

**Switzerland salutes
Caux's work with Burundi**

**Kofi Annan: Listen to the
world's indigenous peoples**

**lofC International President Sahnoun's vision:
Caux for Peace and Human Security**

**Trust across the world's divides?
Dignity for all?**



CAUX 2007 REPORT

Trust across the world's divides? Dignity for all?

Since Mountain House first opened its doors to a shattered world in 1946, the annual Caux conferences have been a place for reconciliation and hope, rooted in the deep inner transformation of individuals. Today, in a different context, the need to build trust across the world's divides remains just as acute. As the 2007 conference invitation stated:

Millions struggle for survival. Others want to protect their own wealth and interests. The challenges of the environment and global warming, the rising tide of greed and the explosive impact of humiliation all threaten our common future. Hunger, homelessness and ill health undermine the well-being of peoples. Globalization and the market need ethical values to meet these challenges.

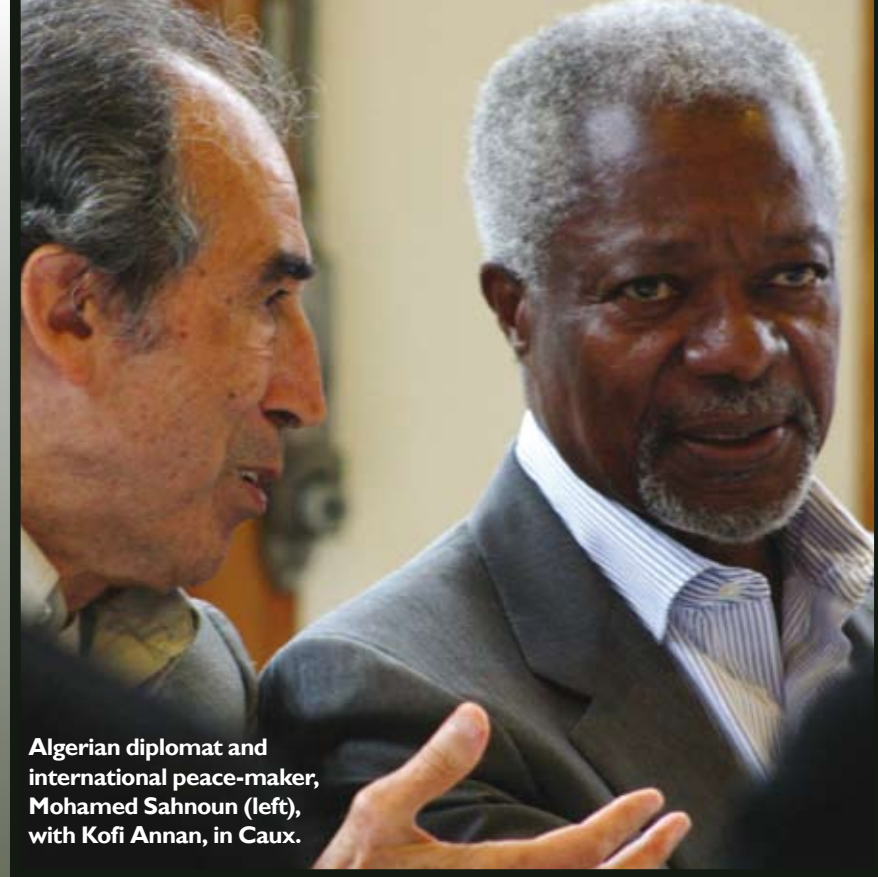
Six conferences took place between 5 July and 19 August 2007, each focusing on a different aspect of the general theme: *Trust across the world's divides? Dignity for all?*

A total of 1490 people participated from all over the world. This report gives a brief summary of the conferences, as well as covering other highlights of the Caux season, such as Japan Management Association training (p5), the Official Day (p5), the 2007 Caux Scholars Program (p9), the Global Indigenous Dialogue (p 13) and Kofi Annan's visit (p 13).

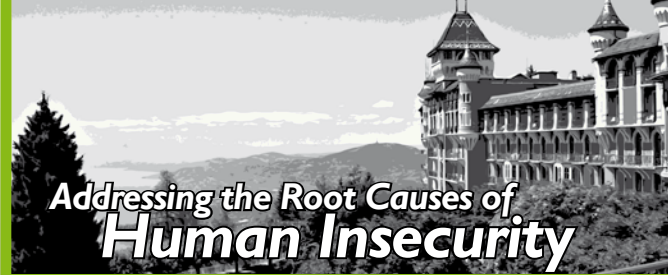
Further information can be found at www.caux.ch/2007, including full texts of some speeches. In this report, [w] indicates more material on that item is available online.

