions*, [The Press Trust of India Ltd.](#) (June 20, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Pakistan: *Army Has Offered to Facilitate Dialogue Between Taliban Militants and US to End Insurgency in Afghanistan; Military Spokesman Says Pakistan Has Ability to Get Taliban to Negotiating Table*, [South Asia News](#) (July 12, 2009)

Afghanistan: *Dialogue with Moderate Elements of Taliban Necessary for Peace Efforts in Afghanistan; British Foreign Secretary Outlines Program of Reintegration and Reconciliation; Appeal Welcomed But Only First Step*, [Evening Standard](#) (July 28, 2009)

Chief Proposes Regional Conference to Discuss Defending Interests of Swat Region and Surrounding Area Against Terrorists; Says Organization Can Play Role for Mediation and Reconciliation If US and NATO Forces Withdraw First, [The Nation](#) (June 8, 2009)

Western Asia/Middle East

Syria: *President Wants Turkey to Mediate in Indirect Talks with Israel, Will Exert Every Effort For Middle East Peace; Turkey's Role Important for Region*, [Haber](#) (July 22, 2009)

Israel: *Mediators Across Country Condemn Justice Ministry For Plan to Close National Center for Mediation and Conflict Resolution*, [Haaretz.com](#) (June 4, 2009)

Saudi Arabia: *King Abdullah Pushes for Religious Dialogue, Many Muslim Religious Leaders Optimistic About Initiatives*, [Common Ground News Service](#) (July 21, 2009)

Inside MBB:

MBB President and Co-Founder Kenneth Cloke Says Conflict Prevention and Resolution Mechanisms Need to Be Core Part of Copenhagen Climate Change Negotiations and Critical Element in International Efforts to Implement Them Or Global Solutions Will be More Difficult; Ken Offers Ideas of What Every Conflict Professional Can Do to Help, [Copenhagen and Climate Change: How Mediators Can Help Save the Planet](#)

MBB Will Be In Copenhagen as Observer Organization, Will Work to Convince Delegates of Simple Message: Mediation Is Viable Option for Climate Change Disputes, [UN Climate Change Conference December 7-18, 2009](#)

MBB Founding Member Tom Fiutak Speaks On Role and Efficacy of UN as Mediator in "Frozen Disputes," Such as Protracted Conflicts in South Caucasus (Nagorno-Karabakh) and GUAM Area (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova), in Connection with UN General Assembly's Upcoming 64th Session, [Trend News](#) (July 29, 2009)

Check This Out:

[Partners For Democratic Change](#), an International Organization that Builds Platforms for Communities, Civil Society, and Business to

Eastern Europe

Azerbaijan: *Main Goal of Russian Mediation in Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict Not to Resolve But to Prevent Escalation*, [APA](#) (July 1, 2009)

Europe

United Kingdom: *Parliamentary Committee Suggests Using Independent Mediators to Facilitate Dialogue Between Police and Protesters During Public Demonstrations, Such as Recent G20 Protests, Reducing Risks of Tensions and Injuries*, [Reuters](#) (July 28, 2009)

Ireland: *Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Britain and Ireland Meets to Discuss Nationalist Grievances and Recession, Which Are Considered Threats to Peace Process*, [Irish Times](#) (July 27, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Minister to Launch Mediation Services for Families of Elderly People With Dementia and Similar Diseases; Launch Coincides with International Symposium on Elderly Mediation in Dublin, [Irish Times](#) (June 6, 2009)

Northern Africa

Sudan: *Darfur Mediator Briefs Peacekeeping Mission on Progress*, [Sudan Tribune](#) (June 26, 2009)

Eastern Africa

Mauritius: *Government Investing in Mediation, Country Seen as Potential Hub for Servicing Information Technology Disputes Among African and Indian Companies*, [Le Defi Media Group](#) (July 16, 2009)

Madagascar: *Group of High-Level Mediators Headed by Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano to Coordinate Talks Between Rivals in Political Crisis*, [Iafrica.com](#) (June 21, 2009)

Kenya: *President Kibaki Appoints Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission to Study Historical Injustices and Root Causes of 2008 Post-Election Crisis; Commission May Not Meet Need for Justice For Victims*, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 27, 2009)

