



MBB World Mediation News

Issue 6, April 2008

Organizations

African Child Peace Initiative, Inc.: Non-Governmental, Non-Tribal, Youth-Led Organization Aimed at Empowering Liberia's War-Affected Children Operates First Youth Peace-Building Center in Liberia, Caldwell Youth Peace-Building Center, Sponsored By United Nations in Liberia Quick Impact Projects Program, idealist.org/Action Without Borders

United Nations: New United Nations Mediation Team to Advise Peace Envoys; Team of Experts on Standby to Resolve Crises, UN News Centre (March 5, 2008); Webwire (March 13, 2008)

UN Security Council Confirms Peace and Security Partnership with African Union; Council to Include Support for Financing Regional Organizations' Peacekeeping Operations and Mediation Endeavors; UN Impressed with Significant Progress of AU in Setting Groundwork for Local Peace Initiatives Throughout Region, US Federal News (April 16, 2008) (Subscription Required)

European Union: European Union Reaches Agreement on Proposed Directive to Promote Mediation in Cross-Border Disputes, Businessupdated.com (April 9, 2008); xinhuanet.com (April 23, 2008)

Africa

Sudan: China Donates Half Million Dollars in Support of International Peace Mediation in Darfur, People's Daily Online (March 28, 2008)

Ethiopia: Traditional Conflict Resolution Practices Shared by Elders Have Role to Play in Mediation Efforts, AllAfrica.com (April 2, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Kenya: Social Entrepreneur Proposes Focus on Community and Neighborhood Conflict Resolution, Dialogue and Non-Violence Training as Key to Bringing Peace to Kenya; Seeks Partners in Effort, Peace & Conflict Monitor (April 2, 2008)

UN Secretary-General Extols Leadership of Predecessor Kofi Annan in Bringing Peace and Stability to Post-Election Kenya, UN News Centre (March 4, 2008)

Zimbabwe: Opposition Leader Asks for New Mediation Initiative, Beyond Efforts of South African President Thabo Mbeki, Reuters Africa (April 17, 2008)

Inside MBB:

Hurricane Katrina Project – Project Assessment Trip

MBB Members Ken Cloke, Joan Goldsmith, Robin Doyle, Lois Tilley, Nan Waller Burnett, Sue Prince, Louise Phipps Senft, Laura Perrault, Pattie Porter, Susan Norwood and Tom Fiutak participated this Spring in MBB's first U.S. mission, the Hurricane Katrina project. The team traveled to Biloxi, Mississippi to work with the Mississippi Mediation Project and local communities to participate in a day of dialogue to uncover the major issues the communities are dealing with as they rebuild and seek to recover from Hurricane Katrina. Traveling to New Orleans, the MBB team toured the Lower 9th Ward for a better understanding of the extreme devastation and slow pace of recovery. MBB members worked with community advocates and members of the local dispute resolution community in a day-long event. More information about this project is available at http://www.mbbmembers.org/initiatives/hurricane_katrina.shtml, and contact may be made at neworleans.mbb@gmail.com.

Meditation:

"We don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all

Post-Election "Quiet Diplomacy" by South African president Thabo Mbeki Unsuccessful; Politicians Across Political Spectrum Call Situation Dire and Agree No Diplomacy Will Work with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, Bloomberg.com (April 15, 2008)

South Africa: South African Catholic Bishops Call on Southern African Development Community to Mandate Mediator of International Repute to Facilitate Solution to Election Stalemate, CathNews (April 14, 2008)

Nigeria: Professional Negotiators and Mediators in Nigeria Criticize Government's Approach to Niger Delta Crisis; Negotiators Trained in Conflict Resolution and Trauma Specialists, Not Security Buildup, is Needed to Heal Community and Transform Mindset of People, AllAfrica.com (April 21, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Movement for Emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND) Attacks Pipelines to Protest Continued Injustice; Seeks Former President Jimmy Carter as Mediator to Resolve Crisis, Afriquenligne (April 23, 2008)

Ghana: President John Agyekum Kufuor Meets with Elders, Youth Leaders, in Process Launched to End Violent Clashes in Upper East Region of Country, Ghana News (March 27, 2008)

Middle East

Syria/Israel: Turkey Mediates Between Syria and Israel; Potential to Advance Palestinian-Israel Conflict Seen, Guardian.co.uk (April 24, 2008); [BBC International Reports \(Middle East\)](http://BBC International Reports (Middle East)) (April 24, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Israel: Twist of Words May Result in Different Perspectives; No Peace To Be Achieved Through Force, Yemen Times (March 24, 2008)

Palestine: Palestinian Chief Negotiator Calls on Egypt to Help Stabilize Ceasefire Between Israel and Palestinian Groups, Allheadlinenews.com (April 13, 2008)

Peace and Pragmatism – Jimmy Carter Engages Hamas, Common Ground News Service (April 24, 2008)

Western Asia

Cyprus: Mediation By UN Peacekeeping Forces Results in New Crossing Point For Greek and Turkish Cypriot Communities, Xinhuanet.com (April 4, 2008)

New UN Standby Team of Mediation Experts May Assist in Ongoing Work of UN in Cypress, Financial Mirror (March 6, 2008)

Iraq: Professor of Peace-Building Lisa Schirch Considers Opportunities to Reconcile US and Iraqi Narratives About the War, Common Ground News Service (April 8, 2008)

Qatar: President John Agyekum Kufuor Meets with Elders, Youth Leaders, in Process Launched to End Violent Clashes in Upper East

that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory."

