

# Leading Issues Journal

September 2003 Issue

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## World Population Day 2003

Statement by Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of UNFPA

11 July 2003

Today, on World Population Day, let us focus on the rights and needs of young people. There are more young people today than ever before and they deserve recognition and support. Half of the 6.3 billion people sharing our planet are under the age of 25. Over one billion are between the ages of 10 and 19--the largest youth generation in human history.

Working together, we must support adolescents to achieve their dreams for a better life. If they are prepared with knowledge, choices and opportunities, they can live healthy and productive lives and contribute to a more stable world. If, on the other

hand, their needs and concerns are ignored or given low priority, the disservice done is to us all.

At the most basic level, every young person has the right to education and health. Yet, far too many young people are deprived of schooling and adequate health care, and the consequences are devastating. Each day, over 70,000 teenage girls are married, many against their will, and nearly 40,000 give birth. For these young women, this means an incomplete education, limited opportunities and serious health risks. Assisting girls to complete secondary schooling and delay marriage and childbirth can help break the cycle of poor health, illiteracy and poverty. Stronger efforts are also needed to confront sexual violence, exploitation and abuse.

Another great risk and challenge is HIV/AIDS. Today, half of all new HIV infections occur among young people. Each day, 6,000 young women and men are newly infected. These facts alone demonstrate the need for greater education, information and services to help young people protect their health. In countries where national programmes target and involve youth, infection rates are declining. By educating, empowering and mobilizing young people, we can turn the AIDS epidemic around.

Young people have a right to reproductive health information and services. Studies repeatedly show that education about sexuality and reproduction does not increase irresponsible behaviour. On the contrary, it helps young people to make responsible, healthy decisions.

Today, on World Population Day, I invite leaders to listen to young people's concerns and hopes and put in place laws, policies and programmes that support their well-being and participation and protect their human rights.

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## **Making 1 Billion Count: Investing in Adolescents' Health and Rights**

**1 billion adolescents are about to enter their reproductive years**

### **The State of World Population 2003**

Over 1.2 billion adolescents—one person in five—are making the transition from childhood to adulthood. How well we prepare them to face adult challenges in a fast changing world will shape humanity's common future. Adolescents must be enabled to avoid early pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS while being given skills, opportunities and a real say in development plans, stresses *The State of World Population 2003* report by UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund.

The report, *Making 1 Billion Count: Investing in Adolescents' Health and Rights*, will be released on 8 October, on the web and at press events in London and other cities around the world.

Adolescents are a diverse group. Millions of girls in poor countries still get married and give birth in their teens, interrupting their education and endangering their health. For many other girls and boys, the trend is towards later marriage but greater exposure to the risks of unprotected sexual activity. All, whether rich or poor, married or not, urban or rural, in school or out, have a right to information and services to safeguard their sexual and reproductive health. Girls and young women need better protection against discrimination, coercion and gender-based violence.

Actions to ensure these human rights can have tremendous practical benefits, empowering individuals, promoting gender equality, stemming the HIV/AIDS pandemic, reinforcing an uneven global trend towards smaller families, reducing poverty and improving prospects for economic progress, the report shows.

Around the world, innovative programmes are teaching adolescents about reproductive health and showing how relevant health services can be made more “youth-friendly” to increase their use. Laws and policies are being revised to give greater attention to adolescents’ needs and rights. Not investing in such efforts will perpetuate poverty, inequality, unsustainable population growth and HIV/AIDS.

After 8 October the full report will be available for free at [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)

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## **Empowering Youth about their Sexuality**

### **Adolescent Reproductive Health**

Ignoring young people’s sexuality does not solve their problems. Among girls aged 15 to 19, 15 million give birth each year and 4 million undergo abortions—many unsafe. Only 17 per cent of sexually active young people use contraceptives. With limited knowledge about their bodies, adolescents are vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections, substance abuse, exploitation and violence. Both girls and boys suffer when denied access to needed information and services. Gender has a major impact, however: 82 million girls in developing countries will be married before their 18th birthday.

