



**CONSULTATION BETWEEN HEADS OF STATE AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS ON ELIMINATING
POVERTY THROUGH THE MDGs**

24 SEPTEMBER 2008 |

BOSS ROOM, 8TH FLOOR, CHURCH CENTER, UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, NEW YORK

9 AM – 12 PM

The massive scale of extreme poverty at a time of unprecedented wealth is a moral scandal. Poverty is exacerbated by structural injustices in the global economy. At the halfway point towards the target date of the Millennium Development Campaign, there is an urgent need to not only fulfill the pledges, but in some instances, to exceed the commitments made to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

Religions for Peace is collaborating with the UN Millennium Campaign to facilitate the dynamic partnerships of world's religious communities as key partners in the effort to realize the MDGs and that their voices are heard during the High-level Event on the MDGs to be convened by the UN Secretary-General and the President of the UN General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York on 25 September 2008.

Religions for Peace in partnership with the UN Millennium Campaign will hold a consultation between Heads of States and senior religious leaders on September 24 to advocate for accelerating implementation and follow-through efforts to meet the Goals.

Purpose: The consultation will advance partnership between governments and religious sector to eliminate poverty through the MDGs.

Outcome: The consultation will provide a forum for religious and political leaders to come together in joint advocacy. A shared multi-religious statement will be issued and widely disseminated to generate commitments to scale up efforts to achieve the Goals and eliminate poverty. A media event will also be held.

Participants: Senior religious leaders from around the world, Heads of States, UN Representative and UN agencies will participate.



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Religious Leaders

1. Serigne Mansour Sy, Muslim, SENEGAL, President, Federation of Islamic Associations of Senegal and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*
2. His Grace John O. Onaiyekan, Roman Catholic, NIGERIA, Archbishop, Archdiocese of Abuja and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*
3. Rev. Gertrude Kapuma, Protestant, MALAWI, Vice President, All African Conference of Churches and Honorary President, *Religions for Peace*
4. Ms. Stellamaris Mulaeh, Roman Catholic, KENYA, Programme Coordinator, Fastenopfer Kenya Country Programme and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*
5. Dr. Vinu Aram, Hindu, INDIA, Director, Shanti Ashram and Vice-Moderator, *Religions for Peace*
6. Dr. Din Syamsuddin, Muslim, INDONESIA, President, Muhammadiyah and Honorary President, *Religions for Peace*
7. Rabbi David Saperstein is the Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, USA

Heads of States

Chief Advisor Fakhruddin Ahmed, Bangladesh (requested)
Chief Ojo Maduekwe, Foreign Minister (representing President Umaru Yar' Adua, Nigeria) (requested)
Foreign Minister Dr. Hassan Wirajuda, Indonesia (requested)
Honorable Alimamy P. Koroma, Minister, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Government of Sierra Leone
Mr. Martin Dinham, Director General International, Department for International Development (representing Prime Minister Gordon Brown, United Kingdom)

Multilateral Organizations

Dr. Katherine Marshall, Senior Advisor, World Bank

UN Representatives (invited)

H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Al-Jarman, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates
H.E. Ambassador Tawfeeq Ahmed Khalil Almansoor, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain
H.E. Ambassador Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
H.E. Ambassador Joy Ogwu, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
H.E. Ambassador Kosal Sea, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia
H.E. Ambassador Marty Natalegawa, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia
H.E. Ambassador John Sawers, UK Mission
H.E. Mr. Zachary D. Muburi Muita, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya

UN Agencies

H. E. Miguel d'Escoto, President of the 63rd Session of the UN General Assembly (requested)

Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States (invited)

Mr. Saad Houry, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

Mr. Salil Shetty, Director, UN Millennium Campaign

Ms. Liza Barrie, UNICEF

Distinguish Guests

Canon Grace Kaiso, General Secretary, Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa

Archbishop Emeritus Njongo Ndungane, President, African Monitor

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Killelea, Founder, Global Peace Index, Australia

H.E. Ilari Rantakari, Ambassador, Helsinki Process, Finland, Helsinki

Ms. Bernadette Ouedraogo, President, Action for Development of Rural Women in Burkina Faso

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, Mayor of Kigali

Father Mkhatswa Smangaliso, President, UCLG Africa

Ms. Annette Blum, *Religions for Peace* International Trustee

Venerable Dr. Grace Chung Lee, President, Won Buddhist International and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*

Ms. Farida Ali, President Emeritus, Islamic Heritage Society and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*

Mrs. Judith M. Hertz, Co-Chairperson, Commission on Inter-religious Affairs, Union for Reform Judaism and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*

Ms. Karen M. Hurley, President General, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations and Co-President, *Religions for Peace*

Ms. Rajinderjit Kaur Singh, Vice President, Sikh Heritage Organization and IWCC, *Religions for Peace*

Swami Parameshananda, Bharat Sevashram Sangha

Mrs. Masako London, Vice President, NGO Committee on Disarmament

Ms. Angela Massey, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists

Ms. Carol Welch, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Mr. Shishir Shil, Executive Director, Peoples Empowerment Trust and Secretary of All Party Parliamentary Group on MDGs

Ms. Aniamma K.T., General Secretary, National Federation of Indian Women and Vice President, Women's International Democratic Federation

Ms. Sharmila Karki, Secretary, NGO Federation of Nepal

Mr. Ashok Bharti, Convener, WNTA, and Coordinator, National Confederation of Dalit Organisations

Mr. Richard Weingarten, Managing Director of the Norwegian Microfinance Initiative (NMI)

Dr. Tariq Cheema, Founder, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists

Mr. Wesley M. "Pat" Pattillo, Senior Program Director for Justice, Advocacy and Communication

Mr. John Y. Johnes, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Delegation

Religions for Peace

Dr. William F. Vendley, Secretary General

Mr. Stein Villumstad, Deputy Secretary General

Millennium Campaign

Hugh Evans, Director, Global Poverty Project

Marina Ponti, Deputy Director, Europe, UN Millennium Campaign

Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem, Deputy Director, Africa, UN Millennium Campaign

Minar Pimple, Deputy Director, Asia, UN Millennium Campaign

Mandy Kibel, Deputy Director, Communications, UN Millennium Campaign

Kara Alaimo, Global Media Coordinator, UN Millennium Campaign

Grace Canahuati, Event Coordinator, UN Millennium Campaign

Rachel Wawn, Policy Advisor, UN Millennium Campaign

Media

Mr. Peter Wood, Team Leader, IISD Reporting Services, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Ms. Leila Mead, Photographer, IISD Reporting Services, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Ms. Shipra Prakash, Correspondent, MediaGlobal

Mr. Awasum Junior, Founder and CEO, African Sports Network

Mr. Fernando Natalici, Producer, African Sports Network

Ms. Lauren Green, Religion Correspondent, Fox News