This Caux 2007 Report was printed by Friends of Moral Re-Armament (India) at Rich Prints, Pune, on behalf of Initiatives of Change International.
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Layout and Design: Erik Parsons.

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Algerian diplomat and international peace-maker, Mohamed Sahnoun (left), with Kofi Annan, in Caux.



Addressing the Root Causes of Human Insecurity

CAUX CONFERENCES 2008

3 – 9 July

**Global Servant-Leadership:
Contributing to Human Security**

11 – 16 July

**Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy:
Cultivating Knowledge - Generating Action**

18 – 23 July

Addressing the Root Causes of Human Insecurity

25 July – 1 August

Tools for Change

3 – 10 August

Renewal Arts: Can Artists Mend a Broken World?

12 – 17 August

**Developing Cultural Dialogue:
Learning to Live Together with Difference**

For latest information and programme updates:

www.caux.ch/2008

What is CAUX's part in answering the root causes of human insecurity?

Mohamed Sahnoun, President of *Initiatives of Change International*, outlines his vision for Caux in 2008 and beyond.

The heart of *Initiatives of Change's* activity is not in Caux, but in the field, on the ground. But Caux plays an important part. It is the heartbeat of this international network for peace and reconciliation. Each year, some 1500 people from around 70 countries head out from here with fresh convictions and plans. Unique in its location and atmosphere, the IofC international conference centre in Caux encourages dialogue, but it also encourages us to look deep inside ourselves, to introspection. For more than 60 years now, Caux has led to countless turning points in awareness and inspiration that have, in turn, produced reconciliation between individuals, groups and nations, peace accords, and solutions to social conflicts.

The theme for the 2007 conferences – *Trust across the world's divides? Dignity for all?* – illustrates this close link with realities in the world. The question marks suggest there are no magic solutions. We all must struggle and fight with the weapons of the spirit, with the inner resources we've found in Caux...

In 2008, the conferences will aim to address the root causes of human insecurity, an open wound in today's world. Part of the problem is that human insecurity is caused by factors operating on two levels. On the one hand, by social breakdown, war, the humiliation of whole peoples, the unequal distribution of wealth... And on the other by this solid, tenacious block inside

each of us, made of bitterness and conflict with others, which kills hope and faith and holds us back from renewal. Solutions only become possible as we deal with both levels.

Humanity cannot avoid this kind of change that starts with each one of us, and implies a personal challenge and learning to listen. Solving the conflicts of tomorrow demands a diplomacy that integrates the art of really listening to people and taking into account their hurts. Without this, there is no defusing the time-bomb of humiliation.

In teamwork with my friend and colleague, Bernard de Riedmatten, President of the Swiss CAUX-*Initiatives of Change* Foundation, we in *IofC International* want to help put the Caux centre at the service of this great cause, and to change the traditional logic of world diplomacy. With Kofi Annan's support, we want to further this process through the 2008 summer conferences: there will be a special event for global political decision-makers. This may seem innovative – but it is directly in line with the vision of the founders of the Caux centre. Already in 1942 Philippe Mottu wrote in his notebook that Caux was 'a place where Europeans, torn apart by hatred, suffering and resentment, can come together'.

We hope these words will help you want to carry with us this vision for Caux 2008 and beyond. Every man and woman counts.



5 July – 11 July 2007

Servant Community

– Values, Responsibility and Leadership

‘**W**hat does community mean to us?’ and ‘What are the calling and values of communities?’ These were some of the questions asked during the first Caux conference: Servant Community – Values, Responsibility and Leadership, organized mostly by young professionals from central and eastern Europe. As Sergei Podbolotov from St Petersburg recalled, ‘As teenagers 20 years ago we associated the word “community” with communism – at best something boring and at worst something horrible.’ What was valued was individualism and the courage to speak one’s truth in the face of strong pressure to conform. Now Podbolotov and others felt a need to rediscover a deeper sense of community as something which brings hope. Sweats Lawson from the USA suggested that although individualism was a prevalent value there, the USA was like a mosaic where the diverse

pieces were cemented together by common engagements and basic values.

University lecturers from Moscow, St Petersburg and the UK participated alongside trainers from France and Belgium. Two human rights activists from Moldova – the joint founder and the current president of Amnesty International there – spoke about some of the economic victims of the country’s transition. A Moldovan volunteer presented the work of ‘Sunrise’ centre – a charity which helps the aged.

