

THE
CARTER CENTER



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To: Participants in the Carter Center international conference on the right to public information

**From: Laura Neuman
Access to Information Project Manager and Assistant Director, Americas Program
The Carter Center**

Re: Conference Objectives and Overview

We are delighted that you will be joining us to consider the successes and challenges in establishing the right to information throughout the world, and more importantly to discuss ways we can work toward advancing this right. The conference will be chaired by former United States President Jimmy Carter and we will be joined by two sitting heads of state, Bolivian President Evo Morales and Amadou Toumani Touré, and former Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo. We are pleased to have such a high-level of representation from all sectors of society – political, governmental, business, media, non-governmental organizations, as well as international organizations and leading foundations. In total, there are 125 participants from 40 countries.

Background

The Carter Center held a preparatory conference meeting in May 2007, which served to identify the issues and refine the objectives for this conference. We sought inputs from a host of civil society and government actors, donors and academics in preparation for this conference. All of those we polled felt that now is a critical moment in the development of the right to information and that without a plan for future actions there exists a real risk of stagnation or back-sliding¹.

¹ In the United States, the Bush Administration has made a number of assaults on the Freedom of Information Act, including Justice Department memos urging secrecy, Vice-President Cheney arguing that he is not part of the Executive Branch and thus not covered by the Act, and the most recent failure to provide resources in the 2008 budget to support the amendments made under the Open Government Act of 2007. In the United Kingdom, the government attempted to make changes to their Act that would have severely restricted its application, and it was only through a very active media that they were forced to back-down.

While there have been clear advances, particularly in the number of countries that have passed comprehensive access to information laws, there perhaps has not been enough focus on how these laws are working in practice, and to what extent they are being implemented, enforced and used.

Moreover, it remains unclear that the benefits of the right to information are fully reaching the most disadvantaged people and creating the anticipated societal transformations. Although potentially a powerful tool in ensuring accountability and promoting development, there is an understood need for rigorous research to substantiate the impact of the right to information to persuade governments that on balance the benefit of openness outweighs those of continuing opacity.

The promotion of the right to public information has been led by a relatively insular community of practice, often failing to engage all key stakeholders or other critical fields, and without a clear shared agenda for the future advancement of the right to public information. We are at a critical moment in the development of the right to information, where the world's contextual changes must be considered.

Since the wave of activities to promote access to public information as a key to democracy and good governance began some ten years ago, the world has experienced a profound paradigm shift. The effects of 9-11 and the war on terrorism have been used (arguably misused) to trump the citizen's right to access critical information. Technological changes are occurring faster than policy can respond, and if not harnessed properly may impede rather than promote access to information. And the power once held by the state continues to be diffused to other sectors, including the multinational corporations and private sector, international financial institutions, and even civil society organizations, while the documents that these sectors hold are largely hidden from public scrutiny.

Although there have been numerous conferences related to access to information, relatively few have convened high ranking government officials, experts, and other key stakeholders, such as civil society, private sector and the media. In the majority of past meetings, sharing of anecdotes and experiences, or technical assistance on specific themes was the primary thrust. We want our conference to focus on the *political* obstacles to implementing access to information regimes, identifying the costs and benefits to each stakeholder. Under President Carter's leadership, we want this conference to create an actionable plan.

Goal and Objectives:

The goal of this international conference is the advancement of effective access to public information systems globally.

The main objectives of the conference are to:

1. Reflect on current worldwide status of the right to public information
2. Consider the impact of access to information on areas such as development and governance

3. Explore priority actions for advancing the passage and full implementation of access to public information laws, with attention to the *realpolitik* considerations influencing all stakeholders

This will be accomplished through keynote speakers, panel presentations, working groups, and plenary discussion. By bringing together an illustrious group of thinkers, influencers and practitioners in an informal setting, we hope to provide the space to achieve this goal. At the conclusion of the conference, participants will detail prioritized recommendations and a plan of action for the furtherance of the right to information around the world.

Methodology

Apart from the opening plenary sessions and conclusions on the final day, our deliberations will be closed-door and off-the-record to allow the space for all persons to express their opinions and thoughts in confidence and will involve no speeches or formal proceedings. The luncheon and dinner speakers and opening plenaries on Wednesday afternoon will provide context for the deliberations through very short presentations intended to stimulate thoughtful debate, and during the concluding session we will confirm our conference summary or declaration.

On Thursday, we will divide into five working groups to analyze specific issues identified in a preparatory meeting that we held in May 2007, as well as from extensive consultations with many of you. The objective of each working group is to propose some recommendations for action. We ask that you consider action points in light of the various stakeholders – what can each actor - civil society, national government, international organizations, private sector, media, academics, and the international financial institutions and donors do? Everyone is an equal in these small groups as we have some of the world's best and most committed experts and practitioners in the area of the right to information. Your facilitators and rapporteurs are the best in the field, and will help us move through the day to reach clear recommendations.

On Friday morning, we will reconvene as a large group to discuss our findings and recommendations, which will become the action plan, set out in our final conference statement or declaration.

This Briefing Book

In addition to providing logistical information about the conference, we include in this briefing book background information on the issues and some articles for your specific working group. As the materials related to ALL working groups would have been too big to send, we have posted the entire briefing book on our access to information website found at:

www.cartercenter.org/accesstoinformation.html

Please click on the orange conference icon.

The facilitator for each working group has drafted a brief concept note to help spur discussion. We apologize that most of the materials are in English. Where possible, we have translated the documents (not articles/papers) into Spanish and French. Please bring the briefing materials with you – we will not be able to print out at the conference.

Donors

A conference of this size and complexity would not be possible without generous support from the donor community. We have been privileged to partner with the Skoll Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, CIDA, World Bank, International Development Research Centre), Coca-Cola, Open Society Institute, Hughes Foundation, Stewart Mott Foundation, and Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta in organizing this international conference.

I am excited to see all of you soon and to start framing the right to information for the coming years. It will be your enthusiasm and ideas that will assure the success of this process. Thank you in advance for openly sharing your expertise and opinions with our community, and for your dedication to ensuring that all people enjoy and benefit from the right to information.



International Conference on the Right to Public Information
The Carter Center
February 27-29, 2008

Conference Logistics Memo

We are delighted to welcome you to the City of Atlanta. Provided below is useful information for your arrival and stay.

Airport Transportation

The Carter Center is pleased to provide group transportation between the Hartsfield International Airport and the conference hotel or The Carter Center, provided that you arrive within the hours that we will have staff posted at the airport.

Arrival:

Should your flight arrive outside of those hours, we are happy to reimburse you for the cost of your taxi from the airport to the conference hotel or The Carter Center. Please keep a receipt for reimbursement. We regret to inform you that we are not able to reimburse travel within Atlanta outside of these three locations (conference hotel, airport, and The Carter Center).

Carter Center staff will greet you at the airport during the following times:

Monday, February 25: 2:00pm to 8:00pm
Tuesday, February 26: 7:00am to 9:00pm
Wednesday, February 27: 8:00am to 1:00pm

When you arrive: Upon your arrival, please take the airport shuttle to the terminal called “Baggage Claim.” Please take the escalators (or elevator) up to the main floor where a Carter Center representative holding a “Carter Center” sign will greet you. He/she will be standing in front of the Avis Rental Car desk and will show you to your baggage claim and inform you of where to go to meet the group transportation coordinator.

If you arrive on a domestic American Airlines flight, please go down the escalators through the glass doors to the Baggage Claim area. A Carter Center representative will be waiting there holding a Carter Center sign to greet you. He/she will inform you of where to go for transportation.

Departure:

For those travelers leaving from The Carter Center on Friday February 29th, we will have group transportation available. Please remember to check-out from the hotel and bring your luggage with you. We will have a transportation schedule posted at the Carter Center with times of departure. Additionally, if you are leaving from the hotel to the airport on Friday February 29th, we will coordinate group transport. We will notify you of the times that group transport is leaving from the hotel.

For those leaving after Friday, we will reimburse you for the cost of the taxi from The Georgian Terrace hotel to the airport. Please remember to retain your receipt.