### **Youth Participation**

With energy, ambition and a will to change, young people can shape the future of their countries. They are making a difference as peer educators helping others avoid unwanted pregnancy and STIs, as actors in plays on HIV/AIDS prevention, as speakers asking politicians to listen. Most of the world’s 1 billion young people live in developing countries. Young people (especially adolescent girls) need a voice in decisions affecting their lives and opportunities to participate as citizens and actors of change. The benefits for all include human rights, social cohesion and stability, and productive adults contributing to development.

Involve young people in decision-making processes • Educate to improve knowledge and life skills • Engage in dialogue • Promote girls' empowerment and gender equality • Facilitate youth leadership, citizenship and partnership with adults • Reduce poverty and increase opportunities • Recognize differences based on age, gender and culture • Enlist parents, teachers and communities in support of young people's participation

Involve young people in planning and producing events for World Population Day on 11 July 2003.

- Engage artists, writers, actors, painters and musicians to work together with young people in creating messages for the day.
- Organize public contests for the best posters, essays, songs, speeches, plays, poems, slogans and artwork about young people and reproductive health. Offer prizes or publication and arrange local media coverage.
- Hold workshops, debates, lectures, seminars, round table discussions and press conferences.
- Write case studies and examples that tell the story of a person or programme. Use quotes, set the scene, describe the people and the process. Work with journalists to create special materials or supplements for newspapers and magazines.
- Produce programmes for radio, television and film.
- Share information and link to the UNFPA web site ([www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)).
- Encourage discussions among young people inside and outside school.

### **Send us your success story**

Real success stories inspire action. UNFPA is collecting summaries of reproductive health activities showing positive results, whether implemented with governments, NGOs, schools, community groups or individuals. Please write up your experiences and send them to [dungus@unfpa.org](mailto:dungus@unfpa.org)

Source: UNFPA

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## **2003 Human Development Index Reveals Development Crisis**

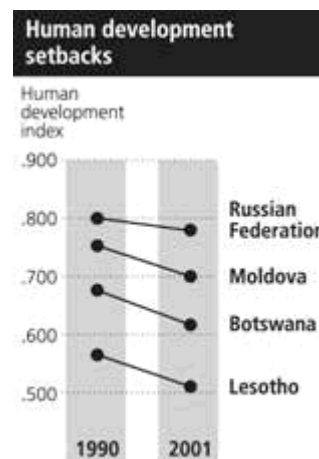
***21 countries suffered socio-economic reversals in the 1990s***

***New York, 8 July 2003***

The world is facing an acute development crisis, with many poor nations suffering severe and continuing socio-economic reversals, warns the *Human Development Report 2003*.

The Report's annual Human Development Index (HDI), measuring the progress of nations on key social and economic indicators, shows that 21 countries experienced declines in the 1990s. In the 1980s, only four countries tracked by UNDP showed similar decade-long declines.

"Reversals in HDI are highly unusual as these indicators generally tend to edge up slowly over time," said Mark Malloch Brown, UNDP Administrator. "The fact that over the course of the 1990's, 21 countries experienced a decline—in some cases a drastic drop—signifies an urgent call for action to address health and education as well as income levels in these countries."



Source: Indicator table 2.

The 2003 Human Development Index ranks 175 countries for 2001, the most recent year of available data. The top and the bottom of the Index remain unchanged from last year: Norway is on top and Sierra Leone is on the bottom.

The Index, developed in 1990, takes stock of fundamental aspects of human development in countries both rich and poor. The Index is a composite measure of life expectancy, education and income per-person.

- Almost all of the "low human development" countries at the bottom of the Index are in sub-Saharan Africa:

30 out of a total of 34.

- Roughly half of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean recorded either a decline or stagnation in income during the 1990s.

- Eastern Europe and Central Asia saw an overall decline in the 2003 Human Development Index resulting from falling per capita income. The decline was particularly steep in Moldova, Tajikistan, Russian Federation and the Ukraine.

In sub-Saharan Africa, the devastation of the HIV/AIDS pandemic is responsible for the declines in the 2003 Human Development Index. Life expectancy has fallen dramatically with HIV/AIDS incidence rates as high as one in five in some countries.