However the heart of the conference was not in the plenary sessions, but rather in the informal interactions which could be seen as the conference progressed with intensive conversations over meals or late at night in the Caux Café. Community was not only talked about, it was also modelled through the atmosphere of care and trust in the conference.



The 'Official Day' Switzerland's 'special relationship' with CAUX and IofC

Ambassador Pierre Combernous passed on greetings from the Swiss government and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and saluted the 'special relationship' between Switzerland and *Initiatives of Change* stretching back 60 years. He was speaking on the 'official day' when diplomats and representatives of international organizations and non-governmental organizations in Geneva and Bern were invited to visit Caux. Referring to recent peace negotiations for Burundi, he said this partnership with Caux was 'in the spirit of Switzerland's foreign policy [which] is marked by ideas of solidarity, universality and human values'. [w]

Welcoming the visitors, Mohamed Sahnoun emphasized that reconciliation processes worldwide are hampered by feelings of insecurity. 'Caux is a place of silence and words, of meditation and the sharing of ideas and experiences... We are all looking for ... lasting peace, peace within us and peace



between us.' But, he challenged, are we ready to accept the changes that peace demands, the changes in our attitudes and our living? That, he suggested, was the Caux agenda: healing the past, forgiveness, reconciliation and tackling the root causes of conflict.

Mrs Bineta Diop, Executive Director of the NGO *Femmes Africa Solidarité* took the opportunity to present the Timbuktu Award for building peace in conflict zones in Africa to Sahnoun, for his role when he was Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Horn of Africa.



Atsushi Funakawa



Sergei Podbolotov



Roduit (left) and de Riedmatten (centre), Caux-IofC Foundation President

Mgr Joseph Roduit, Abbot of Saint-Maurice, gave the first public Caux Lecture [w] on the role of 'value-based communities in the 21st century' and the need to 'globalize solidarity'. He called for people to 'think about the consequences of progress and the purpose of our inventions', to weigh not just the quantifiable but also the quality of life. 'Figures and percentages don't tell it all... What is the price of a smile? How much does joy cost?' he asked. Speaking about the relevance of community, Roduit said each person has a task to accomplish in life, and each society has a role to play in the world. 'We must discover the other, not as a potential enemy or a competitor, but as a person to encounter, a world to discover. All of us humans have a pilgrimage to accomplish within ourselves, the long pilgrimage from the head to the heart, from the thinking head to the loving heart,' he concluded.

Japan Management Association training

A training course for senior Japanese managers under the auspices of the Japan Management Association (JMA) was integrated into this conference. It was the fourth time that Caux had hosted such an event. Course leader, Professor Atsushi Funakawa, described the challenges of intercultural understanding which face leaders in a globalized economy, adding that Caux presented ideal opportunities to learn to deal with issues of international relations and potential conflict through honest conversations with a wide variety of people. Funakawa recalled that the previous year a colleague had asked him why the training was held in Caux. 'I am here to wash my heart!' Funakawa had replied. He closed with the words 'we do not need brainwashing, but we do need a regular washing of the heart and soul'.



Genevieve LeBaron



Participants enjoying the new Caux Internet Café



Antoine Jaulmes



Allick Sytor



William Morris



13 July – 18 July 2007

Building Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy

The Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy conference focused on the initiatives individuals can take towards meeting the needs of humanity in an increasingly globalized economy. The conference challenged business to go beyond the bottom line to work towards a more secure world. About 240 participants from 52 countries took part, sharing personal stories of transformation leading to new initiatives in the workplace, in promoting value-based business practices, accountability in the media and resolving economic and other conflicts.

In her opening address [w], Genevieve LeBaron from York University in Toronto, said she had wondered since childhood why in some parts of the world people had far more than they needed to survive while elsewhere people were dying from starvation and from war. 'Building a global economy which has integrity and in which we can trust is an absolutely crucial and

fundamental part of promoting sustainable security around the world,' she said. Quoting IoFC initiator Frank Buchman that 'you can plan a new world on paper but you have got to build it out of people', LeBaron emphasized this was what the conference aimed to achieve.

Bernard Koechlin, Honorary Chairman of Implenia SA, offered his experiences of making contemporary business work in a framework of integrity. Koechlin, who is also a member of the board of the Swiss Chapter of Transparency International, called on management schools to 'better emphasize that the aim of business is to provide the community with products and services that are useful and valuable'.

Speaking on Environmental Initiatives of Change, Antoine Jaulmes, an engineer with PSA Peugeot Citroën, explained how his company is trying to address the ecological footprint



Caux Interns meet on the terrace



The sound of service



A distinctive feature of Caux is the voluntary service, by conference participants and interns, in the practical running of the house.