If you choose to find your own way to the airport (rather than the arranged group transport), unfortunately, we will not be able to reimburse you for the cost.

Baggage

For those arriving directly to or departing from The Carter Center, there will be a designated storage area for all luggage.

Hotel

A room has been reserved for you in The Georgian Terrace hotel. Please be reminded that changes to your reservation need to be made directly through The Carter Center. You will be required to provide your credit card information to the hotel upon check-in to cover any incidentals or personal charges. If you are not able to provide a credit card, the hotel will require a refundable \$100 cash deposit.

The Georgian Terrace
659 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel: 404-897-1991
Fax: 404-724-0642

Check-out time is 12:00 pm. The hotel will gladly hold your luggage on day of departure.

Transportation

We will provide group transportation between the conference hotel and The Carter Center for all conference related events. We also will provide group transportation from The Carter Center directly to the Federal Reserve Bank and back to the conference hotel for the off-site dinner on the evening of February 28th (note: there will not be time to return to hotel before dinner on Thursday February 28th). Please refer to the attached group transportation schedule.

Climate and Dress Code

The month of February is still considered winter in Atlanta, though temperatures can be mild with a range between 60 during the day to 37 degrees Fahrenheit at night (14-3 degrees Centigrade). Rain jackets or umbrellas are recommended. Business or traditional attire is required for all conference events

Contact Numbers

The Carter Center
Tel: 404-420-5175
Fax: 404-420-5196

Kari Mackey (in case of emergency)
770-845-4416

Laura Neuman (in case of dire emergency)
404-84-2566



International Conference on the Right to Public Information
The Carter Center
February 27-29, 2008
Group Transportation Memo

Tuesday February 26 – optional program

- 6:20 pm Departure from The Georgian Terrace to The Carter Center for Conversations
8:45 pm Departure from The Carter Center to The Georgian Terrace

Wednesday February 27

- 11:20 am Departure from The Georgian Terrace to The Carter Center for Conference
8:00 pm 1st Departure from The Carter Center to The Georgian Terrace
or
8:30 pm 2nd Departure from The Carter Center to The Georgian Terrace

Thursday February 28

- 8:00 am Departure from The Georgian Terrace to The Carter Center for Conference
5:45 pm Departure from The Carter Center to the Federal Reserve Bank for dinner
9:00 pm Departure from the Federal Reserve Bank to The Georgian Terrace

Friday February 29

- 8:30 am Departure from The Georgian Terrace to The Carter Center for Conference
1:15 pm Departure from The Carter Center to The Georgian Terrace
or group taxis to the airport

International Conference on the Right to Public Information

The Carter Center, Atlanta GA

February 27-29, 2008

Tuesday February 26

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. **Conversations at The Carter Center “Are we Safer with Secrecy?” (optional)**
Laura Neuman, Access to Information Project Manager, Carter Center (moderator)
Tom Blanton, Executive Director, National Security Archive
Kevin Dunion, Information Commissioner, Scotland
Michelle Roberts, Reporter, The Oregonian

Wednesday February 27

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon and Speakers – Cyprus Room**
Jennifer McCoy, Director, Americas Program, The Carter Center
Justice Diego Garcia-Sayan, Vice-President, Inter-American Court of Human Rights

Plenary Sessions – Cecil B. Day Chapel

2:00 p.m. **Opening Session**
Laura Neuman, Access to Information Project Manager, The Carter Center
Former President Jimmy Carter, USA
Juan Ramon Quintana, Minister of the Presidency, Bolivia
Minister of Justice, Maharafa Traoré, Mali

3:00 p.m. **ATI as a Tool for Socio-Economic Rights and Development**
Chair: Alejandro Toledo, Former President of Peru
Rob Jenkins, Professor, Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies
Mukelani Dimba, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Open Democracy Advice Centre,
South Africa
Sina Odugbemi, Program Head, Communication for Governance and Accountability,
World Bank

4:15 p.m. **Break**

4:30 p.m. **ATI as a Tool for Better Governance**
Chair: Lawrence Bropleh, Minister of Information, Liberia
Alasdair Roberts, Professor, Maxwell School, Syracuse University
Marta Oyhanarte, Subsecretary of Institutional Relations, Argentina
Jonas Moberg, Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Norway

5:45 p.m. **State of ATI in the World: Challenges and Successes**
Chair: Olivia Grange, Minister of Information, Jamaica
Meredith Fuchs, General Counsel, National Security Archives, USA
Gergana Jouleva, Executive Director, Access to Information Program, Bulgaria
Jie Cheng, Associate Professor of Law, Tsinghua University, China
Juan Pablo Guerrero, Commissioner, Federal Institute Access to Information, Mexico

- 7:00 p.m. **Cocktails – Carter Presidential Museum Library Lobby**
Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum Tour available
- 8:00 p.m. **Buses begin to depart for hotel (second bus will depart at 8:30pm)**

Thursday February 28

- 8:00 a.m. **Hotel Pick-up**
Breakfast at the Carter Center
- 8:45 a.m. **Plenary Sessions: Break into working groups – Cecil B. Day Chapel**
- 9:00 a.m. **Simultaneous Working Groups**
- Group 1 – Politics and Economy: shifting the balance toward openness**
 Facilitator: Andrew Puddephatt – Global Partners, UK
- Group 2 – Structure and Culture: creating an environment for transparency**
 Facilitator: Shekhar Singh – National Campaign for People’s Right to Information, India
- Group 3 – Non-state and Multilateral Actors: examining roles and responsibilities**
 Facilitator: Richard Calland –Institute for Democracy in South Africa, South Africa
- Group 4 – International Norm-building: considering universal standards and a global community**
 Facilitator: Jorge Santistevan – Former Ombudsman, Peru
- Group 5 – Indicators and Measurement: demonstrating and improving impact**
 Facilitator: Jamie Horsley – China Law Project, Yale University
- 12:00 p.m. **Luncheon and Speaker – Cyprus Room**
Huguette Labelle, Chair of Board of Directors, Transparency International
- 1:30 p.m. **Working Groups Reconvene**
- 4:00 p.m. **Break**
- 4:30 p.m. **Working Groups Reconvene: Draft Conclusions**
- 5:45 p.m. **Transport to Dinner**
- 6:15 p.m. **Cocktails and Dinner at the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank**
Justice Albie Sachs, Constitutional Court, South Africa

Friday February 29

- 8:30 a.m. **Hotel pick-up**
Breakfast at the Carter Center
- Plenary Sessions – Cecil B. Day Chapel**
- 9:30 a.m. **Working Groups Report Back**
Chair: Former President Jimmy Carter

- 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:45 a.m. **Plenary Discussion and Conference Findings**
Chair: Former President Jimmy Carter
- 12:30 p.m. **Conclusions and Next Steps**
- 12:45 p.m. **Lunch (optional) or Transport to Airport**

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International Conference on the Right to Public Information
February 27-29, 2008
The Carter Center
Atlanta, GA