South Africa, for instance, fell 28 ranks from 1990 primarily because more people were dying younger from AIDS-related illnesses.

Period	Number	Countries
1980–1990	4	Congo, Dem. Rep. of; Guyana; Rwanda; Zambia
1990–2001	21	Armenia <sup>a</sup> ; Belarus <sup>a</sup> ; Botswana; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Congo; Congo, Dem. Rep. of; Côte d'Ivoire; Kazakhstan <sup>a</sup> ; Kenya; Lesotho; Moldova; Russian Federation; South Africa; Swaziland; Tajikistan <sup>a</sup> ; Tanzania <sup>a</sup> ; Ukraine <sup>a</sup> ; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Note: Based on a sample of 113 countries with complete data.  
a. Country does not have HDI data for 1980–1990, so fall in HDI may have begun before 1990.  
Source: Indicator table 2.

Declines in the Index for Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe tell a similar story. Yet there was also positive news from the developing world in the 2003 Human Development Index, with countries from all continents registering major gains since 1990:

- Benin, Ghana, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda have all significantly improved their rankings.
- Bangladesh, China, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand also moved up over the last decade.
- Brazil recorded a big jump in the Human Development Index—due mainly to its education efforts. Bolivia and Peru also improved their positions as a result of social policy reforms over the same period.

In the *Human Development Report 2003*, two other indices shed light on important aspects of development:

- *The Human Poverty Index (HPI) for rich countries* which ranks them according to their national levels of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and life-expectancy.

Sweden comes in at the top while the United States finishes last. The Report notes that Sweden, despite a lower per capita income than the United States, has, on average, more adults who are functionally literate and fewer living in poverty. This Index shows that even in middle or high income countries, inequity persists.

- *The Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) which shows women's participation in the political and economic arenas.* Data from this year's GEM shows discrimination

against women persists despite high national ranking on the Human Development Index. Many poor countries outperform far richer countries. In terms of participation and inclusion, women fare better in Botswana, Costa Rica and Namibia than they do in Greece, Italy and Japan.

“For the highly developed countries, the GEM and the HPI are much more meaningful measures of human development than the main Human Development Index,” said lead author, Sakiko Fukuda Parr. “These indices show that two countries can have similar human development ranking, but still differ sharply on the proportion of their citizens who remain excluded and lack opportunities.”

To view the Report see: <http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/>

Source:UN

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## **Mandela through a Gender Lens**

**By Colleen Lowe Morna**

Colleen Lowe Morna, Director of Gender Links, a Southern African NGO that promotes gender equality in and through the media has written this article about what impresses her the most about Nelson Mandela in his 85th year. She writes,

*"As we prepare for Women's Day on 9 August, and for the celebration of ten years of democracy on 27 April 2004, let us take two lessons from Nelson's Mandela's life. One is to challenge our own socialisation, as he did, by striving for equal representation and partnership between women and men. The other is to feminise our understanding of leadership- the real secret behind the miracle that is Mandela."*

## **Mandela through a Gender Lens**

**By Colleen Lowe Morna**

**Colleen Lowe Morna is director of Gender Links, a Southern African NGO**

**that promotes gender equality in and through the media.**

There is a scene that has remained etched in my memory from my younger days as a reporter. It is only recently, as we celebrate Nelson Mandela's 85th birthday while neighbouring Zimbabwe crumbles under the hand of a strongman that I have begun to understand the significance of this scene.

Soon after his release from jail, Mandela paid an official visit to Zimbabwe as leader of the African National Congress (ANC). As he emerged from the flight, a group of

South African women in exile broke forth from behind the barrier shouting "Comrade Nelson." They embraced and kissed him, in a show of affection and patriotism that transcended time, place, local norms and culture. Visibly uncomfortable, host President Robert Mugabe stood stiffly at a distance, barely managing a smile.

Moments later, the two men walked down the red carpet and onto cloths bearing Mugabe's image that had been laid on the ground by kneeling women, the party faithful of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU). Then it was Mandela's turn to show extreme discomfort.