'So many conflicts in the world have their roots in the lack of human security. That is why this conference is so important...we are discussing here the root causes, and seeking solutions.'

Mohamed Sahnoun

of the industry. Jaulmes outlined several ideas the firm was following towards building more environment-friendly cars. Bernard Margueritte, President of the ICF (International Communications Forum) – a network of media people that met in parallel to the conference – discussed the role of the media as an agent of change in addressing environmental issues. Alick Sytor, Senior Consultant of Brussels based Galilei-Randstad, highlighted three challenges facing the 'workplace of the 21st century': 1) The challenge of being 'skilled not stuck' in the new economy, as technology and globalization open more opportunities for some to build their skills, but reduce the supply of lower-end jobs. 2) The challenge of 'flexibility and family', as employers seek more flexibility to compete in the global marketplace, and workers pursue more opportunities to spend time with their families. 3) The challenge of 'destiny and diversity',

as employers hire from a more diverse pool of workers in the future, creating new opportunities for economic growth but also raising the potential for discrimination and inequality. 'The challenge today is to invest in the workers ... already participating in the workforce, and to identify and tap into untapped labour pools around the world,' he concluded. William Morris, Secretary General of the Next Century Foundation that facilitates conflict resolution and reconciliation in the Middle East, spoke of the radical polarization dividing the region. 'The world of Islam has become the enemy of the hegemonic West; we and our children have grown to relish our new enemy,' Morris warned. But there was hope, he suggested, noting the new impetus behind the so-called Arab Plan alongside a political will in Israel for peace. 'We must talk to all, and we must listen,' he emphasized. [w]



20 July – 24 July 2007

A Grassroots Dialogue of Civilizations

In July 2005, Kofi Annan called for ‘an alliance of civilizations’ against divisions, prejudice and misunderstanding between different groups that menace the peace of the world – notably between the West and the Muslim world. In Europe, as elsewhere, this works out in social inequalities and tensions between groups from different origins. In a world where different cultures live side by side, a society where each feels at home still has to be created.

To move beyond a spirit of confrontation and lack of mutual understanding, an open-hearted dialogue must start between all who seek to bridge differences. We must learn the art of listening to each other, and have the courage to talk about the things that make our relationships difficult: the roots of our fears, the feelings of injustice and humiliation. Each of us, as citizens, has a role to play to build an alliance of

civilizations. In humility, as we question our own attitudes and points of view, we build trust.

Caux provides a safe space, a meeting point for honest conversations between people of different backgrounds. All are invited to come in a spirit of openness, travelling both towards the other and towards a deeper understanding of ourselves. Caux offers opportunities to change the images we have of each other; to go to the roots of our fears and frustrations; to appreciate the riches of our differences; to tackle problems of history in a spirit of trust and pacification; to identify the values we share in common with an aim of passing them on to future generations.

The conference followed *A Heart and a Soul for Europe* (2003) and *The Spiritual Factor in Secular Society – Can religions be partners in peace building?* (2005). The 2007 conference was in



Christian Lochon and Béçhir Labidi



The 2007 Caux Scholars Program

Tiffany Kizito, a Canadian of Ugandan roots, writes of her experience in the month-long Caux Scholars Program, which runs parallel to the Caux conferences. In its 16th year, the Program drew participants from South and Central Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, North and Central America.

During the past four and a half weeks, we have all learned about strategic peace-building and conflict transformation, about mediation and leadership, cultural identity, empathy and the importance of developing relationships and engaging in honest conversation.

We have listened to people of all generations speak about their experiences in conflict situations, the role they played and the lessons they learned. I have watched as people cried out of pain, sadness and frustration. People were thankful for the opportunity to share their stories.

At Caux, you're able to establish a great network. Each person who comes to Mountain House has either already been working to make changes within their community, or has made a conscious decision to do so. We bounce ideas off each other, borrow ideas and tailor them to our particular situations; we listen, we support one another.

As I begin my descent down the mountain, I have no choice but to reflect upon what I've learned. About the tools I take with me and how I will be able to contribute to my community, who I will have to mobilize and why I feel it important to help make certain changes. We're all aware there will be obstacles to surpass and risks we'll have to take along the way. We will be faced with discrimination, racism, hatred, and some of us, violence. But, in preparing for re-integration into the real world, I'm left with the words of Kofi Annan, 'As individuals, we are not powerless.' This I believe.