Participants

Gilma Agurcia	Information Commissioner, Access to Public Information Institute, Honduras
Rodolfo Aldea	Director of Probity, Transparency and Access to Public Information, Ministry of the Presidency, Chile
Joanne Archibald	Principal Director for Information, Ministry of Information, Culture, Youth, and Sports, Jamaica
Abraham Azubuikwe	Chief Librarian, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Emma Back	Consultant, Department of International Development, UK
Paloma Baena Olabe	Public Sector Governance Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank, USA
Ana Bellver	Public Sector Governance Specialist, World Bank
Ibrahim Ben-Kargbo	Minister of Information and Communications, Sierra Leone
Leslie Benton	Senior Policy Director, Transparency International, USA
Matt Bigg	Chief of Atlanta Bureau, Reuters, USA
Tom Blanton	Director, National Security Archive, USA
Luis Botello	Senior Program Director, International Center for Journalists, USA/Panama
Lawrence Bropleh	Minister of Information, Republic of Liberia
Richard Calland	Manager of Economic Governance Program, Institute for Democracy in South Africa, South Africa
Maximilano Campos Rios	Director, Area of Transparency of Representative Democracy, Argentina
Jimmy Carter	Former President of the United States of America, Founder, Carter Center, USA
Rosalynn Carter	Former First Lady of the United States of America, Founder, Carter Center, USA
Jie Cheng	Associate Professor of Law, School of Law, Tsinghua University, China
Orrett Connor	Cabinet Secretary, Cayman Islands
Damien Cox	Acting Director, Access to Information Unit, Jamaica
Helen Darbishire	Executive Director, Access Info Europe, Spain
Maja Daruwala	Executive Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, India
Nelson de Freitas	Project Administrator, Latin American Administration Center for Development, Venezuela
Boubacar Dicko	Project Coordinator, Commission for Institutional Development, Mali
Mukelani Dimba	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Open Democracy Advice Center, South Africa
Chad Dobson	Executive Director, Bank Information Center, USA
Kevin Dunion	Information Commissioner, Scotland
Linda Ehrichs	Office for Democratic Governance Policy, Canadian Intl. Development Agency, Canada
Misanvu Faustine	Acting Commissioner, Ministry of Information, Uganda
William Fitzpatrick	Corporate Counsel, Omidyar Network, USA
Meredith Fuchs	General Counsel, National Security Archive, USA

Diego Garcia-Sayan	Judge, Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Peru
Elaine Geyer-Allely	Consultant, Carter Center, Mali
Carolyn Gomes	Executive Director, Jamaicans for Justice, Jamaica
Guillermo Gonzales-Arica	Assistant Director, Global Center for Development and Democracy, Peru
Olivia Grange	Minister of Information, Culture, Youth, and Sports, Jamaica
Juan Pablo Guerrero	Information Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico
Emmanuel Gyimah-Boadi	Executive Director, Center for Democratic Development, Ghana
John Hardman	President and Chief Executive Officer, Carter Center, USA
Nathaniel Heller	Co-Founder and Managing Director, Global Integrity, USA
C.R. Hibbs	Program Officer and Managing Director for Mexico, Hewlett Foundation, US/Mexico
Jamie Horsley	Deputy Director, China Law Center, Yale University, USA
Brant Houston	Knight Chair in Investigative and Enterprise Reporting, University of Illinois, USA
Rob Jenkins	Professor, Graduate Center, Ralph Bunch Institute for International Studies, USA
Lisa Jordan	Deputy Director, Global and Civil Society Unit, Ford Foundation, USA
Gergana Jouleva	Executive Director, Access to Information Program, Bulgaria
Sampa Kangwa-Wilkie	Program Officer of Freedom of Expression and Right to Information, Media Institute of South Africa Regional Secretariat, Namibia
Stephen Kay	Coordinator of Latin American Analysis, Federal Reserve Bank, USA
Ronald Krall	Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, GlaxoSmithKline Plc, USA
Huguette Labelle	Chair of the Board, Transparency International, Germany
Issa Luna Pla	Professor, Nacional Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico
Modibo Makalu	Advisor to the President, Mali
Firoze Manji	Co-Director, Fahamu Ltd & Fahamu Trust, UK
Conrad Martin	Executive Director, Stewart Mott Foundation, USA
Emily Martinez	Director of Special Initiatives, Open Society Institute, USA
Jennifer McCoy	Director of the Americas Program, Carter Center, USA
Toby Mendel	Law and Asia Programmes Director, Article 19, UK
Marcos Mendiburu	Social Development Specialist, World Bank
Jonas Moberg	Head Secretariat, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Norway
Carlos Monge	Citizen Proposal Group, Peru
Victor Ndoma-Egba	Deputy Leader, Senate of the Federal Republic, Nigeria
Laura Neuman	Access to Information Manager & Asst. Director of the Americas Program, Carter Center, USA
Tavinder Nijhawan	Program Manager, International Development Research Centre, Canada
Deunden Nikomborirak	Research Director, Thai Development Research Institute, Thailand
Priscilla Nyokabi	Program Officer, International Commission of Jurists, Kenya
Sina Odugbemi	Program Head, Communication for Governance and Accountability, World Bank
Edetaen Ojo	Executive Director, Media Rights Agenda, Nigeria
Juan Pablo Olmedo	President, Foundation Pro Access, Chile
William Orme	Policy Advisor, Independent Media Development, United Nations Development Program
Emilio Ortega	Violeta Barrios de Chamorro Foundation, Nicaragua
Nana Oye Lithur	Coordinator of Africa Office, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Ghana
Marta Oyhanarte	Undersecretary of Institutional Relations, Argentina
Suchi Pande	Secretary, National Campaign for People's Right to Information, India
Darian Pavli	Legal Officer, Open Society Justice Initiative, USA
Mitchell Pearlman	Government Information Consultant, Counselor at Law, USA
Jose Tomas Perez	General Director, Industrial Development Corporation, Dominican Republic
Javier Ponce Cevallos	Private Secretary to the President, Ecuador
Andrew Puddephat	Director, Global Partners, UK
Juan Ramón Quintana	Minister of the Presidency, Bolivia
Rakesh Rajani	Founder and Member of Board of Directors, HakiElimu, Tanzania
Graeme Ramshaw	Program Officer, Results for Development Institute, Brookings Institute, USA

Hyeon-Ju Rho	Country Director, American Bar Association, Rule of Law Initiative, China
Ramiro Rivadeneira	Human Rights Advisor to Minister of Justice, Ecuador
Miguel Rivadeneira	Director General, El Comercio and Radio Quito, Ecuador
Michelle Roberts	Reporter, The Oregonian, USA
Alasdair Roberts	Professor, Maxwell School, Syracuse University, USA
Fernando Rodrigues	Vice President, Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism, Brazil
Jorge Romero León	Executive Director, Fundar Analysis and Research Center, Mexico
Atila Roque	Director, Institute of Socioeconomic Studies, Brazil
Marc Rotenberg	Executive Director, Electronic Privacy Information Center, USA
Roberto Saba	Executive Director, Civil Rights Association, Argentina
Marta Sacasa	Vice-President, Channel 2, Nicaragua
Albie Sachs	Justice, Constitutional Court, South Africa
Salimah Samji	Global Development Team, Google Foundation, USA
Jorge Santistevan de Noriega	Former Ombudsman, Partner of Santistevan de Noriega and Assoc., Peru
Emanuel Shears-Moses	Barrister and Solicitor, Law Reform Commission, Sierra Leone
Ousmane Sidibe	Commissioner, Commission for Institutional Development, Mali
Shekhar Singh	Founder, National Campaign for People's Right to Information, India
Rick Snell	Senior Lecturer, University of Tasmania, Australia
Dario Soto-Abril	Deputy Director, Trust for the Americas, Organization of American States
John Stremlau	Vice President for Peace Programs, Carter Center, USA
Miguel Suazo	Coordinator, National Council for Government Reform, Dominican Republic
Tom Susman	Partner, Ropes and Gray, USA
Nardi Suxo	Vice Minister of Transparency and Anticorruption, Bolivia
Min Tang	Deputy Secretary General, China Development Research Foundation, China
Tseliso Thipanyane	Chief Executive Officer, South African Human Rights Commission, South Africa
Jack Thurston	Co-Founder, Farm Subsidy Organization, UK
Mohamed Tibanyendera	Advocacy and Broadcasting Officer, Media Institute of South Africa, Tanzania
Alejandro Toledo	Former President, Peru
Anel Townsend	Advisory Council Member, Latin American Parliament
Maharafa Traoré	Minister of Justice, Mali
Patrick Tumwine	Advocacy and Networking Officer, Human Rights Network, Uganda
Ricardo Uceda	Executive Director, Press and Society Institute, Peru
Farina Vasquez	Information Official, Honduras
Vladimir Villegas	Anchorman, Unión Radio Group, Venezuela
Aleem Walji	Global Development Team, Google Foundation, USA
Alex Wang	Director, Beijing Office, Natural Resource Defense Council, China
John Wilson	International Legal Office, Organization of American States

Rapporteurs

Zachary Bookman	Fulbright Fellow, Yale University, USA
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Suzanne Piotrowski	Assistant Professor, Rutgers University, USA
Sarah Rivard	Program Assistant, Club of Madrid, Democracy Coalition Project, USA
Patrick Schmidt	Associate Professor, Macalester University, USA

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Sarah King

Program Assistant, Americas Program, Carter Center, USA

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PARTICIPANT BIOS

Gilma Agurcia

Gilma Agurcia is a Doctor in Law from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, with specialization in human rights from CSUCA. She is the Commissioner for the Institute for Access to Public Information, and was previously in charge of the Sub-Ministry of Justice. She was president for the National Legal Commission of the Department of Governance and Justice, in addition to the experience received in consulting assessments for World Bank and private law practice. She also served as a docent and instructor for the Law faculty at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras, and was Director for the Institute of Legal Investigation. She has helped to author many draft bills on various issues, and has also contributed extensively to various legal journals, including the Revista de Derecho from the Institute of Legal Investigation and the Revista Fondo Hondureño from the Colegio de Abogados de Honduras.