There is a saying that no nation ever rises above the extent to which it holds women in bondage. It follows that the attitude of our overwhelmingly male leaders towards their female compatriots must be one of the key yardsticks of their leadership. If that is so, it is sad indeed that in the Independent newspapers special supplement on Mandela carried by every newspaper across the country last week only one out of the ten "eminent" people asked to pay tribute to Mandela was a woman- his wife, Graca Machel.

Perhaps the argument is that women are scarce among the ranks of those who count as powerful. Yet Madiba's greatest legacy is not his power, but his understanding and sharing of power, not only among people of different races, but also among women and men. One of the commentators in the supplement, Constitutional Court Judge Albie Sachs, captures poignantly Mandela's personal journey in understanding equality of the sexes, from the days when he would say things like "no man worth his salt" should accept certain terms of the constitutional negotiations, to becoming the husband of a woman who does not bear- nor want to bear - his surname.

This little - commented upon journey is one of the more amazing stories of Mandela's life. Like all our leaders, of every racial and ethnic hue, he came from deeply patriarchal roots. Not being able to provide for his family during 27 years of incarceration must have weighed heavily on Mandela's sense of "manhood". While gender equality gradually started to hit the radar screen in the world outside, one wonders how much of that discussion ever seeped behind the iron bars of Robben Island.

Mandela emerged to the personal tragedy of his second marriage. Yet, whatever his differences with Winnie Mandela, he showed the utmost personal respect for her and her contribution to the struggle. Mandela's third marriage to Graca Machel took him a step further in his journey towards understanding gender equality.

She is from another country, Mozambique. She is the only woman in the world to have been a "first lady" twice. She is her own person; some speculate that she has political ambitions of her own in Mozambique. Theirs is a commuter marriage- they spend equal amounts of time at each other's homes. They share common humanitarian interests. Yet they have their own distinct schedules. There is no first among equals. They are equals in a caring, mutually supportive relationship.



Mandela jokes that in his next life he will send Machel to take cooking lessons. He knows of course that what he means is in his last life.

Times have changed, irreversibly, and Mandela has been a profound part of that change. It is a well-known fact in ANC circles that Mandela tried to push for a fifty percent quota for women in the elections, settling for thirty percent when it became apparent that the latter would not fly. Yet Mandela's legacy is not just the space he has created for South African women to participate in public life and as citizens. It is his understanding of leadership.

In her brief and typically reserved tribute to her husband, Graca Machel observes that the difference between her husband and other politicians is that when he kisses babies he does so not for the cameras, but because he genuinely cares.

There is much discussion in the study of leadership about the difference between IQ- intelligence quotient, and EQ- emotional quotient. Most leaders come with a fair dose of the former. Mugabe, with six university degrees, is a case in point. He is clearly a clever politician. But he is a dismal leader.

Mandela's legacy is not his brilliance. His legacy is his high EQ. It is why, for example, he sees beyond the petty politics that have haunted the fight against HIV/AIDS towards what has to be done. People are at the centre of his understanding of politics. He leads from the heart, and not from the head. It does not take much IQ to figure out that EQ is an extremely rare ingredient in world politics and leadership. Studies go on to show that, because of their socialisation, women tend to be much higher on EQ than men. The fact that women are still sorely under-represented in decision-making is possibly one explanation for global leadership styles that are so lacking in that basic ingredient of care.

As we prepare for Women's Day on 9 August, and for the celebration of ten years of democracy on 27 April 2004, let us take two lessons from Nelson's Mandela's life. One is to challenge our own socialisation, as he did, by striving for equal representation and partnership between women and men. The other is to feminise our understanding of leadership- the real secret behind the miracle that is Mandela. If we did, the world would be a happier, and a safer place for us all.

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### **The Australian Republican Movement (ARM) Appoints New National Director**

The Chair of the Australian Republican Movement, Professor John Warhurst, announced on 21 July 2003 that the ARM has appointed Ms Allison Henry as its new National Director. Ms Henry will replace Mr Jim Terrie, the ARM's National Director since March 2000, who has resigned to take up an appointment with the International Crisis Group in Africa.

