



World Alliance for Citizen Participation

e-CIVICUS

A Free Weekly Electronic Newsletter Promoting Civic Existence, Expression & Engagement

Please send contributions, comments and questions to editor@civicus.org.

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CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

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ABOUT e-CIVICUS

The CIVICUS weekly electronic publication is keeping tens of thousands of people informed of the developments taking place in civil society, the factors that are affecting them and the impact they are having on creating an informed and knowledgeable society.

e-CIVICUS WELCOMES CONTRIBUTIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

e-CIVICUS offers a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news,

FROM THE DESK OF CIVICUS' SECRETARY-GENERAL

Send your comments and contributions to editor@civicus.org.



What more can civil society do to influence the response on food crisis?

By Kumi Naidoo, CIVICUS Secretary General

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The global food crisis: where do we start? Much has been written on the crisis, with a great deal of diversity in the described causes and solutions. For this week's column, I would like to share the text of a recent presentation by Vicente Garcia-Delgado, CIVICUS UN Representative, at the ECOSOC Civil Society Forum on the Food Crisis. The presentation forcefully deconstructs the food crisis discussion and places the focus back where it must be: on citizens. I invite you to review the presentation and take action. Warm regards, Kumi Naidoo.



ECOSOC Civil Society Forum on the Global Food Crisis

Presentation by Vicente García-Delgado, CIVICUS UN Representative

I very much appreciate the opportunity to share with you a few reflections on the Global Food Crisis and its implications for global peace and security. John Holmes, UN Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, believes that the recent statement by food envoy Jean Ziegler to the effect that the current hunger crisis amounts to a "silent mass murder" is unnecessarily alarmist and "a little over the top". However, to those mothers and fathers who can no longer feed their children, let alone themselves, Jean Ziegler's message lies close to home. If you were watching your neighbours die around you because of hunger in a world awash with plenty, what would you call that situation? For more information, [click here](#).

Ongoing imprisonment of civil society leader is part of pattern of repression in Uzbekistan

Source: CIVICUS Statement

Imprisoned Uzbek civil society leader, Ms. Mutabar Tojiboyeva was yesterday awarded the prestigious Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders. While applauding the recognition of Tojiboyeva for her defence of human rights, CIVICUS lends its voice to the appeal of other prominent rights groups in demanding her immediate release, amidst reports that her health is swiftly deteriorating. "The continued imprisonment of Ms. Tojiboyeva is part of a disturbing pattern of persecution of independent civil society voices in Uzbekistan following the tragic events in Andijan," said Kumi Naidoo, Secretary General of CIVICUS. "Almost all vocal organisations in Uzbekistan have since been systematically closed, and numerous activists have been threatened or arrested." For more information, [click here](#).

Room of improvement in South African local governance, argues GGLN report

By Anu Pekkonen, CIVICUS Participatory Governance, Programme Coordinator

CIVICUS attended the launch of the Good Governance Learning Network (GGLN) report held in Johannesburg on 8 May. The report, entitled 'Local Democracy in Action: A civil society perspective of local governance in action' is the result of 18 months of research by the members of the network. It

publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us your contributions no later than Tuesday for publication in the coming week to editor@civicus.org. All contributions must focus on civil society issues or have a civil society angle. To read the contribution guidelines, please visit www.civicus.org/new/media/e-civicuseditorialguidelines-finalDraft.doc.

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attempts to provide an independent and critical review of the state of local governance in South Africa and contribute to an enhanced understanding of the local governance environment. The publication comes while government is in the midst of its own review of local governance policies and their impact. For more information, [click here](#).

Join us and complete e-CIVICUS Readers' Survey

By Kumi Naidoo, CIVICUS Secretary General
Deadline to complete the survey: 28 May 2008

As you may know, CIVICUS has been distributing its electronic newsletter, e-CIVICUS, to partners and CIVICUS members since 1999. This free weekly electronic publication keeps over 85,000 readers informed of the developments, influences, issues and impacts of civil society around the world. e-CIVICUS is available in English and in a number of different electronic formats such as html, word, pdf and text. In order to maintain and improve on the delivery of quality information with regard to news, issues, debates, events and other key developments of civil society in the global arena, CIVICUS needs your feedback on e-CIVICUS. All survey responses will be kept strictly confidential and the results will be for internal use only. To complete the survey, [click here](#).