Hamid Slimi, Bill Porter, and Abduljalil Sajid

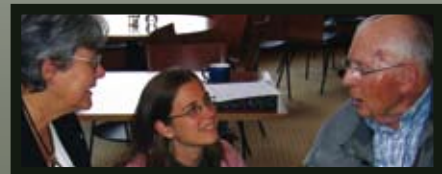
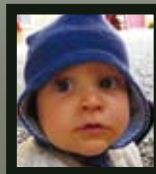


part a 'working session', an exchange between those involved in different lofC initiatives about their grassroots work. An 'alliance of civilizations' can only become a reality if the groundwork is done through hundreds of grassroots initiatives.

The most important element in the conference was the large group from France, from the team conducting the Initiative Dialogue [w], an lofC programme in the Paris region. There was a real meeting of hearts and minds with the smaller group from Britain involved in the Hope in the Cities network. Two ground-rules for the dialogues were appreciation of 'the other', and a clear-sighted view of our own group's weaknesses, rather than denunciations of others. Perhaps the most important exchanges took place in the confidentiality of the community groups, where difficult and thorny questions – like the Islamic head-scarf – could be discussed honestly.

Imam Hamid Slimi, the Imam of the International Muslims Organization of Toronto and the current Chairman of the Canadian Council of Imams, was another of those who took part, with a Canadian delegation. Slimi, who has his own television programme, interviewed many participants. 'Look how much common ground there is,' Slimi told participants, challenging them to take off their masks, and 'move away from mistrust and hate'.

A highlight for many was hearing a Muslim say from the platform: 'I've become aware Christian brothers suffer from the fact that their fellow-believers suffer in Muslim-majority countries. I commit to informing myself more about these problems ... we cannot demand to be welcomed and respected in Western democracies without being concerned by the way Christians are treated in our countries.'



26 July – 2 August 2007

Openness and Trust across Generations

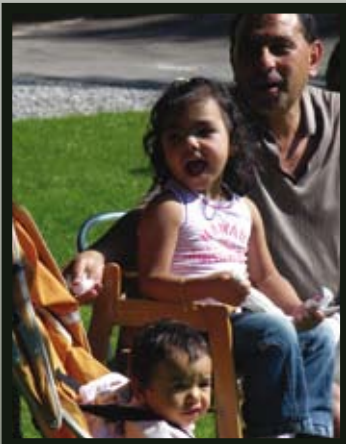
More than 400 participants aged between one and 92 years attended the Openness and Trust across Generations conference.

The organizers, a largely Scandinavian team, linked the healthy functioning of democracy with a citizenry 'who think beyond their own immediate interests and take responsibility for the whole'. This, in turn, depended on trust between generations. 'Where communication between generations is poor, the young are handicapped by insufficient knowledge of the past. And the old will be forced into premature passivity by insufficient understanding of a rapidly changing world,' read the conference invitation.

'We live in an extremely individualistic society,' said Julie Wilhelmsen, Research Fellow at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and mother of four children. She

noted the danger, in Norway, of each generation developing its own culture. The retired move to Spain to enjoy life and 'the young develop a culture of their own, inaccessible to others. Even the children have their own culture.' For many, she said, 'the result is loneliness'. [w]

The conference modelled intergenerational dialogue by enlisting the clown-like figure of 'Mr Incredible' to tackle serious themes: how to pass on values to new generations; building bridges between different cultures; and the environment. The creative energies of children and adults were employed in a range of workshops creating video productions, making angels and monsters, a 1st August lantern procession and bonfire celebration of Swiss National Day and a performance of the musical play *Give a Dog a Bone* (see the photo montage directly opposite).