Professor Warhurst said, "After a public selection process which yielded some high quality candidates, we were able to select someone with the skills and dedication

required to run the organisation and capitalize on our regeneration since the 1999 Referendum. Allison Henry has been involved with all levels of the ARM since 1995. Her work within the organisation's NSW Council as NSW Forums Coordinator and most recently as NSW Convenor, in addition to her membership of the ARM's National Committee, has given her a good insight into the ARM's needs from the grass roots to the national level."

Ms Henry's professional background is primarily in law and international relations. Most recently she has worked as a country researcher and legal officer with a Commonwealth government agency. She has undergraduate degrees in Arts and Law, a Masters degree in International Studies and is currently undertaking postgraduate study in international law at the ANU.

Ms Henry said that she was looking forward to the challenge of her new role within the ARM. She stated that her priority was to continue to rebuild the ARM so that the organisation is ready for a future plebiscite regarding Australia's Head of State.

Professor Warhurst acknowledged the efforts of Jim Terrie, saying that Jim became National Director in the aftermath of the '99 loss and faced a difficult task in reorganizing the ARM and regenerating public interest in the campaign for an Australian Head of State. Since then he has dealt with a wide variety of organizational and political issues and leaves the ARM in a strong position to achieve its aims.

Professor Warhurst added that the ARM's immediate priority was to become actively involved in the Inquiry into the Republic to be undertaken shortly by the Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee. The work of this committee is an opportunity for the question of an Australian Head of State to return to the high priority that it deserves.

Allison Henry will commence as ARM National Director on Monday 4 August.

Source: "The Australian Republican Movement"

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## **Following the Footsteps of Young Indigenous Leaders**

**19 June, 2003 DEST**

The Minister for Education, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson and the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Larry Anthony, launched a publication telling the inspiring stories of young Indigenous leaders on 19 July 03.

*Fresh Footprints* profiles 60 young Indigenous role models and reflects on their values and personal qualities. The publication is a recommendation of the 2001-2002 National Indigenous Youth Leadership Group.

The Commonwealth, through the Department of Education, Science and Training and the Department of Family and Community Services, has contributed \$68,000 to the project.

Dr Nelson welcomed the publication as a showcase of young leaders in Indigenous communities and what they can achieve both for themselves and their communities.

"These young people and their outstanding achievements remind us that there is no emotion more fragile or as powerful, as that of hope. All Australians should be proud of what they have accomplished," the Minister said.

Mr Anthony praised the work of the co-authors, two young Indigenous journalists, Michelle Tyhuis and Kate Munroe.

"They have done a wonderful job in revealing the talented young people behind the stories — from young pilots, to recording artists and Olympians — thereby giving other young people the inspiration to achieve," Mr Anthony said.

**For more information about Fresh Footprints or the National Indigenous Youth Leadership Group, phone (free call) 1800 624 309 or visit [www.thesource.gov.au/niylg/index.htm](http://www.thesource.gov.au/niylg/index.htm)**

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## **Girls Go Global Project**

**One world, 3 billion women and girls—global feminism without limits**

**Girls Go Global is...**

Funky, clever, edgy, inspired, talented, impassioned, empowered...

How do you see global feminism?

The ***Girls Go Global Project*** is an international initiative to bring together contemporary and pop culture images of global feminism from women and girls across the globe.

Send your words, essays (not more than 3000 words), photos, art, web images, lyrics, poems, graffiti, and multimedia depictions of feminism to be a part of a global collection for publication and possible exhibition. See the website for more details on how to enter:

<http://www.girlsglobal.org>

The goal of Girls Go Global is

- To demystify feminism and promote a positive and engaging connection with the term. This project aims to provide a funky source of literature that entices people to become a part of the global women's movement(s) which will be portrayed as a talented and inspiring bunch of women throughout the world with different views and skills who work together for justice.

We hope the outcomes will:

- Provide a context that values and celebrates non conventional and non academic forms of expression of feminism(s) which are positive, strong and empowering and represent women of different ages, cultures and backgrounds.
- Provide a creative book produced by feminist activists on their own terms and design. It will be compiled and reviewed by a panel of international experts.