Civil Society Groups Involved in Reconciliation Efforts in Post-Election Violence Warn Government to Be Cautious Handling Violence Suspects or Risk Undermining Ongoing Quest for Peace, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 27, 2009)

Western Africa

Resolve Conflict and Advance Constructive Change, Launched a New Website at www.partnersglobal.org; Partners Centers are located in Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Jordan, Kosovo, Lithuania, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, the US and Yemen; Anyone Interested Can Subscribe to the Organization's Newsletter at <http://www.partnersglobal.org/newletter-1>

Meditation:

"The biggest problem with communication is the illusion that it has been accomplished."

George Bernard Shaw

Art and Dialogue:

In "Frames of Reality," a Joint Initiative of the Peres Center for Peace and Local Testimony, an Organization That Runs Yearly Photojournalism Competition, Israeli and Palestinian Photojournalists Participated for Six Months in Meetings Designed to Encourage Dialogue and Mutual Understanding of Other's Suffering, [Jerusalem Post](#) (May 15, 2009)

Slogan of Community Mediation Works Is "Show Teens More Respect," [Bray People \(Ireland\)](#) (July 8, 2009) (Subscription Required)

"Aap Ki Kachehri" Television Show Serves as Platform for Mediation of Family Disputes and Resolution of Social Problems Across India; Mission is to Bring Change in Prevailing Mindsets, [United News of India](#) (June 28, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Nigeria: Citizens Mediation Centre, a Department of Lagos State Ministry of Justice, Celebrates Ten-Year Anniversary, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 28, 2009)

Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediation Critically Important in Nigeria to Supplement Heavy Judicial Caseload, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 27, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Niger Delta Could Be Ripe for Peace Accord, with Help From Mediator with Sufficient Stature, [UPI.com](#) (June 1, 2009)

Ghana: Mediation Seeking Peace in Dagbon Goes Ahead after Suspension During 2008 Elections; Committee of Eminent Chiefs Acting as Mediators, [The Ghanaian Chronicle](#) (June 29, 2009)

Liberia: At National Independence Day Celebration, Chief Barwor Urges Liberians to "Be Together, Talk Together, Think Together," and Appeals for Forgiveness; Praises Work of Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Says Truth Should Not Be Used to Reactivate Feelings of Hatred, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 29, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Presidential Commission on Nimba Land Dispute Sets Up Local Peacebuilding and Mediation Committees in Several Electoral Districts to Serve as First Intervention in Land Disputes and Ensure Harmonious Resolution, [AllAfrica.com](#) (July 6, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Country's Destruction Diverted Through Dialogue: Minister of Foreign Affairs Says "Peace Has Returned to Liberia" in Statement to Mediators in Oslo, [M2 Presswire](#) (June 24, 2009) (Subscription Required)

South America

Brazil: Women "Peace Workers" Help Build Culture of Peace to Solve Problems of Community Without Resorting to Violence; Government Sponsored Program to Integrate Law Enforcement, Public Safety and Social Policies to Reduce Violence by Addressing Socio-Cultural Causes, [Inter Press Service News Agency](#) (July 4, 2009)

Foreign Affairs Minister Criticizes US-Sponsored Mediation Between Interim Government and Ousted President Zelaya for Presuming "Equal Footing" of Parties; Claims Will Lead to Characterization of Victory for Coup Organizers and Encourage Future Coups in Region, [MRZine](#) (July 21, 2009)

Peru: Bishops to Aid Mediation in Peruvian Amazon, [Zenit](#) (June 11, 2009)

Colombia: President OKs Fiery Senator from North to Mediate Hostage Release; Senator Has Negotiated Other Releases Making Her National Figure, [Reuters](#) (July 8, 2009); [Poder360.com](#) (July 9, 2009)

"Rundown" Talk Show on Dubai Al-Sharqiyah Television Carries News Episode Dealing with Ninawa Political Conflict in Iraq and Whether Al-Sadr Trend's Mediation Has Succeeded in Bringing Viewpoints Closer, [BBC International Reports \(Middle East\)](#) (June 20, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Leonard Cohen Concert to Benefit Reconciliation Work By Bereaved Israelis and Palestinians; Proceeds Earmarked For New Fund to Benefit Organizations Working Toward Conciliation, [Jerusalem Post](#) (July 28, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Of Interest:

Judges and Legal Experts From China and US Exchange Mediation Ideas to Promote Mutual Understanding, [China View](#) (June 17, 2009)

How Global Citizens Can "Do Unto Others," Principles Applicable Not Only Among People, But Between Industries and Governments, [Common Ground News Service](#) (June 9, 2009)

Republican Leaders in US Argue That Reagan-Style "Peace Through Strength" Foreign Policy Preferable to President Obama's Emphasis on Reconciliation, [US News & World Report](#) (July 9, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Oslo Forum '09 Opens, Providing Opportunity for Frank and Discreet Discussions Among Top Mediators and Key Global Actors on Major Issues Affecting Peace and Conflict, [The Norway Post](#) (June 16, 2009); Focus of Forum Is "Reasserting Diplomacy and Mediation in a Fragmented World," Looking At Utility of Mediation Versus Military Force to Resolve Conflicts, [M2 Presswire](#) (June 11, 2009)

Central America

Costa Rica: *Crisis Mediator, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, At Home as Peacemaker*, [Miami Herald](#) (July 12, 2009)

Honduras: *All Sides Overstepped Boundaries in Honduran Political Crisis, Now Must Allow International Mediation Efforts Led by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Chance to Succeed*, [ChronicleHerald.ca](#) (July 15, 2009)

Executive Director of Washington Office on Latin America Comments on Recent Coup, US Response, Mediation Efforts Now Underway, and Role of Organization of American States, [U.S. Congressional Documents](#) (July 7, 2009) (Subscription Required)

Honduran Crisis is Test of Latin America's Ability to Resolve Conflicts and Preserve Stability Through Regional Multilateral Framework, [China View](#) (June 29, 2009)

North America

Pennsylvania: *Mennonite Central Committee Publishes New Edition of Mediation and Facilitation Training Manual with Theories, Communication Exercises and Tools for Conflict Analysis and Healing*, [Mennonite Central Committee – News](#) (June 16, 2009)

Utah: *Mediation Program Teaches Refugees How to Navigate US Customs and Laws*, [The Salt Lake Tribune](#) (July 7, 2009)

Organizations

[Nonviolence International Southeast Asia](#), *Founded in 1989, Provides Assistance to Individuals, Organizations, and Governments Seeking Nonviolent Means to Bring About Social and Political Change Which Reflects Truth and Justice*

[Institute for Peacebuilding](#), *an Initiative of [Pathways to Peace](#), Offers Array of Programs, Including International Mediation and Conflict Resolution Services, and Partners with Peacebuilding Organizations, Including the UN; Focus on Cross-Cultural Peacebuilding*

(Subscription Required)

Noteworthy:

"How to Effectively Resolve Conflict," by Rebecca Ruiz Forbes ([July 30, 2009](#)): Ten Minutes with Daniel Shapiro, Director of Harvard's International Negotiation Initiative, Discussing How President Obama Can Successfully Resolve Conflict Involving Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Sgt. James Crowley; Mediation Would Provide Parties with Opportunity to Hear Other's Perspective, Says Chair of Harvard's Program on Negotiation, [WSJ Law Blog](#) ([July 24, 2009](#))

"Fear: the Underrated Enabler," by Paul Scham, [Common Ground News Service](#) ([July 30, 2009](#)); Recognizing Fear of Other Calls into Question the Demonizing and Delegitimizing In Which Both Sides Engage

In *"India Should Consider US Mediation With Pakistan,"* Post Cold War Era Mediators Have Redefined Their Significance, Creating Essential Atmosphere of Mutual Trust, [Wall Street Journal India](#) ([July 27, 2009](#))

"The Psychological-Cognitive Barriers To Peace," by Ifat Ma'oz, [Common Ground News Service](#) ([July 23, 2009](#))

"Religion as a Language of Communication and Conflict Resolution: Reflections on President Barack Obama's Speech in Cairo," by Rabbi David Rosen, [Common Ground News Service](#) ([June 11, 2009](#))

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