Gilma Agurcia es Doctora en Derecho de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid, con especialización en Derechos Humanos de CSUCA. Actualmente, ella es Comisionada del Instituto de Acceso a la Información Pública y anteriormente trabajó como Encargada de la Sub Secretaría de Justicia. La Sra. Agurcia fue Presidenta de la Comisión Jurídica Nacional de la Secretaría de Gobernación y Justicia y previamente acumuló experiencia haciendo consultorías para Banco Mundial y en prácticas privada. También sirvió como docente e instructora de la Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras y fue Directora del Instituto de Investigación Jurídica, UNAH. La Sra. Agurcia ha redactado varios anteproyectos de ley y ha contribuido extensivamente a varias revistas de ley, las cuales incluyen la Revista de Derecho del Instituto de Investigación Jurídica y la Revista Fondo Hondureño del Colegio de Abogados de Honduras.

Rodolfo Aldea

Rodolfo Aldea M is a lawyer and magister in political science. From 1981 until 1990 he served as judge and speaker of the court, after which he served as an attorney for the Ministry of Economy. From 1991 until 1995 he participated in the “Capacity-building, Management, and Judicial Policy” project for the Chilean government, financed by USAID. He went on to be a professor in the judicial academy, and taught political science in the Chilean government’s “Program on International Cooperation for Policemen”. He also taught political science in the

Universidad Alberto Hurtado, and a graduate social ethics course in the Universidad de Chile's Institute of Political Theory. He now teaches Political Theory in the Universidad de San Sebastian and the Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana. He has been teaching "The State and New Generation Reforms" in the graduate program of the School of Economics of the Universidad de Chile. Since 1991 he has been a lawyer for the State Defense Council, and as of 1998 he has been a consultant on justice and judicial defense for the World Bank. Since 2007 he has been government advisor on probity, transparency and access to information.

Rodolfo Aldea, abogado, magister en ciencia política. De 1981 a 1990, fue juez y relator de Corte. De 1990 a 1991, fue Fiscal en el Ministerio de Economía. De 1991 a 1995, participó en el proyecto "Capacitación, Gestión y Política Judicial", financiado por USAID. De 1997 a 2003, fue profesor en la Academia Judicial. En 2004 y 2005, impartió cursos de ciencia política, en el "Programa de Cooperación Internacional de Policías" del Gobierno de Chile. De 2003 a 2006, impartió clases de ciencia política en la Universidad Alberto Hurtado. En 2006, impartió clases sobre ética social (Rawls y Sen) en curso de postgrado del Instituto de Asuntos Públicos de la Universidad de Chile. Desde 2006, imparte cursos de Teoría Política en la Universidad San Sebastián y en la Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana. Desde 2007, imparte el curso "El Estado y Reformas de Nueva Generación", en programas de postgrado de la Escuela de Economía de la Universidad de Chile. Desde 1991, es abogado del Consejo de Defensa del Estado. Desde 1998 es consultor del Banco Mundial en justicia y defensa judicial del Estado. Desde 2007 es asesor gubernamental en probidad, transparencia y acceso a la información pública.

Joanne Archibald

Abraham Azubuiké

Mr. Abraham Azubuiké is the Chief Librarian of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia as well as coordinator of the African Virtual Library and Information Network (AVLIN). He has over twenty years of information services and policy research experience gained in international research and policy organizations. Mr. Azubuiké was educated in Nigeria and United Kingdom where he obtained the Master of Library Studies and Master of Business Administration, respectively. His publications include over twenty journal articles, book chapters, technical reports, and policy papers in the areas of access to information for development and democracy, user services, and subject access to information. He is active in international professional associations working on issues related to access to public and technical information, and co-coordinates the Access to Information Network- Africa (ATINA).

Emma Back

Emma Back is a freelance consultant and is currently living in New York, USA. She is an adviser to the UK Department for International Development (DFID) on mechanisms to improve transparency and accountability in medicines sales and distribution in developing countries. Ms

Back provides technical, policy and communications advice to a range of other clients, most recently including the Open Society Institute, UNICEF UK and the Center for Global Development. Until end 2005, Ms Back was a senior civil servant at the UK Department of Health, following seven years at DFID working on a wide range of development issues - such as access to medicines, communicable and non-communicable disease including HIV/AIDS, governance and economic reform in South Africa, trade and investment in South and South East Asia, and global environmental issues. Ms Back has a Bachelors degree from the University of Oxford and a Masters with Distinction in Environment and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.

Paloma Baena

Paloma Baena is a Public Governance specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), where she focuses on anticorruption and strategic public management issues. She has participated in the revision of the Bank's anticorruption strategy and the launching of its first anticorruption trust fund. She has also conducted political economy analysis for growth diagnostic studies and participated in modernization of the state projects in South America and the Caribbean. Prior to joining the IDB, Paloma worked at the World Bank, advising on issues relating to the business climate and public-private partnerships, and in the private sector, as a strategic management consultant for public sector entities. Paloma holds a J.D. from Complutense University (Madrid, Spain) and an M.P.A. from Harvard University (Cambridge, Massachusetts), focused on political and economic development and public leadership.

Anna Bellver

Ana Bellver is a World Bank Public Sector Governance specialist in the Latin America Region, and she is part of the regional Governance Anticorruption advisory group. As part of this group she has been involved in designing a Governance and Anticorruption (GAC) strategy that was approved by the Bank in March 2007, and she is currently involved in preparing an implementation plan for the LAC region. She has experience carrying out Governance assessments and Public Sector Modernization Projects in Central America, the Caribbean and some African countries. She worked with Daniel Kaufmann on governance and transparency related issues. Before coming to the World Bank, she worked as economic advisor at the Department of Public Enterprises of South Africa providing technical assistance to the Public Sector Restructuring program during 2001-2004. She has also work experience in the Former Soviet Union, Costa Rica, Peru and Cuba in areas such as institutional reform, restructuring of state-owned enterprises and trade. She has a Ph.D in Economics from the Pontificia de Comillas University (Madrid, Spain) and a Masters degree in Political Economy from the School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London).

Leslie Benton

Leslie A. Benton is Senior Policy Director of Transparency International-USA. She is responsible for the promotion of TI-USA's anti-corruption agenda in the area of law and regulations. In that capacity, she develops and implements anti-corruption advocacy campaigns and builds strategic partnerships with international organizations, senior government officials, and private sector representatives to ensure that laws against bribery and other transparency measures are implemented and effectively enforced. Before joining TI-USA in November 2005, Ms. Benton practiced civil and regulatory law at Hogan & Hartson, LLP. She was responsible for complex civil litigation, including cases regarding antitrust, telecommunications, health care fraud, and commercial disputes. Previously, Leslie was a Professor at California Western School of Law and the Ames Fellow at the Harvard Law School. Leslie received an LL.M. from the Harvard Law School and a J.D. with distinction from the Emory University School of Law. She has been admitted to the State Bars of California, Georgia, and the District of Colombia, and to numerous federal courts. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Foreign Law Society.