CIVICUS Poll Question

This week's question:

Do you plan to participate in this year's GCAP mobilizations on the food crisis and the MDG Call to Action?

To answer the question, [click here](#).

Previous question: Do you agree that a mechanism to tax international financial transactions is a good revenue source for development?

Results: Yes - 59%, No - 27%, Don't Know - 14%

TELL A FRIEND ABOUT e-CIVICUS

The e-CIVICUS newsletter keeps tens of thousands of people and organisations informed of the many developments taking place in civil society around the world. As a subscriber you know the value e-CIVICUS can bring to your work. So why keep it to yourself?

Do you have a friend who works for a more just world? Would you like to share this newsletter with them? Why don't you suggest they register for a free subscription?

They can send us an e-mail to subscriptions@civicus.org or fill out the subscription form [click here](#). Alternatively, please forward their e-mail address to KumiNaidoo.e-civicus@civicus.org and we'll contact them on your behalf. Please send us your contributions no later than Monday every week to editor@civicus.org. All contributions must be focused on civil society issues or have a civil society angle.

COUNTDOWN TO THE 2008 CIVICUS WORLD ASSEMBLY

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Do you have a friend who works for a more just world? Would you like to share this newsletter with them? Please forward their e-mail address to subscriptions@civicus.org.

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Speak to us at editor@civicus.org

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Join or renew your CIVICUS Membership on-line now at www.civicus.org/new/joinv2.html



2008 CIVICUS World Assembly

The World Assembly will take place between 18-21 June 2008, Glasgow, Scotland. Building on and continuing the success of past World Assemblies, the overall theme for this event is *Acting Together for a Just World*. This overall theme will be explored through the focus theme of *People, Participation and Power*.



Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin

The CIVICUS e-newsletter Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin is an action-oriented newsletter distributed to over 7,400 people around the world, featuring insightful interviews,

CIVICUS looks forward to your participation in the World Assembly. Let's Act Together for a Just World!!!



Register now for the CIVICUS World Assembly

The 8th CIVICUS World Assembly will take place from 18-21 June in Glasgow, Scotland. This year, the World Assembly will focus on the theme of *People, Power and Participation*, looking at how civil society accesses, engages with and participates in all forms and spheres of governance at the local, national and international levels. Register online now to participate! The World Assembly will bring together members of civil society, government, donors, business and media who will explore "Acting together for a just world" through the focus theme of "People, Participation and Power". For additional information on the programme and what to expect, browse through our e-flyer available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#). To register, please [click here](#).

Invitation to attend a workshop at the CIVICUS World Assembly

Good Practices and How to Establish Local Ombudspersons for Access to Justice and the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

If you are interested in these subjects, CIVICUS invites you to join us on Thursday, 19 June at a workshop on "Local Ombudspersons and Access to Justice: Experiences' Analysis and Replication Proposals in Latin America". The assistants to the workshop will get to know first-hand the testimonies and experiences of Carlos Constenla, Ombudsman of Vicente López (Argentina), and Fernando Rodríguez, Neighbours' Defender of Montevideo (Uruguay). Participants will also have the chance to work on Local Plans for the future implementation of Ombudspersons in their territories, through workshop dynamics and appropriate materials, which will be provided by workshop co-ordinator, the lawyer Sebastián Cox (FORJA-CIVICUS-Chile). For more information, [click here](#).