David Camppt



E O Folorunso



Visier Sanyü



Barry Hart



Musharraf Hussain

4 August – 11 August 2007

Tools for Change

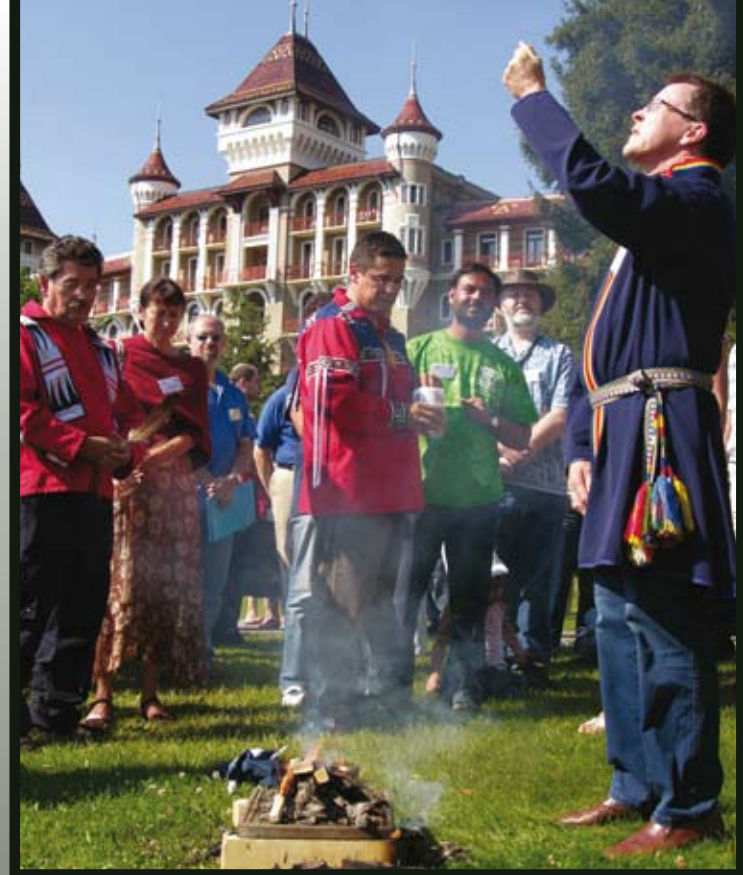
‘**W**hat are the tools that we need to change the world?’ was the focus of the Tools for Change conference which involved some 380 participants from around 70 countries. These included a group of nine Brazilians – several of them leaders in the favelas – who left ‘as a team with a strategy’, people from conflict zones in Africa and two young women from a developing team in Vietnam that is engaged in a Cambodia–Vietnam dialogue process.

Morning plenary sessions and facilitated group discussions were followed, in the afternoons, by a choice of ten courses in five ‘learning tracks’ which enabled participants to focus on developing particular skill-sets. The diverse international faculty included Barry Hart, Professor of Conflict and Trauma studies at Eastern Mennonite University, Dr David Camppt, former policy associate with (US) President Clinton’s

Initiative on Race, two film-makers from Sweden, Danièle de Lutzel from France – who led a workshop on multicultural communications – and Ren-Jou Liu from Taiwan who led a workshop on Learning and Healing in Family Roots, giving participants a chance to heal deep wounds from childhood and gain new sensitivity to other people’s needs. [w]

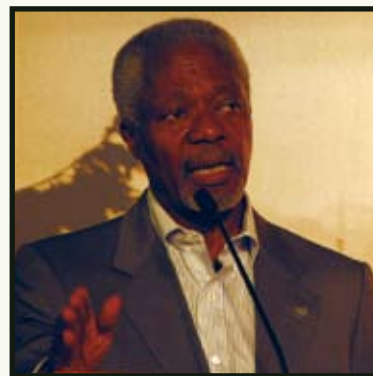
The learning tracks focused on **Peacebuilding, Conflict, Trauma and History** (including a Peace Circle for women of different cultures to explore how to create peace at home, work, or in the wider community), **Honest Conversation and Dialogue Facilitation, Mobilizing and Maintaining Networks for Action, Communicating a Vision, Telling the Story** and **Inner Resources for Change**.

In a plenary on values, Imam Musharraf Hussain, a President of the Christian Muslim Forum in Britain, emphasized that Islamic



Kofi Annan visits CAUX

Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, was welcomed to Caux on 8 August by his friends Cornelio Sommaruga (centre right), Honorary Chairman of *IofC International*, and its President, Mohamed Sahnoun.



Addressing a packed afternoon plenary session Annan commented 'you don't have to be Secretary-General of the UN' to be a good global citizen. When something goes wrong in our societies, we should not just turn to governments, he suggested. 'We should all

ask ourselves what we can do.' Referring to previous speakers who had shared experiences of the power of forgiveness, Annan said these young people were 'good examples of this global citizenship'. Asked by Australian Aboriginal Ray Minniecon about the role of indigenous peoples, he responded that a lot of the world's environmental degradation would never have happened if governments had listened to the world's indigenous peoples.



Ray Minniecon

teachings on peace and harmony were the same as in the Judeo-Christian traditions. On the issue of terror and violence he warned that 'no noble goals can be met by evil means'. Throughout the week participants met in small groups, sharing with each other their expectations and decisions related to the daily themes of Creating Space for Change, Values for Peacemakers, Guidance Systems, Trustbuilding, and Networks for Action. There was great appreciation of the inclusiveness that made space for diverse people and ideas. On the last day, participants were invited to write honest letters to themselves to remind them of the decisions they had made during the week. These letters were sent from Caux after the participants arrived home. One participant described it as 'an echo from the mountain' while another confided, 'This will hurt! But I'll open it.'