Matthew Bigg

Matthew Bigg is the Bureau Chief in Atlanta for Reuters global news agency and in recent weeks he has reported extensively on the U.S. presidential election primaries. He is one of the most experienced Africa correspondents of his generation, having covered the continent for ten years for Reuters between 1995 and 2004. During that time, he reported from 25 countries and covered wars from the front line in Burundi, Ivory Coast, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Congo and the former Zaire where he witnessed first hand Laurent Kabila's march to overthrow President Mobutu Sese Seko. He has also worked in France, Pakistan, Cuba and several countries in the Caribbean. He is married to Amba and they have three children.

Tom Blanton

Tom Blanton is director (since 1992) of the independent non-governmental National Security Archive (www.nsarchive.org) at George Washington University in Washington D.C., winner of the George Polk Award in 2000 for "piercing self-serving veils of government secrecy." He is series editor of the Archive's Web, CD, book and microform publications of more than 500,000 pages of former government secrets obtained through the Freedom of Information Act; oversees the Archive's 34,000 FOIA requests to date with the U.S. government; and filed his first FOIA request in 1976 as a journalist in Minnesota. His books include *White House E-Mail* (1995) and *The Chronology* (1987); his articles and op-eds have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times* and many other publications. A graduate of Bogalusa (La.) High School and Harvard University, he won the 2005 Emmy Award for news and documentary research, was inducted into the National Freedom of Information Hall of Fame in 2006, and is co-founder of www.freedominfo.org, the virtual network of international freedom of information advocates.

Zachary Bookman

Zachary Bookman is a Fulbright Fellow in Mexico City, studying the implementation of Mexico's recently passed Freedom of Information Act. He graduated in 2007 with a J.D. from Yale Law School and an M.P.A. from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. He has written and published on a range of topics, including civil liberties, criminal justice, and political philosophy. Next year, he will serve as a law clerk on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in California.

Luis Botello

Botello is responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of all ICFJ projects. He conducts a variety of media assistance projects for journalist around the world. For 10 years was ICFJ's Latin American program director working in around 20 countries in the Americas and conducting a variety of training programs and conferences on freedom of expression and the press as well as journalism ethics. Botello was formerly director of ICFJ's web-based service, the International Journalist's Network (IJNet). He has served as media advisor for international organizations such as Freedom House and the Inter-American Defense College. He previously served as morning newscast producer, host and television reporter for Televisora Nacional in Panama. Botello has taught at American University in Washington, D.C. as well as at the Iberoamerican University and Ahanuac del Sur University in Mexico, City. He is a founding member of the board of directors of the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas at the University of Texas at Austin and the Latin American Journalism Center (CELAP) in Panama City, Panama. He was a Fulbright Scholar at Louisiana State University where he got his B.A. and Master Degree in Journalism.

Laurence Bropleh

Laurence Konlma Bropleh is serving his second year as Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Liberia. In this position, he formulates and coordinates all information policies and programs for the Government of Liberia. In 2006, he was appointed a commissioner to the National Aids Commission (NAC) by President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf where he serves as chair of its executive committee. In early 2007, Minister Bropleh launched the concept *Changing Minds; Changing Attitudes* which assumes that unless Liberians change their minds and attitudes toward their society, consolidating Liberia's new found peace and democracy would be unsustainable. Prior to becoming Minister--from 2003 to 2006—he served as the Permanent Representative to the United Nations as Chief Diplomat/Ambassador/Head of Mission for the World Council of Churches in New York and Geneva. Bropleh holds a doctorate with emphasis in International Affairs from Wesley Theological Seminary/American University, Washington, D.C. His research interest ranges from conflict resolution, sustainable peace, transitional justice, and public policy. Dr. Bropleh is the author of *Strangers in their own homeland: The case of African refugees*. Wesley Press, Washington, D.C. (2000) and *Advancing Justice & Reconciliation in relation to the International Criminal Court*, Drukkerij Voorburg

Press, Leusden, The Netherlands, 2006. Dr Bropleh has presented several academic papers, including *Freedom from Fear—In search of Global Peace and Security*—UN General Assembly High-level Civil Society Hearings—UN Headquarters, (2005) and *Refugees and Uprooted People: Advocating for God’s Justice and Household* – United Nation, New York, NY, 2001.

Richard Calland

Richard Calland is Associate Professor in Public Law at the University of Cape Town and Director of its Democratic Governance & Rights Unit. He is a founding member and Executive Director of the Open Democracy Advice Centre (ODAC) in Cape Town and Programme Manager of the Economic Governance programme at IDASA where he has worked since 1994 (heading its main governance programme, the Political Information & Monitoring Service from its inception in March 1995 until April 2003). He is a Senior Research Associate with the Cambridge Programme for Industry. His latest book *Anatomy of South Africa: Who Holds the Power?* was published in October 2006. He is co-editor of an earlier ODAC publication – *The Right to Know, the Right to Live: Access to Information & Socio-economic Justice* (2002) – and also of *Thabo Mbeki’s World: The Politics & Ideology of the South African President* (2002). Calland is a political columnist for the *Mail & Guardian* newspaper. He is a member of the International Task Team on Transparency of the Institute for Public Dialogue at Columbia University, directed by Professor Joseph Stiglitz. He also consults extensively around the world; in recent years, he has advised on transparency policy, access to information law and anti-corruption strategies to the governments of Jamaica, Bolivia, Peru and Nicaragua, as a consultant to the Carter Center. Prior to coming to South Africa in 1994, Calland practised at the London Bar for seven years, specialising in Labour Law. He has an LLM in Comparative Constitutional Law from the University of Cape Town (1994) and a Diploma in World Politics from the London School of Economics.

Maximiliano Campos Ríos

Maximiliano Campos Ríos is Argentine and is 28 years old, he has a B.A. in Political Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA). Magister Cand. in Administration and Public Policies. San Andrés University (UdeSA). And he has realized Postgraduates courses at the University of Delaware (Short term Fulbright Scholarship) and the University of Georgetown. External consultant and former Director of Transparency and Citizenship Auditory of the NGO “Democracia Representativa” Author of the “Legislative Handbook of the Buenos Aires city Legislature”. Project Coordinator, Access to Public Information.

Jimmy Carter

Jimmy Carter, thirty-ninth president of the United States, founded The Carter Center with his wife Rosalynn in 1982. He continues to provide leadership for the Center, serving on the Board of Trustees and engaging in Center programs. He has led Center election observation delegations in the Americas, Africa, and Asia. Under his leadership, the Center has engaged in

conflict mediation in Ethiopia and Eritrea, North Korea, Liberia, Haiti, Bosnia, Sudan, Uganda, the Great Lakes region, Venezuela, and Nepal. The author of twenty-three books, he is University Distinguished Professor at Emory University. On December 10, 2002, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to President Carter “for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.

Rosalynn Carter

Rosalynn Carter, as First Lady of Georgia and First Lady of the United States, took on a continuing role as leader and advocate for positive change in the field of mental health. She created and chairs The Carter Center’s Mental Health Task Force. She is president of the Board of Directors of the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving and president and co-founder of Every Child by Two, a campaign for early immunization. She is a member of The Carter Center Board of Trustees and the author of four books. In 1999, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America’s highest civilian honor.

Jie Cheng

Dr. CHENG Jie is a constitutional law professor at Tsinghua University Law School. She received her PH.D. in Law from Beijing University and joined the faculty of Tsinghua from 1999. Her interests of research include constitutionalism, open government, eminent domain power study and Hong Kong & Macau Basic Law. From 2003-4, Professor Cheng was a Fulbright visiting scholar at Yale Law School and had focused her study on freedom of information and information security issues. Her recent publications on right to information laws include “Open Government under Law—Essence of Constitutionalism” (China University of Political Science and Law Press, 2002), and *Constitutional Reflection on Judicial Referring—Discussion of the First FOI case in Shanghai* (in *Jurist*, Vol. 4, 2007).