CIVICUS Announces the Nelson Mandela - Graça Machel Innovation Award Winners

CIVICUS is pleased to announce the winners of its latest round of Innovation Awards. These awards are in the form of seed funding of up to US\$5,000 given to outstanding project proposals for initiatives that emanate from the CIVICUS World Assembly. Last year's Assembly was held in Glasgow, Scotland and organisations who attended were invited to submit proposals. The judging panel was made up of the eight-member World Assembly Programme Committee, co-chaired by Anabel Cruz, Chairperson of the CIVICUS board, and Martin Sime, Chief Executive of the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO). The judges' selected two projects - Human Rights in the Niger Delta and Strengthening Awareness of the Millennium Development Goals: Connecting local and global experience in Scotland and South Africa. For more information, [click here](#).

e-CIVICUS DIALOGUES

Xenophobia has no place in a civilized global village

By Undule Mwakasungula, Chairperson of Human Rights Consultative Committee

The Human Rights Consultative Committee (HRCC) strongly condemns reports of xenophobia attacks and killings in South Africa. High levels of unemployment and crime have been blamed on foreigners, and has resulted in xenophobic violence erupting in the Gauteng province, leaving at least 22 people dead. Some 6,000 people, many of them Zimbabweans, have been displaced, often evicted from their homes by mobs. Many have sought refuge in police stations, churches and community halls. The attacks and killings are uncalled for, baseless, uncivilised and cannot be tolerated in this civilised global village, says Undule Mwakasungula from Malawi. For more information, [click here](#).

More fears rise around Doha deal

By Aileen Kwa

As World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations pick up, some developing countries are in growing doubt that a deal liberalising their economies further could help them cope with the food crisis. Inter

updates on threats to civil society, and analyses of current situations. Read more at www.civilsocietywatch.org

CIVICUS blog

What do you think? Have your say on the CIVICUS Blog! CIVICUS seeks to amplify the voices and opinions of ordinary people and give expression to the enormous creative energy within civil society. Our recently launched blog gives you the opportunity to use your voice and engage with the rest of civil society. Have your say by visiting <http://civicus.civiblog.org>



Press Service (IPS) spoke to an ambassador from an African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) country that declined to be named. His country is a net food importer and is now struggling to deal with the high food prices on the world market. "WTO should not prevent us from having the policy space that we want to protect our agricultural sectors. We cannot totally rely on an import market to feed our population. An agreement that does this (constrains our policy space) will not fly at this time. We cannot be constrained unduly in what we can do in agriculture." For more information, [click here](#).

Zimbabwean Elections: Hopes, contradictions and opportunities

By Mandisi Majavu

Source: Towards Freedom, <http://towardfreedom.com>

According to the Zimbabwe Electoral Act, the period within which a second election for the office of the president can take place is within 21 days of the date of announcement of results of the first poll. Initially, the presidential election runoff was scheduled to take place within this period; however, the Mugabe regime has recently announced that it has extended the period within which a second election can take place by 69 days. The Global Zimbabwe Forum (GZF) argues that the outcome of the first elections was compromised by the fact that over three million eligible voters who are living outside of Zimbabwe were excluded from participating in the process. GZF argues that Mugabe no longer has "the express mandate of the majority of the Zimbabwean electorate and therefore must not be allowed to continue as the President of the country. He must step down". For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

Civil society groups praise debate of new electoral law in Lebanon

By Anthony Elghossain

The Civil Campaign for Electoral Reform (CCER) issued a letter on Monday formally thanking Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifah al-Thani for his efforts to include electoral reform as part of any political resolution arrived at between Lebanese leaders during talks being held by feuding factions in Doha, Qatar. The CCER stressed that the Qatari Emir's "consideration of electoral reform as part of a broader solution" was well-placed, particularly given that his efforts are "based on the draft [electoral] law proposal that has been put forth by the National Commission for the Electoral Law," headed by former Minister Fouad Butros. For more information, [click here](#).