Global Indigenous Dialogue (GID)

Running parallel to the conference, the GID was an opportunity for indigenous peoples to share insights and bring their unique perspectives on global affairs built around a core focus on the spiritual. The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, 9 August, was marked by a sacred pipe ceremony led by elders of the Cree nation from Canada and a public Caux Lecture on the Voice of the Voiceless [w] by Dr Visier Sanyü from Nagaland, in the north-east of India. Sanyü warned that the world's indigenous peoples had become 'a time bomb which can explode at any moment'. He noted the paradox of people who were 'colonized, marginalized, dispossessed of culture, suffering from spiritual dislocation', yet had 'an unbroken link with the past, a culture of respect for nature, and a deep sense of spiritual awareness for the future'.



Sushobha Barve



Miriam Zwane



Merri Minuskin



Sylvester Turner



Habib Chirzin

13 August – 19 August 2007

Can Integrity, Respect and Justice lead to *Dignity for all?*

Humiliation has been described as the ‘nuclear bomb’ of feelings. The final conference of the Caux season, organized by IofC’s Agenda for Reconciliation network, recognized humiliation as a major threat to peace while searching for ways to achieve reconciliation and help people regain dignity. The themes resonated with many. Africans and Asians shared openly what they felt. The pain of colonialism and the slave trade is still remembered alongside present inequalities and humiliations. Yet the tone of the conference was not angry or accusing. Many who attended were from conflict zones. Twenty-seven Somalis gave a workshop on how they had learned to work together across clan barriers. A group from Sierra Leone spoke of their work for reconciliation and in support of the recent elections by campaigning against corruption. Other participants came from Sudan, the African Great Lakes region and the Middle East.

In the opening address, Sushobha Barve, Founder of the Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation in New Delhi, discussed the ‘emerging story’ of a peace process between India and Pakistan. ‘Borders will be irrelevant in 20 years’ time – that is the story of tomorrow,’ she claimed. Barve recalled a recent conference where delegates from the disputed Kashmir region complained their future was being worked out without their views being heard. When Indian and Pakistani delegates explained the problems they faced to accommodate their demands the Kashmiris responded, ‘Why do you not take us into your confidence? Tell us what your difficulties are and trust us to take them into consideration, while searching for a just solution that satisfies all the three parties.’ This element of willingness to risk trusting another party ‘held the key’ to bridging divides in the world today, Barve concluded. [w]



Aleya El Bindari Hammad with Mohamed Sahnoun



Focus on Religion and Culture

In a plenary which looked at the role of religion and culture in conflict, Prof Gerrie ter Haar from the Netherlands pleaded for more openness in the West towards religious approaches to conflict resolution. She cited an example from Uganda where attempts at reconciliation based on traditional spiritual practices were being jeopardized by the demand for justice inherent in the international legal framework. 'Exploring religious resources for peace seems ...one of the most urgent tasks of our time,' she said. [w]

Prof Nasr Abu Zayd, a leading liberal Islamic thinker based in the Netherlands, spoke in Arabic about Islam's long tradition of open debate and research involving many different schools. 'Scriptures do not speak for themselves,' he suggested, 'they speak out through the voice of believers.' He deplored that in the Netherlands, some politicians and members of the elite 'deny the existence of any other mode of Islam than the literalist, legalist, and most radical'. [w]

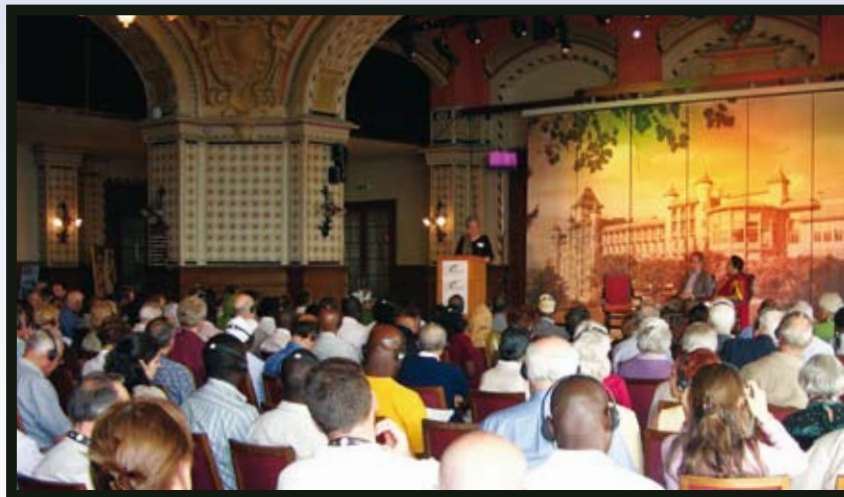
Together with Chief Rabbi Marc Raphael Guedj from Geneva and Rev Binsar Pakpahan from Indonesia, Abu Zayd led a workshop on **Beyond tolerance: what discourse do we need to fight fundamentalism?** – a title proposed by the Chief Rabbi who believes tolerance is an inadequate response to fundamentalism. The answer, according to Rabbi Guedj, is to go deeper into the spiritual core of religion. 'Fundamentalists are fascinated by dogma and rituals, but they are not rooted in spirituality and so their roots are petrified. Openness to others is a characteristic of people who have strong spiritual roots,' he said. [w]