The Girls Go Global Project received initial funding from the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) and the Ford Foundation but requires additional funding and assistance. Girls Go Global is the initiative of a group of global feminists and is run by a voluntary Advisory Group. For any further information, please contact [suzette@girlsglobal.org](mailto:suzette@girlsglobal.org)

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#### **UPDATE: Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women(CEDAW)**

CEDAW held its 29th Session at the UN Headquarters, New York from 30 June-18 July 2003. The Committee considered reports from the following 8 countries: Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, and Slovenia.

The following countries have signed and ratified the CEDAW convention in 2003: Afganistan-5th March 2003, Syrian Arab Republic-28th March 2003, Timor-Leste – 16th April 2003. In addition, one more country Sao Tome and Principe ratified the convention on June 3, 2003, bringing the total number of ratifications to 174 countries out of a total of 191 countries in the United Nations.

For an in-depth analysis of the impact of CEDAW see : "The First CEDAW Impact Study Final Report" by Marilou Mcphedran, Susan Bazilli, Moana Erickson and Andrew Bynes. This pilot study by the International Women's Rights Project (IWRP) at York University concluded that, although CEDAW is underutilized, there is a growing awareness among women's groups who participated in the study of how

they can use the convention to pressure their governments to abide by international treaty commitments. Countries include Germany, Japan, Nepal, South Africa and Turkey.

See: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw.htm>

<http://www.womenink.org>

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### **The International Criminal Court's first prosecutor, Luis Moreno Ocampo**

An Argentinian lawyer has been confirmed as the first prosecutor for the International Criminal Court, based in The Hague. Luis Moreno Ocampo helped prosecute Argentina's former military rulers in the 1980's. He'll decide on the cases to be heard at the ICC, the first permanent world court set up to try the most serious crimes.

Luis Moreno Ocampo has prosecuted leaders of the 1976-1983 military dictatorship in Argentina in more than 700 cases involving the kidnapping, torture and forced disappearances of opponents of the regime.

He also investigated violations of the laws of war committed by Argentine military leaders during the 1982 conflict with Britain over the Falklands islands.

Mr Moreno Campo was elected unopposed in a secret ballot on Monday by 78 of the 89 countries that have ratified the 1999 Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court, the first permanent tribunal set up to try cases of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. He will begin his nine-year term on June 16. (Radio Netherlands)

#### **STATEMENT MADE BY MR. LUIS MORENO OCAMPO**

ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES TO THE ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

**New York, 22 April 2003**

#### **STATEMENT MADE BY MR. LUIS MORENO OCAMPO**

Mr. Chairman

I want to thank you for the opportunity to address the Assembly of States, which has honoured me by naming me the first prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

This designation is a great privilege. At the same time, it is a great responsibility. This Court is charged with applying the rules and agreements, which have been established after a 10-year process of complex discussions among representatives of states all around the world, a process that has been followed with great interest by the non-governmental organisations that are part of the Coalition.

As a citizen, I want to give a special tribute and recognition to all the representatives of states and members of the Coalition, for succeeding in establishing the institution the world has dreamed about for more than a century.

Mr. Chairman

The International Criminal Court was created out of the recognition that certain crimes - because of their nature - affect the entire international community and hence, national borders cannot confine the investigation and punishment of such crimes.

The time and effort dedicated to find an appropriate solution to this problem, made it possible to create an International Criminal Court out of the principle of complementarity, which represents the will of creating a global institution

that is, at the same time, respectful of the member states' sovereignty.

The primary responsibility to prevent, control, and prosecute those atrocious crimes belong to the states in which jurisdictions they are committed.

The principle of complementarity established by the Statute compels the prosecutor's office to collaborate with national jurisdictions in order to help them improve their efficiency.

That is the first task of the prosecutor's office: make its best effort to help national jurisdictions fulfil their mission.

The prosecutor's office can do this in different ways. In a cooperative way, by giving the state the information received from different public sources or providing the state's personnel with training and technical support.

Also, due to the dissuasive effect that the mere existence of the court generates, the possibility of presenting a case at the International Criminal Court could convince some states with serious conflicts to take the appropriate action.

Let me give you, as an example of this interaction, what happened in my country.