Fighting corruption needs comprehensive strategy with civil society in Yemen

By Zaid al-Alaya'a

Fighting corruption needs a comprehensive strategy to involve civil society organisations to reach the goal of eradication, said Ahmed al-Anesi, head of the Supreme National Authority for Combating Corruption (SNACC) at a workshop on the importance of UN conventions of fighting potential and possible corruption in Yemen held last Saturday. "This is what the authority sought and seeks to benefit from national, regional and global experiences in this regard," said al-Anesi, explaining in the workshop held at the National Institute for Administrative Studies that corruption has become a burden on all societies and has destructive and harmful consequences. According to al-Anesi, corruption harms democracy, law, human rights and morality. For more information, [click here](#).



Laws against media freedom to be repealed in Pakistan

Source: ARTICLE 19

ARTICLE 19 welcomes Information Minister Sherry Rehman's pledge to repeal laws stifling media freedom in Pakistan created under the PEMRA Ordinance amendments in 2007. "We are pleased to hear that the new Pakistan government understands the need for a free media and the contribution it makes to a successful and sustainable democracy" said Dr. Agnes Callamard. Speaking at a media conference, Rehman announced that the new Pakistan government was taking unprecedented steps to involve journalists, human rights groups, and civil society activists in the process of changing laws

to promote freedom of expression and restructuring the Ministry of Information. For more information, [click here](#).

Georgian opposition sounds alarm over Parliamentary elections

By Liz Fuller, research analyst of RFE/RL

Although Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili pledged during his annual address to the nation on April 23 that the May 21 parliamentary elections will be "the most fair and democratic in the history of our country," opposition parties and civil society have in recent weeks repeatedly alleged pressure on their candidates by the Georgian authorities, and attempted vote-buying by candidates representing Saakashvili's United National Movement for a Victorious Georgia. For more information, [click here](#).

A repressive media bill dropped in Russia

Source: The Moscow Times

The State Duma will not pass a bill that had raised the alarm about media freedom by toughening the penalties for libel. Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov, a senior leader of United Russia, said Monday that his party had changed its position on the bill, which would have allowed courts to close media outlets for publishing damaging statements. Critics said the bill would have given authorities an additional tool to crack down on dissent. The bill passed its first reading in the Duma last month by a vote of 339-1, raising alarm among media-freedom groups. It was authored by United Russia deputy Robert Shlegel, the Duma's youngest member and a former spokesman for the pro-Kremlin youth group Nashi. For more information, [click here](#).

ACCOUNTABILITY

What Assures Consumers on Climate Change?

Source: AccountAbility, www.accountability21.net

A joint survey conducted by AccountAbility, Net Balance Foundation and LRQA Australia to assess the attitudes of consumers towards climate change, will release its interim findings at the Green Marketing Event in Melbourne on 26 May. The research aims to better understand what assures the public in their decision-making on purchases - including customer services and ethics - to build practices that empower consumers and strengthen corporate performance. To learn more, please see the 2007 report focusing on UK and US consumers. For more information, [click here](#).

GET INVOLVED!

Join the GlobalVote online voting campaign

GlobalVote is a new online non-profit initiative that enhances democracy through shadow voting and polling systems. GlobalVote will empower the world's Internet users by recording their opinions and registering their votes on the world's most pressing issues, including resolutions under consideration at the United Nations and other international organisations. We will speak on behalf of our voters by disseminating voting results to these international organisations, national governments, the media, universities and NGOs. Make your voice heard, [click here](#).

Join the campaign against the gagging of Olympic athletes

Source: IFEX campaign

Athletes may be prevented from speaking out about human rights abuses at this summer's Beijing Olympics. Athletes may be prevented from speaking out about human rights abuses at this summer's Beijing Olympics. ARTICLE 19 and Reporters Without Borders have launched an international campaign calling for the right to free speech of Olympic athletes to be upheld. The campaign aims to encourage and persuade National Olympic Committees (NOCs) to respect and protect the right of

their athletes to speak out on human rights abuses, put pressure on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and NOCs to issue a clear statement confirming that speaking on human rights abuses is permissible under the Olympic Charter and ensure that the IOC upholds the athletes' right to freedom of expression at the Beijing Olympics this summer. For more information on the campaign, [click here](#).