His Royal Highness, Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I, King of Bunyoro-Kitara in Uganda (far left), attended the conference with a party that included his Prime Minister (2nd from left). Like many other participants he left Caux with fresh ideas of what he could do for his people.

Merri Minuskin from Israel, Founder and Director of CERC (Centre of Education for Reconciliation and Cooperation), led a workshop on Reconciliation and Cooperation in the Middle East. Her audience, which included people from Arab countries, was moved to tears as she openly shared her sorrow and regret for the injustice, suffering and humiliation her country has inflicted.

Rev Dr Sylvester Turner, a descendent of slaves, from Richmond, USA, introduced the film *Amazing Grace* about the struggle of British MP William Wilberforce to abolish the slave trade 200 years ago. He also spoke of lofC's Hope in the Cities programme's work to heal race relations in the USA, which included helping to create a 'reconciliation triangle' between Richmond, Liverpool in the UK and Benin in West Africa to recognize the suffering and enduring legacy of the slave trade.

Aleya El-Bindari Hammad, a former Executive Director of the World Health Organization, spoke of the 'dehumanization' caused by present-day human trafficking of around 2.5 million people each year, about 20 per cent of whom are women trafficked into prostitution. It is possible to rebuild infrastructures, she said, but 'very difficult to mend broken lives'. Hammad warned that humiliation and injustice mean some have 'hearts filled with anger and hate ... ready to destroy their lives and those of others'. Hammad co-founded the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement to help address these issues. Mirriam Zwane, from South Africa, spoke of the Babuyile reintegration programme for former detainees that she started. Habib Chirzin, one of Indonesia's human rights commissioners, told how the commission kept its independence by refusing bribes and declining armed escorts on fact-finding missions.



About Initiatives of Change

Initiatives of Change (IoC) is a diverse, global network committed to building trust across the world's divides. Active in over 60 countries, it comprises people of many cultures, nations, beliefs and backgrounds transforming society through changes in individuals and relationships, starting in their own lives.

In 1938 as Europe prepared for war Frank Buchman, its originator, launched a campaign for 'moral and spiritual re-armament' as the way to build a 'hate-free, fear-free, greed-free world'.

Following World War II, Moral Re-Armament (MRA), as it became known, worked for reconciliation between France and Germany, and between Japan and some of its Asian neighbours. It was involved in the process of decolonization, and in forging industrial teamwork and harmonious race relations. It was also active in inter-religious relations and in the struggle for the rights of indigenous peoples.

In all these cases, what made the difference was the reality that each person, whatever their situation, has a role to play. Through changes in behaviour and mindsets, individuals and groups in conflict found a way to bridge their divides. Change isn't easy and a spiritual dynamic is required to overcome inertia. Daily quiet times to seek inner inspiration and a commitment to ethical practice can provide that dynamic.

Organization and Funding

CAUX – Initiatives of Change is a charitable Swiss foundation based in Lucerne, Switzerland. The foundation, in addition to sharing the aims of the network, owns and manages the conference centre in Caux, putting this meeting place at the disposal of conference participants from all over the world.

Based in Caux, with its main office in Geneva, *IoC International* is the umbrella body federating the national legal bodies of *Initiatives of Change*. It has Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), and Participatory Status at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

IoC is financed by a combination of individual contributions, foundations and governments, as well as income from invested funds, mostly received from bequests. The Swiss foundation is financed by the contributions of conference participants and of national legal bodies of *Initiatives of Change*, by special donations, and legacies, as well as by the lease of the conference centre to the Swiss Hotel Management School (SHMS) for 10 months of the year. Audited accounts are available from: www.caux.ch

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