



Initiatives of Change International Conference Centre, Caux, Switzerland

PROGRAMME SUPPLEMENTS – CAUX CONFERENCES 2008

Introduction

The purpose of this conference is to discover what is required to create a secure environment in which people everywhere can develop and prosper.

To this end, it will seek a clear diagnosis of the root causes of human insecurity, focusing on five inter-related areas:

- Social, economic and governance factors
- Environmental factors
- Cultural and religious factors
 - Armed conflicts
- Wounded memories.

It will then seek to discern priorities in the responses needed in each of these areas.

18 – 23 July 2008

Addressing the Root Causes of Human Insecurity

Programme Supplement (Version of 27 February 2008)

Background

The end of the Cold War almost 20 years ago has not brought the peace and prosperity for which humanity yearns. Daunting challenges confront the 21st century, from economic under-development, bad governance and global warming to terrorism and cultural conflicts. Underlying these challenges is a deep human insecurity which is felt not only in the developing world.

How do we understand this insecurity and how can we give content to the great aim of human security? How to articulate its foundations? How to give it practical expression? These are among the questions that motivate this first *Caux Forum for Human Security*.

To find a preventive strategy that could tackle the root causes of insecurity and help manage conflicts and save millions of lives will require unprecedented trust and collaboration among all nations and actors. We need a truly global synergy that gives every person an opportunity to contribute to peace and human security. This conference will explore what it will take to create such synergy.

This supplement is part of the general programme of the International Caux Conferences 2008, which can be downloaded at www.caux.ch/2008

Addressing the Root Causes of Human Insecurity

International Conference in Caux, Switzerland, 18 July (16.45) – 23 July (noon) 2008

Method

Three or four personalities will open each session with informal remarks of no more than ten minutes. A dialogue among the panellists will then be moderated by an experienced media personality before discussion is opened up to all participants, sometimes in plenary session and sometimes in smaller groups.

In the tradition of Caux, the accent will be on listening and dialogue. Since its beginnings after the Second World War, Caux has encouraged reflection, a personal acceptance of responsibility, and a shared commitment to work for solutions. People from different backgrounds come together around a common conviction that change can start in their own lives.

The Caux conference centre offers a unique atmosphere and spirit. This will be a conference in community where many of the participants take part in the practical running of the house (see the general programme).

Aims

The main aim of this conference is to help participants to think of human security in fresh, innovative ways, drawing on the unique experiences of Caux in working for reconciliation over the last 60 years.

It is the first in a series planned over the next five years which aim to offer Caux as a resource for all those working around the world for peace and human security. *Initiatives of Change* hopes that this might lead to the *Caux Forum for Human Security*, a forum helping to contribute towards changing the traditional logic of diplomacy by encouraging greater listening, and taking into account past hurts.

For information about the venue, the cost of participation and *Initiatives of Change*: Please consult the general conference programme downloadable at www.caux.ch/2008

Daily Themes

- Fri 18 July** How we understand and experience human insecurity
- Sat 19 July** Human insecurity induced by social and economic conditions, as well as degradation of the environment
- Sun 20 July** Human insecurity in a world of religious and cultural differences
- Mon 21 July** Human insecurity linked with armed conflict
- Tue 22 July** Human insecurity springing from wounded memories
- Wed 23 July** Conclusions and next steps

Who Should Attend?

This conference will bring together those at all levels who seek to build peace and human security worldwide. Many leading personalities and experienced mediators from the United Nations, bi-lateral and multi-lateral development institutions, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society are expected, as are those working at the grass roots. Spiritual leaders, philosophers, educators, economists and journalists will all contribute to a clearer understanding of the problems of humanity, and through dialogue seek to mobilize a genuine human solidarity.

The number of participants in this conference will be limited to ensure conditions for a healthy dialogue. Once applications have come in to the secretariat, you will receive a confirmation.

Application, Costs, Visas

Please consult the main conference programme for the costs of participation and the application form. This can be obtained at the address below, or on-line at www.caux.ch/2008.

For those needing Swiss visas, please remember to apply at least ten weeks prior to the conference, i.e. before the end of April. For those travelling overland and needing visas, please remember to apply for a double-entry Schengen visas from one of the Schengen country embassies.

Contact and Further Information

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(from 26 June 2008)

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