



## MBB World Mediation News

Issue 16, March 2010

### Northern Africa

**Sudan:** Various Government and Media Sources Offer Play-by-Play of Darfur Peace Process, Following Preliminary Deal Between Government and Largest Rebel Group, [AllAfrica.com](http://AllAfrica.com) (February 26, 2010)

Darfur Mediation Team Meets Government and Rebels to Discuss Ceasefire Implementation, Paving Way for Continued Peace Negotiations, [Sudan Tribune](http://Sudan Tribune) (February 25, 2010); [Sudan Tribune](http://Sudan Tribune) (February 26, 2010) (Subscription Required)

UN Says Country at Critical Juncture for Ending Darfur Conflict; Priority is Mediated Peace Accord Prior to Upcoming National Elections, [VOANews.com](http://VOANews.com) (February 11, 2010)

### Western Africa

**Guinea-Bissau:** Top UN Officials Report Country at Turning Point, with Relative Political and Economic Stability, and Request Additional Peacebuilding Funding; Plan to Organize Regional Reconciliation Conference, [US Federal News](http://US Federal News) (March 6, 2010) (Subscription Required)

**Sierra Leone:** Fambul Tok, Community-Based Organization Working with War-Torn Communities in Sierra Leone, Goes Online and Offers Itself as Model for "International Headquarters" for Similar Efforts in Other African Countries Suffering Severe Political Conflicts, [AllAfrica.com](http://AllAfrica.com) (March 8, 2010) (Subscription Required)

Local Government and Justice Groups Have Launched a Community Mediation Program to Allow Vulnerable Citizens to Address Petty Civil Disputes Through Dialogue; Group Will Train Minimum of 300 Community Mediators in Their Own Languages, to Handle Disputes in Their Immediate Communities, According to a Strict Code of Conduct, [AllAfrica.com](http://AllAfrica.com) (January 29, 2010) (Subscription Required)

**Cote d'Ivoire:** Parties in Country's Political Crisis Agree in Mediation to Hold Long-Delayed Presidential Poll, [AFP](http://AFP) (February 23, 2010)

**Ghana:** Appeal Court Judge Urges Ghanaians to Use Alternative Dispute Resolution Processes to Settle Petty Differences; Stresses

### Art and Dialogue:

Berlin Cinema for Peace Honors Rwandan President Paul Kagame for Efforts to Bring Peace and Reconciliation to Rwanda; Group Recognizes Personalities Who Have Positively Contributed to Change in Their Countries, [AllAfrica.com](http://AllAfrica.com) (March 1, 2010) (Subscription Required)

Vietnam War Movie with Peace Theme Seeks to Heal Wounds; Contender in Best Foreign Language Category of Oscars, "Don't Burn" is Based on Diary of Young Viet Cong Soldier Killed by US Soldiers, [Inter Press Service](http://Inter Press Service) (March 5, 2010) (Subscription Required)

Canadian Peace Mediator's Story Featured in Major Hollywood Movie, "Girl Soldier," [Marketwire](http://Marketwire) (January 13, 2010)

International Conference Examines Dialogue Between People from Different Backgrounds in Multicultural Society, and Role of Media and Informal Education in Shaping Image of the "Other," [Common Ground News Service](http://Common Ground News Service) (January 21, 2010)

### Meditation:

"Every conflict we face in life is rich with positive and negative potential. It can be a source of inspiration, enlightenment, learning, transformation, and growth—or rage, fear, shame, entrapment, and resistance. The choice is not up to our opponents, but to us, and our

*in Addition to Courts, Several Other Avenues for Mediation Exist Through Families, Churches and Chieftaincy Arrangements*, [Peace FM Online](#) (January 31, 2010)

**Nigeria:** *Local Farmers and Land Holders Bring Dispute over Alleged Destruction of Farmland to Lagos State Citizen's Mediation Centre*, [AllAfrica.com](#) (February 2010)

## Eastern Africa

**Uganda:** *National Laws Already Contemplate Concept of Mediation and Settlement Out of Court, Mediation Should be Better Promoted*, [AllAfrica.com](#) (January 19, 2010) (Subscription Required)

**Kenya:** *Prime Minister Calls for Return of African Union/UN Mediation Team to Resolve Corruption Scandal*, [Afrique en Ligne](#) (February 16, 2010)

## Middle East

**Israel/Palestine:** *Senior UN Official Urges Both Sides in Conflict to Embrace Recent Proposal for Indirect Talks Mediated by US*, [Media Newswire](#) (February 21, 2010)

*UN Secretary-General Calls on Palestinian President to Respond Positively to US Proposal for Talks with Israel; Deeply Concerned by Stalemate*, [Brunei fm](#) (February 19, 2010)

**Palestinian Territory:** *Groups Including Hamas and Fatah Hold Reconciliation Talks in Gaza Strip, First in Two Years, to Resolve Rival Factions' Differences*, [AFP](#) (February 14, 2010)