Africa Public Health "15% Now!" Campaign launches count-down to African Union Summit

Source: Africa Public Health Rights Alliance "15% Now!" Campaign

The Africa Public Health 15% Now Campaign has launched a 30 day countdown to the mid-year African Union summit which takes place in Egypt from June 24th. In a statement to launch the Countdown, 15% Now Campaign Co-ordinator Rotimi Sankore stated: "The countdown to the coming African Union summit is an opportunity for Africans and friends of Africa of all persuasions to remind African Heads of State and government to meet their commitments to health development and financing. Unlike any other matter, disease and non-disease issues affect every single person regardless of age, religion, race, gender or any other consideration." The key objective of the Africa Public Health 15% Now Campaign is to engage the African Union and sub-Regional Economic Communities. For more information, [click here](#).

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS & GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY

Debt campaigners told "You helped change history"

Emma Brady reports from the Journey to Justice conference at the ICC

Source: The Birmingham Post, www.birminghampost.net

Kumi Naidoo, chairman of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) in South Africa, claimed world leaders had done "too little, too late" in terms of tackling debt in real, life-changing terms. "What happened here in May 1998 had a major impact on the global efforts to address the growing debt crisis in under-developed countries," he said. Although \$88 billion has been wiped off the slate of 20 countries, it is still a case of too little, too late, and this needs to be addressed with a real sense of urgency and the political will to tackle this issue head-on. "We want to see the 100-plus countries still struggling with debt to benefit but the bureaucracy, controls and conditions that go with such deals are pretty restrictive." For more information, [click here](#).

Anti-poverty group urges solons to give up some 'pork' for rice in Philippines

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

An anti-poverty group on Thursday called on lawmakers to allot their next pork barrel allocations to projects that will help boost the country's rice sufficiency. "Legislators and local executives should revisit their spending and assess their priorities," said Joel Saracho, national coordinator of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) in the Philippines. Saracho is optimistic that lawmakers wouldn't disagree with the proposal because "food is undeniably more important than sports at this point in time." For more information, [click here](#).

GCAP South Africa condemn violence against immigrants urging tolerance

Source: The Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

The Global Call to Action against Poverty coalition of South Africa (GCAP, including South African Council of Churches (SACC), SANGOCO, NALEDI, and The Forum) expressed alarm at the recent spate of xenophobic acts against African immigrants in Alexandra. They call on all South Africans to practice tolerance, acceptance, inclusion, and to work together to build communities regardless of differences. "Alexandra has always been a historical 'melting pot' community, so to see the current divisions expressed violently demonstrates a lack of tolerance and humanity in our society," said Sakina Mohamed from the South African Council of Churches. The coalition members condemned those who came out to blame the human rights abuses on poverty and economics. For more information, [click here](#).

Children and youth task force in Scotland

Source: Article 12, www.article12.org

Established in 1996, Article 12 in Scotland is a young person-led network of individuals and organisations that work to promote young people's participation and information rights as set out in international human rights charters. Article 12 believes that young people care about their rights, and the rights of others, and that given the knowledge and the opportunity they will take positive action to make Scotland a place where young people are given access to the information and opportunities necessary to participate as equal citizens at all levels of society. For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISM AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

Solidarity in combating the global food crisis

Contributor: Dr Mirta Roses Periago to Jamaica Gleaner

The global food crisis, precipitated by the steep rise in food prices and consequent inaccessibility of food, which has led to explosions of violence in over 30 countries poses a threat to the progress in health, as well as in environmental protection and poverty reduction, achieved within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals. This crisis is occurring at a critical time in Latin America and the Caribbean, when efforts are concentrating on eradicating malnutrition and developing strategies to combat both the causes and the most visible effects of this chronic problem that undermines the potential for current and future development. For more information, [click here](#).