In the 70's, Argentina faced a period of political violence that had no historical precedent. Guerilla groups killed more than 800 people, and "death squads" killed hundreds of others more.

But since the 1976 coup d'état, a criminal plan was implemented by the state. Members of the army and security agencies attacked the society they were

supposed to protect. They used kidnappings and tortures as undercover methods to investigate those they considered suspicious.

Without a trial and in secret, they assassinated more than 15000 people and hid the bodies.

Citizens could not ask for state protection because the state was attacking them.

That's why they joined human rights groups and sought international support.

The international pressure played a key role in stopping the killings. It was generated by different countries, by the United Nations' institutions, and especially by the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights within the Organization of American States, as a result of its local inspections in 1979.

The international action was also useful ensuring that the criminals were both judged and punished. The information gathered by the U.N commissions, the reports presented by the O.A.S, and by the National Commission for Disappearing People in 1984, made it possible for the prosecutor to collect documented proof and testimonies in order to pursue the judgement and conviction of those responsible for the crimes, that is, the military junta members. The principle of complementarity demands national efforts to make national action possible. The International Criminal Court must evaluate these national efforts seriously, taking into consideration the need to respect the diversity of juridical systems, traditions, and cultures, as it was set in the negotiation process. Experiences such as Rwanda's, and the intervention of traditional institutions like the Gachacha, must be analyzed while taking into consideration the participation of the entire society. Joint institutional efforts such as those carried out by the Sierra Leone's especial court must also be taken into account.

However, there will be cases in which national states will not be able to, or will not want to fulfil their basic mission of investigation and judgement. In these cases, the International Criminal Court must fill the gap created by national states.

With the adoption of the Rome Statute, the international community affirmed its commitment to intervene when national actuation is insufficient.

As prosecutor for the International Criminal Court, I will be in charge of triggering the international jurisdiction. I will use this power with responsibility and firmness, ensuring strict compliance of the Statute, mainly in matters concerned with the proof of the crimes and the inability of states to control such crimes.

I deeply hope that the horrors humanity has suffered during the 20th century will serve us as a painful lesson, and that the creation of the International Criminal Court will help us to prevent those atrocities from being repeated in the future.

The efficiency of the International Criminal Court should not be measured by the number of cases that reach the court or by the content of its decisions. Quite on the contrary, because of the exceptional character of this institution, the absence of

trials led by this court as a consequence of the regular functioning of national institutions, would be its major success.

Mr Chairman

I am aware that difficult and extensive negotiations were needed before delegations could reach wide agreement both on the role of the prosecutor to trigger the jurisdiction of the court as well as on the scope of the powers to investigate and prosecute.

I am also aware of the apprehension and concerns raised by this system even today, in particular with regard to my powers to launch an investigation on my own initiative.

I understand these fears and the underlying political sensitivities. However, this is the time to rethink these and other concerns. This is the time to analyze how can this new institution strengthen global peace.

An attentive reading of the Rome Statute and its supplementary instruments reveal that the architects of the International Criminal Court were wise in accompanying the powers of the prosecutor with an adequate system of checks and balances apt to prevent abuse of power or arbitrary decisions.

The Assembly will control the prosecutor's behaviour. The prosecutor will supervise his team and the Pre Trial Chamber will control the cases. The judges were selected among the best candidates from 43 countries. The world can trust them.

I wish the Assembly to rest assured that I will indeed exercise my functions with caution and within the strict limits provided for in the Statute and other instruments.

Mr. Chairman

The assistance of all of you will be essential for the fulfilment of my duties. State cooperation will be crucial for the investigation of crimes and the prosecution of the perpetrators.

You have created the International Criminal Court. The Court will depend upon you to function effectively and efficiently. That is why our dialogue must be constant, our cooperation permanent.

Mr. Chairman

The International Criminal Court is intended to be global but it is not yet universal. The Assembly of States Parties, civil society and the International Criminal Court itself should deploy all efforts in order to enhance the acceptance of the court and attract the participation of those states that remain reluctant today.



As prosecutor, I can contribute to build up confidence in the International Criminal Court, by exercising my investigative powers in an impartial, credible way and in full respect for state action.