## Western Asia

**Azerbaijan:** *Country Welcomes Tehran's Offer to Mediate Dispute Over Nagorno-Karabakh Territory, On-Going Since 1994*, [PressTV](#) (March 1, 2010)

*Russia Supports Peaceful Resolution of Karabakh Conflict*, [News.az](#) (February 27, 2010)

**Yemen:** *Mediation Team Monitors Compliance with Terms of Ceasefire*, [US Department of State Press Release](#)

**Afghanistan:** *President Karzai Offers Jobs, Vocational Training, and Economic Incentives to Taliban Soldiers to Bring Them to Peace Table*, [Daily Pak Banker \(Pakistan\)](#) (March 9, 2010) (Subscription Required)

*State-Owned Newspaper Urges Afghans to Support National Reconciliation Program, Argues Program is Only Path to Peace*, [BBC International Reports \(South Asia\)](#) (March 6, 2010) (Subscription Required)

willingness to face and work through them.”

Kenneth Cloke and Joan Goldsmith

## Of Interest:

[Partners for Democratic Change Sponsors Workshop Offering Practical Skill-Building for Managing Conflict and Building Consensus](#), April 14-16 in Brussels

American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution's [International Committee](#) is Reorganizing to Address Broader Range of Topics and Services, Will Host Meeting April 7 in San Francisco; Professor Hal Abramson Will Present on Theme of "How to Mediate and Negotiate Effectively in Any Country or Culture"

Inaugural Address to Centre for Post-Conflict Justice at Trinity College Addresses Necessity of Truth Commissions in Reconstructing Societies After Prolonged Conflict, [Irish Times](#) (March 8, 2010) (Subscription Required)

News Correspondent Christiane Amanpour Discusses the Vital Role of Traditional Community Trials in Villages Around the Country in Sudan's Reconciliation Process, Which Help Victims Confront Killers in Front of Their Neighbors, [CNN: Special/Live Event](#) (March 6, 2010) (Subscription Required)

Independent Two-Year Study by Chicago Council on Global Affairs Recommends US Include Religion as Integral Part of Foreign Policy, [Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette](#) (March 6, 2010) (Subscription Required)

African Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes, in Collaboration with Liberia Peace Building Office Launches a Major Peacebuilding Training Workshop in Monrovia for Liberian Citizens, March 2010, [AllAfrica.com](#) (March 4, 2010) (Subscription Required)

*Government Engages in Dialogue with Neighbors in Region, as Well as Taliban, to Ease Tensions and Work Toward Peace, [Daily Outlook \(Afghanistan\)](#) (March 7, 2010) (Subscription Required)*

*Ex-Taliban Officials Draw Road Map for Peace Talks Between President Karzai and Taliban Leadership, [Asia Times](#) (February 9, 2010)*

## South-Central Asia

**India:** *Kerala State Legal Services Authority to Start Mobile Units to Take Mediation Services to Rural Poor, [The Hindu](#) (February 28, 2010)*

**Nepal:** *Visiting Secretary General of International Commission of Jurists Stresses Need for Justice for Victims Before Reconciliation Efforts Can Succeed, [Himalayan Times](#) (March 8, 2010) (Subscription Required)*

## South-Eastern Asia

**Thailand:** *New Mediation Center Located Inside Phuket City Police Station Aims to Reduce Cases in Provincial System up to 30%, Two Rooms Provide Space to Resolve Disputes Through "Civilized Discussion," [Phuket Gazette](#) (January 26, 2010)*

**Malaysia:** *High Court Sets up Mediation Center in Lobby of Court Complex to Encourage Mediation, with Parties Choosing Judge or Court Officer to Conduct Mediation, [Bernama](#) (February 23, 2010)*

*Mediation Preferred Route for Leadership Tussle in Makkal Sakti Party, [Bernama.com](#) (February 16, 2010)*

## Oceania:

**Australia:** *University of Queensland Mediation Academic Estimates Could Take Thirty Years to Clear Outstanding Native Title Cases, [UQ News](#) (February 1, 2010)*

**Solomon Islands:** *Islanders Begin Telling Their Stories from Brutal Civil Conflict Before Long-Awaited Truth and Reconciliation Commission, [Herald Sun \(Australia\)](#) (March 10, 2010) (Subscription Required); [ABC Premium News](#) (March 8, 2010) (Subscription Required)*

*International Finance Corporation Initiative Introduces Mediation Framework for Country's Judicial System; Program Supported by Governments of Australia, Japan and New Zealand, [FinChannel.com](#) (January 23, 2010)*

**New Zealand:** *Sikh Community Leader Who Was Refused Entry into Club Because of Turban Seeks Mediation at Human Rights Commission, [Nzherald.co.nz](#) (January 19, 2010)*