PROFILES



DONOR: Irish Aid

Irish Aid (previously DCI - Development Co-operation Ireland) is the Government of Ireland's programme of assistance to developing countries. Ireland has had an official development assistance programme since 1974, which has grown steadily over the years from modest beginnings to its current size - total ODA in 2007 was over €813 million. Ireland's development co-operation policy is an integral part of Ireland's wider foreign policy, supporting in particular the objectives of peace and justice. The Irish Aid development co-operation policy and programme reflect a long-standing commitment to human rights and fairness in international relations. The Key Principles are: Poverty Focus; Untied Aid; Partnership; Effectiveness; Accountability; Coherence. For more information, [click here](#).



MEMBER: Instituto de Comunicación y Desarrollo (ICD)

ICD is located in Uruguay and its aims are to produce knowledge and promote actions that contribute to greater citizen participation in democratic life, in the processes of national development and in regional integration. The organisation's primary objective is to strengthen inclusive and equitable democratic development. As such, ICD seeks to strengthen civil society and drive active participation across all sectors. ICD pays special attention to the role organised citizens play in society in the consolidation and improvement of democracy, in the reflection and practice of development initiatives and in Latin American integration. For more information, [click here](#).

CAPACITY BUILDING

Toolkit: Disseminating research online

Source: Global Development Network (GDN)

the internet. It draws on best practice for web strategies from the information and commercial worlds, especially selected to help the successful electronic dissemination of research. This toolkit does not cover everything needed for a comprehensive research dissemination strategy for institutes, but rather looks at how people use the internet and what this means for designing writing to be read online. It draws together advice from leading web communication experts and provides useful external links. For more information, [click here](#).

BOOKS, REPORTS & RESOURCES

ITUC Campaign Guide: Decent Work, Decent Life for Women

The Centenary of International Women's Day (IWD) has its origins in the protests, strikes and marches of women trade unionists. That is why the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the Global Union Federations (GUFs) are launching a two-year Global Campaign for Decent Work, Decent Life for Women on this historic date. This guide explains what the campaign is, why it is important, and what you can do to take part. It includes background information on decent work for women, and tips and resources to get started with your Campaign. The guide is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#).

Survey for civil society organisations: IMF's 2008 Surveillance Review

Source: International Monetary Fund (IMF) Civil Society Team

Every few years, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) undertakes a thorough review of its surveillance work, i.e. the monitoring of economic developments in its member countries and provision of related policy advice. The 2008 "Triennial Surveillance Review" (TSR) is going to be a particularly important one, as it is taking place in the context of an unprecedented IMF refocusing process aiming, among other things, at making surveillance more effective. In June 2007, the policy framework of IMF surveillance received a major update, its first since the 1970s, through the new "Decision on Bilateral Surveillance Over Members' Policies", which also sought to codify best practice. As part of this review, civil society is invited to participate in an online survey on various quality aspects of the IMF's surveillance work. For more information on the survey, [click here](#).

Which Poverty Line? A Response to Reddy

By Martin Ravallion, Development Research Group of the World Bank

Source: International Poverty Centre (IPC)

Some years ago a consensus emerged in the development community on the idea of an international poverty line of around \$1 a day at purchasing power parity. This became the focus of the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG), which calls for halving the 1990 \$1 a day poverty rate by 2015. In a recent International Poverty Centre (IPC) One Pager, "Are Estimates of Poverty in Latin America Reliable?", Sanjay Reddy asserts that this poverty line is "arbitrary" and "unreliable." He feels that the line is too low to reflect well the cost of not being considered poor in Latin America. For more information, [click here](#).