Mr Chairman, [translated from French]

It is essential that the office of the prosecutor be able to function with the greatest possible level of professionalism and efficiency. It is equally essential to ensure that the office in its composition reflects the universal applicability of the International Criminal Court. For this reason, in the coming days and months, I shall make every possible effort to assemble teams whose members at the same time offer sufficiently solid intellectual backgrounds, and are sufficiently balanced from the point of view of type, geographical region and judicial system.

Mr Chairman,

I am delighted to enjoy the confidence of this Assembly, which has just appointed me prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. I shall further rely on you to assist me in fulfilling my tasks.

Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for your attention.

**The Hague, 2 May 2003**

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### **Protocol on Women's Rights adopted by the Maputo African Unity Summit**

The African Unity Summit held in Maputo, Mozambique during 4-12 July 2003 adopted the Protocol on Women's Rights to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights.

The new Protocol is a historic first in that it calls for the legal prohibition of female genital mutilation. It sets forth a broad range of rights for women including establishment of the minimum age for marriage at 18, affirmative action to promote the equal participation of women and right to equal pay for equal work. The Protocol also sets a precedent in international law by explicitly calling for the reproductive right of women to medical abortion when pregnancy results from rape or incest or when maternal health or life is endangered with the continuation of pregnancy.

Of the 53 members of the African Union, Egypt and Libya attached reservations because, in their view, the Protocol is not in line with the Islamic Sharia Law. 15 members need to ratify the Protocol in order for it to come into force.

(Sources: GlobalNet <http://www.equalitynow.org>, <http://www.wn.org>)

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**Call for Chapter Proposals:****THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION**

Praeger Press is publishing a book series on: The Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination to be edited by Jean Lau Chin. We are seeking authors to write chapters that address the following:

- Psychological issues about of prejudice and discrimination as it affects race, ethnicity, gender, spirituality, disability – What do we know about the rise of prejudice and discrimination in this country?
- Prejudice and discrimination as it pervades so many dimensions of our lives, e.g., politics of racism, bias in health care, workplace discrimination, media portrayals, white privilege.
- Today's environment is fraught with heightened anxiety because of war and terrorism; there is a narrowing of boundaries that bring us all closer together through rapid communication, ease of travel, and the internet. How does prejudice and discrimination manifest in a global economy with a growing diversity of the US population? Are there case studies to help understand these issues?
- How does prejudice and discrimination affect real people? Is there practical information (programs and practices) about how to cope with prejudice and discrimination, how to keep oneself "whole", how to seek validation of one's identity, to raise one's children?

This will be a 4 volume series to be published in 2004 with the following themes:

- Volume 1: Racism – stereotypes, racial bias, race relations, racial identity
- Volume 2: Ethnicity – immigrants/refugees, language, mixed race people
- Volume 3: Gender and Sexual Orientation – gender bias,
- Volume 4: to address issues including spirituality, disability, difficult dialogues across identities, challenges in the intersection of multiple identities

We are looking to reach not only a scholarly and academic audience, but also a lay audience. We are seeking authors who can write in a readable style for a lay audience. This means no jargon. If theory is presented, it must be done clearly and "with a practical application".

We hope you or your colleagues would be interested in contributing to this volume. If so, please submit a proposal of a Chapter Outline as soon as possible. An advisory board will review all submissions. If accepted, the first draft of your chapter is expected by 10/15/03. Chapters are expected to be between 8,000-10,000 words. A revised and final chapter will be expected by 11/30/03. Please submit:

- 1) an outline of your proposed chapter (electronic submissions are preferred or include a 3.5" disk)
- 2) letter of interest
- 3) curriculum vitae

to:

Jean Lau Chin, Ed.D., ABPP, Editor Email: [CEOservices@rcn.com](mailto:CEOservices@rcn.com) (preferred)

Mail (with disk):

Jean Lau Chin, Ed.D., ABPP; Systemwide; Dean California School of Professional Psychology; Alliant International University; 1005 Atlantic Avenue; Alameda, CA 94501; Tel: 510-523-2300 x148 ; Fax: 510-521-3678

source: CEO

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