*Indonesia and US Take Steps to Strengthen Socio-Cultural Ties by Co-Hosting First Bilateral Interfaith Dialogue in Jakarta, [Common Ground News Service](#) (February 16, 2010)*

*Arbitration and Mediation Growing Phenomenon in Arab World, Significant Number of Countries Focusing on Updating Laws; Conciliatory Approach and Deference to Neutral Well Steeped in Arabic and Islamic Traditions, [ArabComment.com](#) (January 31, 2010)*

*Qatar Civil and Commercial Court and Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution Establish Joint Initiative to Offer Mediator Training; Mediation Being Recognized as Useful Tool for Justice Systems, [The Peninsula](#) (January 11, 2010)*

*Israeli Nature Authority Offers "Conflict Mediation Service" for Farmers Having Trouble with Animals and Pests, [Haaretz.com](#) (January 5, 2010)*

## Noteworthy:

*Angry Rhetoric Now Characterizes Relationship Between Israeli Prime Minister and Palestinian Authority President: "The Language of Leaders: Lincoln as a Model", by Michael Lame, [Common Ground News Service](#) (March 4, 2010), Offers Examples of Middle East Leaders Willing to Speak in Conciliatory Manner*

*Is Turkey's Offer to Mediate Between Iran and US Genuine or a Trojan Horse? Columnist Assesses Turkey's Mediation Efforts, [Hurriyet Daily News](#) (February 9, 2010)*

*Zbigniew Brzezinski Describes US President Obama's World View as Reconnecting the US with Emerging Historical Context of 21<sup>st</sup> Century, in "Appraising Obama's Foreign Policy: From Hope to Audacity," (Foreign*

## North America

**United States:** *Mediation Ordered for Muslim Woman Who Was Ordered by Court to Remove Hijab in Courtroom; Woman Claims First Amendment Right Violated*, [Click On Detroit](#) (February 3, 2010)

*College of William and Mary Law Professor Appointed to UN as Senior Conflict Mediator*, [Flat Hat News](#) (January 26, 2010)

*Mediation Agency Study in Connecticut Finds that Juvenile Mediation Cuts Recidivism*, [NewsTimes.com](#) (January 24, 2010)

*Long Drawn-Out Court Battle Involving Navajos' Claims of Mismanagement of Trust Fund by State Trustees Ends in Mediated Settlement*, [Salt Lake Tribune](#) (January 11, 2010)

**Canada:** *Liberal Leader Backs Native Calls to Bring in Mediator to Resolve Land Claims Disputes Between Six Nations Confederacy and Ottawa*, [Thespec.com](#) (January 14, 2010)

## South America

**Argentina:** *President Asks US for "Friendly Mediation" in Islands Dispute with Britain; US Supports Direct Dialogue Between Two Countries*, [VOANews.com](#) (March 2, 2010)

## Organizations/Services

[USAID Transition Initiatives](#) *Helps Local Partners Advance Peace and Democracy in Priority Countries in Crisis; Works on Ground to Provide Fast, Flexible, Short-Term Assistance Targeted at Stabilization Needs, Including Promoting Reconciliation, and Works Closely with Regional Counterparts to Identify Ways to Complement Local Assistance Efforts*

[Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation](#), *Based in the Hague, Seeks to Promote Reconciliation, Tolerance and Understanding in Divided Societies by Dispelling Public Myths of Disputed Historical Legacies; Engages Respected Scholars from Opposing Sides of Conflict to Create and Disseminate Shared Narratives that Provide Reliable Facts as Basis for Public Debate*

Affairs, January/February 2010)

*African Land Reform, Giving Local Communities Autonomy and Means to Resolve Widespread Land Disputes in More Traditional, Trusted Manner, May be Key to Solving Protracted Conflict and Feuding in Many Nations, and Provide Foundation for Solving Other Issues Such as Famine, Poverty, Genocide*, [Christian Science Monitor](#) (January 30, 2010) (Subscription Required)

[Partners for Democratic Change-Yemen](#) *Noted as One of Few In-Country Organizations with Effective Peacebuilding Approach; US Urged to Provide Support to Efforts at Tapping Traditional, Local Authorities to Support Peaceful Resolution of Conflict and Greater Community Participation in Solutions, in "Sustainable Development is Possible in Yemen,"* by Dana Greenfield, [Center for American Progress](#) (January 14, 2010)

*Conflict Resolution Practitioners Need to Find Creative Ways to Mitigate Destructive Influence of Negative Stereotypes: "Conflict Resolution, One Book at a Time,"* by Roi Ben Yehuda, [Common Ground News Service](#) (January 14, 2010)

*Saudi Arabia Fears Bruised Reputation if Turkey or Qatar Seen as Successfully Mediating in Yemeni War, "Battle for Mediation: The Political Price for the War in Yemen,"* by Ali Jawad, [Dissident Voice](#) (January 12, 2010)

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