Orrett Connor

Orrett L. Connor was born in Grand Cayman on February 5, 1951. He emigrated to the United States where he attended Hunter College and earned a Bachelors Degree in Political Science, with a major in History. He then attended Long Island University where he earned a Masters Degree in International Affairs in 1982. In 1983, he returned to the Cayman Islands and entered the Civil Service as an Assistant Chief Immigration Officer in the Immigration Department. In 1985, he was promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief Immigration Officer and in 1996, he was appointed to the substantive post of Chief Immigration Officer. In June 2003, he was appointed as the first Cabinet Secretary of the Cayman Islands. In October 2004, he was appointed by the Governor in Cabinet to the post of Recovery Manager for the Cayman Islands Recovery Operations following the devastation of Hurricane Ivan. He continues to function in both capacities. Orrett L. Connor served as a Returning Officer during several occasions and is currently the Deputy Supervisor of Elections. He has been involved in the electoral process for

the past twenty years. His community involvement includes his role as Chief Commissioner for Scouts in the Cayman Islands. He was named as a Member of the British Empire on June 16, 2003. He is also an avid cyclist and road safety advocate.

Damian Cox

Damian O. Cox is the Acting Director of Access to Information Unit, Ministry of Information, Culture, Youth and Sports-Jamaica. He is responsible for directing all the activities of the Unit, which is charged with monitoring the consistent implementation and application of the Access to Information Act 2002 across all government entities encouraging greater transparency, accountability and public participation in national decision-making. The Unit is also responsible for ongoing island-wide public education programmes, conducting internal training for government entities and liaising with NGO's and other stakeholder groups. Mr. Cox is an attorney-at-law. Damian received his Legal Education Certificate from the Norman Manley Law School and his LLB from the University of the West Indies (U.W.I). He also received a B.A. (Hons.) (History) from the U.W.I. and a Certificate in Strategic Planning & Policy for Telecommunications, IT & Broadcasting Executives from the Mona School of Business, Telecommunications Policy & Management Programme, U.W.I. Prior to being appointed to act as Director of the ATI Unit in May 2007, Mr. Cox's substantive position was as a Legal Officer in the Information Division at Office of the Prime Minister. The Information Division, which now falls within the newly created Ministry of Information, Culture, Youth and Sport, is responsible for ensuring a coherent Information Communication Policy for Jamaica.

Helen Darbshire

Helen Darbshire is Executive Director of Access Info Europe headquartered in Madrid, Spain. A human rights professional specializing in access to information, Ms Darbshire has directed numerous projects designed to promote use of and respect for the right to information, with project work including training of civil society and public officials, provision of technical assistance to government bodies, and the design and implementation of monitoring studies to evaluate compliance with the access to information legislation. She has been closely engaged in litigation to defend the right to information and has provided expert submissions to the group drafting the European Convention on Access to Official Documents. Helen is also a founder member and current chair of the Freedom of Information Advocates Network. Ms Darbshire's human rights experience spans 19 years. She worked with Article 19 based in London and Paris (1989-1998), and with the Open Society Institute based in Budapest and New York (1999-2005). A consultant for inter-governmental organizations (OSCE, UNESCO, Council of Europe) and various CSOs, she has published and lectured widely on freedom of expression, access to information, human rights and democratization. She holds a degree in History and Philosophy of Science and Psychology from the University of Durham, UK.

Maja Daruwala

Maja Daruwala is the Executive Director of Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, an international NGO mandated to ensure the *practical* realization of human rights across the Commonwealth. She is actively engaged in numerous human rights initiatives and concentrates on issues relating to civil liberties including police reform, prison reform, right to information, discrimination, women's rights, freedom of expression, and human rights advocacy capacity building. Maja's interests lie particularly in the area of systemic reforms. She has focused her energies on issues of accountability and participation, which she believes are essential underpinnings for good governance and the realisation of human rights. Maja sits on several charitable boards, including the Open Society Institute-Justice Initiative, the International Women's Health Coalition, both based in New York, Civicus: World Alliance for Citizens Participation, based in Johannesburg, South Asians for Human Rights, based in Colombo, and the Voluntary Action Network of India, an umbrella organisation based in New Delhi aimed at protecting civil society. Maja believes the only way to be optimistic about the future is to invent it!

Nelson de Freitas

Nelson de Freitas has been the Project Administrator for the Latin American Center of Administration for Development (CLAD) since 2003 and is in charge of the following areas: social control and transparency in public matters and reform processes monitoring in Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay. Previously, he served as the Secretary General of the Civil Society "Convivencia Democrática" (CONVIDEMOS). He received his Master's in Political Philosophy from the Universidad Simon Bolivar, and is a graduate of the Political Science and Administration from the Universidad Central de Venezuela with honorable mention in International Studies. He is also qualified in "Matters of Public Administration", "Matters of Electoral Processes: Structural Basis" and "Parliamentary Challenges: Representation, Legislation and Control," by the National Institute of Public Administration of Spain (INAP) and the Distance Learning Center for Economic and Technological Development (CEDDET), the Congress of Deputies of Spain and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI). Some of his most recent publications include: "The invisible threads of our cities are the basis of our presidentialism"; "Presidentialist Culture in the Political Tradition of Contemporary Venezuela." and "Political vs. Economic Language in the Venezuela of today".

Nelson de Freitas ha sido el Administrador de Proyectos para el Centro Latinoamericano de Administración para el Desarrollo (CLAD) desde el 2003 y ha estado a cargo de las siguientes áreas: El control social y la transparencia en la Gestión Pública; seguimiento de los procesos de Reforma del Estado en Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, México, Paraguay y Uruguay y Coordinador de las Redes del CLAD. Previamente sirvió como Secretario General de la Asociación Civil "Convivencia Democrática" (CONVIDEMOS). Recibió la Maestría de Filosofía Política de la Universidad Simón Bolívar y es Graduado en la Licenciatura en Ciencias Políticas y Administrativas de la Universidad Central de Venezuela, mención Relaciones Internacionales. Diplomados obtenidos en "Gestión de la Administración Pública", acreditado por el Instituto Nacional de Administración Pública (INAP) de España y la Fundación Centro de Educación a Distancia para el Desarrollo Económico y Tecnológico (CEDDET); en "Gestión de los Procesos Electorales: Fundamentos Estructurales", por el Congreso de los Diputados de España y la

Fundación Centro de Educación a Distancia para el Desarrollo Económico y Tecnológico (CEDDET); “Los Desafíos del Parlamento: Representación, Legislación y Control”, por el Congreso de los Diputados de España y la Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (AECI). Algunas de sus publicaciones más recientes incluyen: “Los hilos invisibles de nuestras ciudades son los fundamentos de nuestro presidencialismo”; “La Cultura Presidencialista en la Tradición Política de la Venezuela Contemporánea” y “Lenguaje político vs. Lenguaje económico en la Venezuela actual”.

Boubacar Dicko

Boubacar Mahamdane Dicko was born near Tonka, Republic of Mali, in 1965. A civil administrator by training, he currently works at the Commissioner’s Office for Institutional Development as the Coordinator of the Institutional Support Unit of the Institutional Support for Administrative Reform and Decentralization Program (PARAD). He has been at this post since 2006. Previously, he served as the Head of the Cabinet of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Transportation, between 2000 and 2003. Between 1999-2000 he was Staff Manager in the Division of Personnel of the Administrative and Financial Department of the Ministry of Health. Prior to that, he was Project coordinator for the NGO, Subaahi Gumo Association. He received his Diploma from the National School of Administration of Mali.

