



5 December 2009

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Coalition Launches New Advisory Board

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is pleased to announce the establishment of a new Advisory Board. The Coalition's Advisory Board will be made up of a group of world leaders and eminent persons who will act as a collective voice in support of the cause of international justice and provide strategic input on key issues.

Former UN Secretary General and Nobel Laureate Kofi A. Annan will be serving as the first Chair of the Advisory Board. According to Mr. Annan, "The Coalition for the International Criminal Court has demonstrated in very concrete terms how much can be achieved when civil society, governments, and international organizations come together in partnership to tackle global problems. The International Criminal Court is now a reality, but much more still remains to be done to make justice accessible for all and to ensure that there is no impunity for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. I am honored to serve as the founding Chair of the Coalition's Advisory Board and look forward to working with this group of extraordinary leaders and individuals that will be joining me in the effort to advance the cause of peace and justice."

The Advisory Board will meet officially twice a year and engage at other times to discuss important developments as needed. The Coalition's Steering Committee (*see attached list*) will continue to provide strategic guidance and policy coherence for the organization's activities as before; the Advisory Board will function as a global leadership group in support of the Coalition's overall mission and the cause of justice. In the words of William Pace, the Convenor of the Coalition, "Awareness of the historic scope of the Rome Statute has grown considerably over the past decade and continues to increase as time passes. As we work to secure lasting peace and justice for all people, we are privileged to have the support of this group of esteemed individuals. The Coalition is deeply appreciative of the longtime engagement of so many partners, member organizations, and leaders from around the globe in the fight to end impunity."

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is the largest partnership in the world advancing the cause of international justice. Including more than 2,500 organizations from 150 countries, the Coalition is leading the global fight to end genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity through a commitment to the core values of human rights and justice. The Coalition is engaged in ensuring the effectiveness, independence, and transparency of international justice and related national legal structures, while also responding to the most urgent local and regional developments. The Coalition works with all aspects of the International Criminal Court and Rome Statute system, as well as with the broader network of governments, the United Nations, regional entities, and other institutions involved in the international justice system. Through this committed global partnership, the Coalition's guiding mission is to make justice universally accessible for victims of the gravest crimes in an effort to deter future atrocities and secure lasting peace.

Members of the inaugural Advisory Board include*:

The Honorable Kofi Annan, *Chair*

Former Secretary-General of the United Nations and Nobel Laureate

The Honorable Lloyd Axworthy

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada and current President, University of Winnipeg

The Honorable Justice Richard Goldstone

Former Chief Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia

Mr. Juan Mendez

Special Adviser on Crime Prevention, Office of the Prosecutor (ICC) and President Emeritus, International Center for Transitional Justice

Ms. Sigrid Rausing

Publisher, Granta and Founder and Chair, The Sigrid Rausing Trust

H.E. Bruno Stagno Ugarte

Minister of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica

Ms. Darian Swig

President, Article 3 Advisors

H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein

Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United States of America

* Special consideration has been made to ensure that Board membership represents the diversity of international justice leadership both geographically and with respect to gender; the final Board list will include additional names.

Steering Committee of the Coalition:

Amnesty International

Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development

Asociación pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH)

Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre

Comisión Andina de Juristas

Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH)

Human Rights First

Human Rights Network-Uganda

Human Rights Watch

No Peace Without Justice

Parliamentarians for Global Action

The Redress Trust

Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice

World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy

Important notice: *The Coalition as a whole, and its Secretariat, does not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual Coalition members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.*

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