

Advancing Peace and Mitigating Crises: Proposed Language for the Foreign Assistance Act

This second and final forum in a series on Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) Reform will highlight recommendations from the peacebuilding community to the Foreign Relations Committee and the State Department. A large scale rewrite of the FAA in combination with the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR) present a watershed moment as both bodies seek to incorporate peacebuilding into development for the first time. The House Foreign Relations Committee and State Department are actively seeking input from the NGO community regarding the incorporation of peacebuilding into the reform agenda. How should peacebuilding be defined? How can peacebuilding be integrated into a development strategy? What is needed to coordinate a successful government approach to conflict?”

DATE: Tuesday, February 9, 2009 || 9:00AM – 10:30AM

LOCATION: Nitze Building, Kenney Auditorium (1st Floor)
School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University,
1740 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036

(Coffee and pastries will be provided || The nearest Metro stop is Dupont Circle)

MODERATOR

CHARLES (CHIC) Dambach -- President and CEO, Alliance for Peacebuilding

Charles F. (Chic) Dambach is the President and CEO of the Alliance for Peacebuilding. Previous national CEO positions include the National Peace Corps Association, Operation Respect, and National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies (now Americans for the Arts). He is also a writer, lecturer, and consultant on nonprofit governance. He is the North American representative to the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, board chair for the Coalition for American Leadership Abroad (COLEAD), and serves on the board of CityLit Project in Baltimore. In 1998 Chic helped form and lead a team of returned Peace Corps Volunteers to work informally with the leaders of Eritrea and Ethiopia to help end their border war. The team also facilitated joint meetings among the leaders of the combatants in the Congo civil war and participated in the Inter-Congolese Dialogue leading to the formation of a coalition government and the election of the official government. He was named the Distinguished Alumnus in 2004 by the Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Sciences, and he received the International Platform Association's Global Coalition Peace Award in 2001. He was inducted into the Worthington (Ohio) Schools Hall of Fame in 2007.

SPEAKERS

LISA SCHIRCH—Director, 3D Security Initiative

Lisa Schirch is a former Fulbright Fellow in East and West Africa and has worked in over 20 countries with communities and government leaders. She is the director of the 3D Security Initiative, which

promotes civil society perspectives on conflict prevention and peacebuilding in U.S. security policymaking. With colleagues in the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, Schirch consults with a network of strategic partner organizations involved in peacebuilding activities throughout the United States, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Schirch has written five books and numerous articles on conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Her current research interests include civil-military dialogue and the intersection of security and climate change, sustainable development, the media, and conflict prevention. She is a frequent public speaker and has TV and radio experience discussing U.S. foreign policy. She holds a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Waterloo, Canada, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University.

DANE SMITH-- Adjunct Professor, AU School of International Service

Dane F. Smith, Jr. is an adjunct professor in American University's School of International Service and at Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV, and a senior fellow at the Joint Forces Staff College. He is a Senior Associate in the Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project at the Center for Strategic & International Studies, Washington D.C. On behalf of BEFORE, an international conflict prevention NGO, he led a multinational team to Guinea in September 2008 which drafted a preliminary study on possible conflict prevention initiatives. In the 1960s, he was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Eritrea, then part of Ethiopia. He also studied at the Union Theological Seminary in New York. Dr. Smith was U.S. Ambassador to Guinea 1990-93, U.S. Ambassador to Senegal from 1996-99, from 1995-96 was Special Presidential Envoy for Liberia, and from 1999 to 2003, he was President of the National Peace Corps Association, the alumni group for former U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers. Dr. Smith graduated from Harvard College (magna cum laude) and received a PhD from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.

PAUL STARES-- Director of the Center for Preventive

Paul Stares is an expert on emerging regional and international security challenges. He led the bipartisan Genocide Prevention Task Force's Expert Group on Preventive Diplomacy, and is currently focusing on future conflict trends and associated prevention strategies. He was Vice President of the Center for Conflict Analysis and Prevention at the United States Institute of Peace from 2002 to 2007, Associate Director and Senior Research Scholar for the Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University from 2000 to 2002, Senior Research Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs and Director of Studies at the Japan Center for International Exchange from 1996 to 2000, Senior Fellow and Research Associate at the Brookings Institution Foreign Policy Studies Program, and Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University. His noteworthy publications include *Rethinking the 'War on Terror': New Approaches to Conflict Prevention and Management in the Post-9/11 World* (USIP Press 2007), *Rethinking Energy Security in East Asia* (JCIE, 2000), *The New Security Agenda: A Global Survey* (JCIE, 1998), *Global Habit: The Drug Problem in a Borderless World* (Brookings, 1996).

ABOUT THIS FORUM

Since 1999, the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Forum (CPRF) has provided a monthly platform in Washington for highlighting innovative and constructive methods of conflict resolution. CPRF's goals are to (1) provide information from a wide variety of perspectives; (2) explore possible solutions to complex conflicts; and (3) provide a secure venue for stakeholders from various disciplines to engage in cross-sector and multi-track problem-solving. The CPRF is co-sponsored by a consortium of organizations that specialize in conflict resolution and/or public policy formulation.

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