DICKO Boubacar Mahamadane est né Vers 1965 à Tonka (GOUNDAM) en République du Mali Administrateur Civil de formation, à ce jour il est au Commissariat au Développement Institutionnel où il assure les fonctions de Coordinateur du Volet Appui Institutionnel du Programme d’Appui à la Réforme Administrative et à la Décentralisation (PARAD). Coordinateur du Projet Appui Institutionnel PARAD- PDI (Août 2006 à nos jours). Chef de Cabinet au Ministère de l’Industrie, du Commerce et des Transports (Mars 00 à Avril 03). Chargé de gestion du personnel à la Division Personnel de la Direction Administrative et Financière du Ministère de la Santé (Avril 99 à Mars 00). Chargé de projet à l’ONG Association Subaahi Gumo (ASG) (De 1991 à 1998). : Diplôme de l’Ecole Nationale d’Administration du Mali

Mukelani Dimba

Mukelani Dimba is the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Open Democracy Advice Centre (ODAC), a law centre based in South Africa. Mr. Dimba is responsible for the ODAC training unit which assists public and private institutions on best compliance strategies for South Africa’s Right-To-Information laws. The unit also supports to civil society formations and members of the public in using these laws to promote socio-economic justice. Mr. Dimba has worked on Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation not only in South Africa but also in Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Ethiopia. This work includes advising civil society formations on FOI campaigning, advising parliamentarians on FOI drafting and advising foreign governments on implementation strategies and critiquing various FOI draft laws in a number of countries. He has also participated in study visits on FOI in Sweden and the United Kingdom. The research work Mr. Dimba has done includes research done for development

agencies, such as a consultancy on FOI and Communication in Tanzania commissioned by the UK's Department for International Development. He has acted as Regional Coordinator (Africa) for the Open Society Justice Initiative's 14 Country Comparative Study on FOI Monitoring. This involved coordinating research in six African countries.

Chad Dobson

Chad Dobson joined the Bank Information Center (BIC) as Executive Director in December, 2007. Chad founded BIC in 1987 and was Executive Director until 1996. He then founded and directed the Consumers Choice Council to protect labeling systems (organic, fair trade, Marine Stewardship Council, Forest Stewardship Council) during the initial development of the World Trade Organization. At Oxfam America, where he was Director of Policy since 2003, Chad was responsible for developing the organization's Washington presence, and his portfolio included the Fair Trade campaign, extractive industries work and policy and advocacy activity associated with humanitarian relief. Chad is currently on the board of the International Relations Center, the Forest People's Programme/World Rainforest Movement, Green Seal, and the Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellowship.

Kevin Dunion

Kevin Dunion was appointed as the first Scottish Information Commissioner in 2003 and has recently been reappointed by the Scottish Parliament for a further, final, term of office. He is responsible for ensuring that all 10,000 for Scotland's public authorities which range for the Scottish government to individual general medical practitioners comply with the Scottish freedom of information act. In three years since the Act came into force he has received over 1500 appeals; he has issued almost 600 formal decisions. The Scottish experience is proving of interest to other jurisdictions and in particular he has been directly involved in projects in Jamaica (with the Carter Center) and Malawi (with the British Council and Scottish Government). He was educated at the University of St Andrews (MA Honours in Modern History) and University of Edinburgh (MSc African Studies). Prior to becoming Commissioner, Kevin's background was in the voluntary sector in firstly international development and then environmental campaigning on which subjects he is the author of a number of articles and books. He is currently writing a book on freedom of information.

Linda Ehrichs

Linda Ehrichs is a Senior Policy Analyst in the area of governance and anti-corruption for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). She is also a graduate of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, U.K. Among her professional experience, Linda has worked with the anti-corruption NGO Transparency International in Berlin (Germany) as contributing editor on the 2007 edition of the Global Corruption Report, "Corruption and Judicial Systems". Linda also has extensive field experience in media, gender and development with UNDP in Southeast Asia (Lao PDR).

Misanvu Faustine

Will Fitzpatrick

Will's role as Omidyar Network's corporate counsel allows him to combine his experience as a technology and business lawyer with his commitment to progressive social change. Prior to joining Omidyar Network, Will ran a solo law practice in San Francisco and represented a diverse group of technology companies on issues related to Internet and electronic commerce law, the creation and protection of intellectual property, and general corporate matters. Before entering solo practice, he served as in-house counsel, first for @Home Corporation (Excite@Home) and then for Loudcloud, Inc. Will started his legal career in the Bay Area as an associate at the law firm Fenwick & West. Prior to and during law school, Will worked for the Alabama Capital Representation Resource Center (now the Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama), helping to provide post-conviction legal assistance to death row inmates in Alabama. After law school, he served as a law clerk for Chief Judge Myron H. Thompson of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama. Will received a bachelor's degree with honors from Harvard College in 1989 and a law degree from Columbia University in 1994.

Meredith Fuchs

Meredith Fuchs serves as the General Counsel to the non-governmental National Security Archive at George Washington University. At the Archive, she oversees Freedom of Information Act and anti-secrecy litigation, advocates for open government, and frequently lectures on access to government information. She has supervised six government-wide audits of federal agency FOIA performance including two released in 2007: "40 Years of FOIA, 20 Years of Delay: Oldest Pending FOIA Requests Date Back to the 1980s" and "File Not Found: Ten Years After E-FOIA, Most Agencies are Delinquent." She is the author of "Judging Secrets: The Role Courts Should Play in Preventing Unnecessary Secrecy," 58 Admin. L. Rev. 131 (2006); and "Greasing the Wheels of Justice: Independent Experts in National Security Cases," 28 Nat'l Sec. L. Rep. 1 (2006). Previously she was a Partner at the Washington, D.C. law firm Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP. Ms. Fuchs served as a law clerk to the Honorable Patricia M. Wald, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and to the Honorable Paul L. Friedman, U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. She received her J.D. from the New York University School of Law and her B.Sc. from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Diego Garcia-Sayan

Currently Judge of the Inter American Court of Human Rights, General Director of the Andean Commission of Jurists and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (The Hague), Mr Garcia Sayan served last year as Chief of the Electoral Mission of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Guatemala. Mr Garcia Sayan has recently worked as a member of the Redesign

Panel on the United Nations System of Administration of Justice and Legal Counsellor of the Board of the Central Bank of Peru. Between July 2001 and July 2002, Mr Garcia Sayan was Peruvian Foreign Minister. During his tenure he promoted the ratification by Peru of the Rome Statute (ICC) and the approval by the OAS of an Inter American Democratic Charter. Prior to his appointment as Foreign Minister, Mr Garcia Sayan served as Minister for Justice for eight months participating towards the normalization of relations between Peru and the Inter American Court of Human Rights. He was also instrumental in the rebuilding of Peru's justice and security systems after 10 years of authoritarian regime.

Elaine Geyer-Allély

Elaine Geyer-Allély was the Carter Center's Country Representative in Mali where she worked between 2004 and 2007 with the government of Mali to design and implement an Access to Information Strategy in the Malian Administration as part of a wider program of collaboration with the Presidency of Mali to support sustainable development planning, good governance and the harmonization of aid flows. Previously, she worked as a policy analyst for 10 years with the Environment Directorate of the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in the areas of green governance and sustainable production and consumption patterns. She has recently relocated to Geneva, Switzerland where she is working part-time as a freelance consultant while reviving her environmental roots and beginning coursework towards a degree in Biodiversity Conservation and Management.

Carolyn Gomes

Carolyn Gomes is the Executive Director of Jamaicans For Justice a non-profit, non-violent, non-partisan Citizens' Rights Action Group. Formed in 1999 JFJ's primary focus is advocacy against State Abuse of Rights and strengthening of existing protection for rights. In 2001 the organization took as a secondary focus of activities Access to Information. Carolyn Gomes has spearheaded JFJ's activities around access to information since 2001. These activities have included lobbying and advocacy around the development of an Access to Information Act, assisting the ATI Unit of the Ministry of Justice prior to and during the implementation of the Act, conducting public education activities and media campaigns, developing the capability to monitor performance of requests made under the ATI Act. A Medical Doctor by training Carolyn Gomes has worked to educate herself, members of JFJ and the wider community on the benefits of Access to Information for the enjoyment and protection of all other rights. She has presented extensively in Jamaica and Internationally on Access to Information in Jamaica and written several short articles on the process for local and international publication. She is currently Chairperson of the Access to Information Advisory Stakeholders Committee.