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

VIII International Human Rights Colloquium

60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Challenges for the Global South
8-15 November 2008, Sao Paulo, Brazil

The Colloquium is an annual capacity building and peer-learning event designed for young activists from the Global South (Africa, Asia and Latin America). The objective of the VIII International Human Rights Colloquium is to strengthen the impact of human rights activists work and to offer the opportunity to build new collaborative networks among activists, academics and the Organization of

the United Nations (ONU). Young human rights defenders from the Global South who demonstrate commitment to the human rights cause as well as at least two-years of professional experience in the area. Additionally, criteria such as race, gender, and regional/social origin will be taken into consideration during the selection process. Candidates who have participated in previous colloquia are not eligible for participation in 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

11th Annual European Conference on Mobility Management

Travel Demand Management - Tackling Climate Change

4-6 June 2008, London, UK

Mobility Management is now firmly embedded in transport policy in London. It has a vital role in London's Transport Strategy, and is prevalent in the work delivered by the 33 separate municipalities (boroughs) that make up Greater London and represent the 7.5 million people that live in the Capital. Through initiatives such as the Central London Congestion Charging Scheme, improved public transport services and better facilities for walking and cycling, London is successfully reducing congestion improving air quality and increasing sustainable transport use. This year the annual European Conference on Mobility Management (ECOMM) will provide a focused outlet for sustainable transport practitioners and experts from all over Europe and beyond, with over 500 representatives expected from local and national governments, the private sector, health and academia. For more information, [click here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Open Society Fellowship

Application Deadline: Rolling basis

Open Society Institute, New York

The Open Society Institute (OSI) has recently launched a new fellowship program to support outstanding idea entrepreneurs from around the world. The Open Society Fellowship enables innovative professionals including journalists, activists, scholars, and practitioners to work on projects that inspire meaningful public debate, shape public policy, as well as generate intellectual ferment within OSI. The fellowship focuses on four areas: National Security and the Open Society; Citizenship, Membership and Marginalisation; Strategies and Tools for Advocacy and Citizen Engagement; and Understanding Authoritarianism. Fellows' projects may include books, articles, outreach for documentary films, online media, and efforts to seed new campaigns and organizations. For more information, [click here](#).

Alfred Friendly Press Fellowships

Application Deadline: 1 July 2008

The Alfred Friendly Press Fellowships (AFPF), an American non-profit, non-governmental organization, is a cultural and professional exchange program for journalists. Through AFPF, journalists and their readers gain a broader view of the world and journalism thereby creating mutual understanding and peaceful relations between Americans and people of other nations. Fellows return home with new journalistic skills and knowledge, and a desire to advance a free, responsible press in their own countries—without which democracy does not exist. For more information, [click here](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS, SUBMISSIONS & NOMINATIONS

Call for proposals: Inquiry into the Future of Civil Society in the UK and Ireland

Application Deadline: 6 June 2008

The primary audience for this practical 'guide' are the staff and trustees of formal civil society associations that do not have climate change or environment at the core of what they do. Such

associations will include trade unions, voluntary and community organisations, faith-based organisations. The Trust is especially concerned about civil society organisations who work with or in the interest of those who suffer most from social injustice. A second output from will therefore be a paper written specifically for the Carnegie Commission of Inquiry that outlines some of the key issues raised by the focus groups by other stakeholders but not deemed as appropriate to include in the guide. Indeed, this information may also be made available to a wider audience, including other trusts and foundations. For more information, [click here](#).

LIVING 08 call for registration self supporting delegates

Application Deadline: 31 May 08

The LIVING 08 Partnership invites you to submit your application for participation in LIVING 08: The Positive Leadership Summit. The Summit will take place at the Fiesta Americana Reforma Hotel, Mexico City, on 31 July to 1 August, immediately before the XVI International AIDS Conference AIDS 08. LIVING 08 builds on the advocacy agenda articulated at the HIV+Monaco Conference (January 08), as well as the Global Consultation on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (December 07). Registration for self supporting delegates is now open. For more information, [click here](#).

APPOINTMENTS

This week 28 new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please [click here](#).

JOBS OF THE WEEK

Consultant

Impact Planning and Learning Framework Development

Application Deadline: 4 June 2008

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

For more information, [click here](#).

Head of Campaigns

Application Deadline: 6 June 2008

Compassion in World Farming (CIWF)

Location: London, UK

For more information, [click here](#).

Director Communications & Network Relations

Application Deadline: 4 June 2008

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

Location: Amsterdam, the Netherlands

For more information, [click here](#).

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