Howard Zinn

Noteworthy:

Mediator Forrest S. Mosten Discusses "Conflict and Peacemaking: From Kindergarten to the Middle East" in First Annual Lecture in Peace Studies at University of California Riverside, UC Riverside Newsroom (April 9, 2008)

European Mediation Conference Held in Belfast on Tenth Anniversary of Northern Ireland Peace Accord, Bringing Together Remarkable Men and Women with Track Records of Achieving Global Peace; Recognition of Importance of Keeping Local and Grassroots Organizations Involved, [Herald \(Glasgow, Scotland\)](http://Herald (Glasgow, Scotland)) (April 28, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Political Scientist Who Articulated Effectiveness of "Biased Mediators" Dies; Influenced US Negotiator Dennis Ross, Washingtonpost.com (April 25, 2008)

Of Interest:

My Kashmir: Conflict and the Prospects for Enduring Peace, by Wajahat Habibullah, U.S. Institute of Peace Press (May 2008)

Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: American Leadership in the Middle East, by Daniel P. Kurtser and Scott B. Lasensky, U.S. Institute of Peace Press (April 2008)

Conflict Across Cultures: A Unique Experience of Bridging Differences, by Michelle LeBaron & Venashri Pillay, Intercultural Press

"Integrating Community Arts and

Region of Country, [Ghana News](#) (March 27, 2008)

South-Central Asia

Kashmir: Former Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry Suggests Intra-Kashmir Dialogue As Well As Third Party Mediation, Possibly with Help of Oslo, [Pakistan Times](#) (April 17, 2008)

Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry States No Bilateral Pakistan-Indian Issues Have Been Resolved Absent Third-Party Mediation, [Pakistan Times](#) (March 16, 2008)

Pakistan/Kashmir: President Pervez Musharraf Stresses Bilateral Negotiation Over Kashmir, Dismissing Earlier Insistence on Third-Party Mediation, [The Telegraph](#) (April 15, 2008)

Pakistan: Former Punjab Chief Minister Offers Mediation Between Pakistan Muslim League's Two Factions, [Daily Times](#) (March 8, 2008)

India/Sri Lanka: Oslo Seeks India's Mediation in Sri Lanka's Thirty Year Long Conflict; Special Peace Envoy Calls for Emphasis on Process, Not Results, [Daily Mirror](#) (April 15, 2008)

East Asia

China: Expatriates Living in Shanghai Bring Mediation Skills to International Communities, and Learn from Local Culture the "Chinese Way," [China Daily](#) (March 6, 2008)

Oceania

Papua New Guinea: Formal Law System Recognizes Local Peace and Good Order Committees' Contribution to Peace and Justice with Tireless Mediation Efforts, [PNG Post-Courier](#) (April 25, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Western Europe

United Kingdom/Wales: Mediator in Wales Facilitates Succession of Family Farms, Often Settling Bitter Family Grievances, [Farmers Guardian](#) (April 21, 2008)

United Kingdom/Northern Ireland: Leading Mediator Warns That EU Funding for Northern Ireland Peace Process Runs Out Soon; Alternative Sourcing Must Be Found to Support Ongoing Healing Process as Divisions Continue, [Irish Times](#) (April 12, 2008) (Subscription Required)

South America

Colombia: Catholic Diocese Offers to Mediate Release of

Conflict Resolution: Lessons and Challenges from the Field, by Craig Zelizer (Community Arts Network) (2007)

OPPORTUNITIES:

Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), Created in 1994 as Distinct Unit within USAID, Helps Local, Indigenous Partners Advance Peace and Democracy in Countries in Transition and Targeted as Priority Conflict-Prone Countries; OTI Seeks Multiple Country Representatives to Support International Programs, [FedBizOpps](#) (April 24, 2008) (Subscription Required)

Women, Peace, and Art: Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice in San Diego, California Hosts Women Peacemakers Program to Capture Stories and Best Practices of Women Spearheading Transformative Peace Initiatives in Conflict-Affected Countries Around the Globe; Program Offers Opportunities Where Leaders May Document Contributions Through Film and Narrative, [International Women's Tribune Centre](#)

U.S. Delegates Sought for 5th Colombian National Congress of Mediators (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, South America on August 14-16, 2008): Hector Varela, Director of Talid Mediation and Conciliation Center (Cartagena, Colombia), Seeks Delegation of Mediators/People Involved in Conflict Resolution to Attend Congress and Give Presentation or Workshop on Current State of Alternative Dispute Resolution in United States. For information contact Duncan at greenmogli@gmail.com.

Colombian Presidential Candidate Ingrid Betancourt; Church Also Offers to Mediate Humanitarian Agreement with Revolutionary Armed Forces, [Zenit](#) (April 2, 2008)

Colombia/Ecuador/Brazil: *UN Cedes Lead in Andean Conflict to Organization of American States in Show of Support for Regional Mediation Efforts*, [Daily News](#) (March 5, 2008)



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