Guillermo Gonzalez-Arica

Guillermo Gonzales –Arica is Associate Director of the Global Center for Development and Democracy in Washington DC and Executive Assistant of President Alejandro Toledo from Peru

(2001-06). This Center was founded in 2006 in Lima, Madrid and Washington DC. It focuses on encouraging discussion of the Latin American social agenda, prioritizing poverty reduction and development policies. He served as Chief of the Staff (2002-03) Press Secretary (2001-02) and Human Rights Advisor (2003-05) of the Presidency of Peru. During that time, he implemented the Presidency's website as a mechanism of the Access to Information Law of Peru. Previous to his work in the Presidency, he worked as a Parliamentarian Advisor to Congress (1995-2001) in the areas of human rights and anticorruption policies. Mr. Gonzales-Arica has a journalistic and legal background, as he worked for the main Peruvian political magazine CARETAS for seven years, and studied at the Law School of the Catholic University in Lima .He earned a Master in Public Administration (2006) and in International Relations (2007) from the Maxwell School of Government at Syracuse University in New York. He was recently named Director of Latin American Initiatives of the Executive Education Program in this Graduate School.

Olivia Grange

Olivia Grange has been Minister of Information, Culture, Youth and Sports with responsibility for Women's/Gender Affairs since September 2007, where she has been committed to the promotion of women's affairs with a particular focus on job creation and better health care. As a Member of Parliament, since 1997, she served on the Senate, House of Representatives, and several Parliamentary Committees, including: the Access to Information Act; Offenses Against the Person Act; and, the Incest Punishment Act. She worked on legislation dealing with Reparations, and is dedicated to the improvement of Constituency infrastructure and services, as well as in creating opportunities for the youth through early childhood education and elderly persons. She is also CEO/President SPECS Ltd and President SPECS-SHANG. She is an ardent supporter and promoter of Jamaican culture through the development of the Reggae Music Industry in Jamaica, Canada and the United States. She has managed artists like Shabba Ranks, Yellowman, Carlene Davis, Ken Boothe, Damian Marley (Junior Gong) (1980's -1990's); and worked as a Record Producer for Orange Productions. She is CEO of an Entertainment Promotions Company with a talent and flair for film, television and music production. Assisted in the development of the Jamaican Copyright Act (1995) and founding member Jamaica Association of Composers Artists & Performers (JACAP).

Juan Pablo Guerrero

Juan Pablo Guerrero is one of five commissioners of the Federal Institute for Access to Public Information (IFAI) in Mexico (an autonomous federal body in charge of regulating the Access to Information Law). Commissioner Guerrero was nominated by the President and approved unanimously by the Senate; his period runs from 2002 to 2009. He is Chairman of the Commission for Supervision and Enforcement of the Information Law at IFAI and he was the Institutional coordinator of two projects sponsored by Hewlett Foundation (2005-07): the program for dissemination of the Right to Information in marginalized communities and the creation of the International Center for Transparency and Access to Information Studies (CETA). He previously served as a full-time professor and researcher at the Center for Economic

Research and Teaching (CIDE) from 1994 to 2003, a public university in Mexico City. Commissioner Guerrero's main publications cover topics such as: budget and public finance, public administration reform (transparency, accountability, professionalization), and access to government information in Mexico.

Emmanuel Gyimah-Boadi

Emmanuel Gyimah-Boadi is Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Democratic Development, Ghana (CDD-Ghana), an independent research think-tank for Ghanaian/African democratic development. He serves as Executive Director of the Afrobarometer, a survey research project tracking public opinion on democratic, social and economic developments in over 18 African countries. Gyimah-Boadi is also a professor in the department of Political Science at the University of Ghana, Legon. He has consulted on economic reform, good governance, corruption and democratic development in Africa for many international bodies, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, Transparency International, Overseas Development Institute (UK) and the UNDP. His recent publications include "Political Parties, Elections and Patronage: Random Thoughts on Neo-Patrimonialism and African Democratization" in Matthias Basedau et al eds., *Votes, Money and Violence: Political Parties and Elections in Sub-Saharan Africa* 2007); "Ghana and South Africa, Assessing the Quality of Democracy" (with Robert Mattes) in Larry Diamond and Leonardo Morlino eds., *Assessing the Quality of Democracy* (2005); *Public Opinion, Democracy and Market Reform in Africa* (with Mike Bratton and Robert Mattes); and *Democratic Reform in Africa: The Quality of Progress* (2004). He is a member of the following boards: the Board of the International Center for Transitional Justice (New York), the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Democracy*, and the Governing Council of Ghana chapter of Transparency International (Ghana Integrity Initiative), among others.

John B. Hardman

John B. Hardman, M.D. is President and CEO of The Carter Center, where he provides leadership for the Center's program initiatives including election monitoring in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, public health training in Ethiopia, global development strategies and conflict resolution efforts, and agriculture programs aimed at improving food production in Africa and North Korea. Dr. Hardman joined the Center in 1989 as head of the Initiative to Reduce Global Tobacco Use and held several other positions before being named Executive Director in 1992. In March 2007 his title was changed to President and CEO. Dr. Hardman received his M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia, trained in Psychiatry as a resident at the Mayo Clinic and completed a Child Psychiatry Fellowship at Emory University. He taught at Emory University Medical School, was Medical Director of Peachford Hospital and has held positions with many professional and community organizations. Currently, Dr. Hardman serves on the Boards of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), the Task Force for Child Survival and Development (TFCSA), and the Blum Center for Developing Economies at the University of California, Berkeley, and is Chairman of the Board of the Ships of the Sea Museum and the Beehive Foundation.

Nathaniel Heller

Nathaniel Heller has split time between social entrepreneurship, investigative reporting and traditional public service since 1999, when he joined the Center for Public Integrity and began, along with Marianne Camerer and Charles Lewis, to develop the Integrity Indicators and conceptual model for what would become Global Integrity. At the Center, Heller reported on public service and government accountability; his work was covered by the Associated Press, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Moscow Times*, *The Guardian (London)*, and *Newsweek*. In 2002 he joined the State Department, focusing on European security and transatlantic relations. He later served as a foreign policy fellow to Senator Edward Kennedy in 2004. In 2005, Heller returned to stand up Global Integrity as an independent international organization tracking governance and corruption trends around the world and has led the group since.

C.R. Hibbs

C.R. Hibbs is Program Officer and Managing Director for Mexico for the Global Development Program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Ms. Hibbs has overseen the Foundation's Mexico portfolio since 2001. The Global Development Program's Mexico investments focus primarily on transparency and accountability issues. The program also makes targeted investments to strengthen the knowledge base for development, and for improving the enabling environment for civil society in the country. Prior to joining the Foundation, Ms. Hibbs was a Program Officer at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego, where she worked as a U.S.-Mexico border environment and migration specialist. C.R. holds a B.A. in anthropology and an M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of California, San Diego. She is based in Mexico City.

Sarah Holsen

Sarah Holsen is a research associate at the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration in Lausanne, Switzerland (IDHEAP), where she is part of a team working on a Swiss National Science Foundation (FNS)-funded research project on governmental transparency. In parallel she is pursuing a PhD in public administration. Prior to her move to Switzerland at the end of last year she was the Access to Information Research Fellow at the Constitution Unit (University College London), which she joined in July 2004 after completing a Masters degree in Public Administration at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University and a Masters in Latin American Studies at UCSD. Sarah's interest in access to information and transparency was sparked while working as a research assistant for Alasdair Roberts at Syracuse. She has also worked for Japanese organizations in Chicago, Japan and New York and as a volunteer in the human rights field in Ecuador.

Jamie P. Horsley

Jamie P. Horsley is Deputy Director of The China Law Center and Senior Research Scholar and Lecturer in Law at the Yale Law School. Before moving to Yale, Ms. Horsley was a partner in the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, establishing their first office in Beijing in 1981-83 and managing the China practice from Hong Kong 1986-90; Commercial Attaché in the U.S. Embassies in Beijing and Manila, 1991-95; Vice President of Motorola International, Inc. and Director of Government Relations for China for Motorola, Inc., resident in Beijing (1995-98); and a consultant to The Carter Center on village elections in China (1999-2002). Ms. Horsley lived and worked in China for 13 years, travels there frequently, and has written and spoken on doing business with China, legal aspects of village elections in China and the development of open information, public participation and administrative dispute resolution in China. She is a Director of the National Committee on United States-China Relations. She received her J.D. from the Harvard Law School, an M.A. in Chinese Studies from the University of Michigan, her B.A. from Stanford University and a diploma in Chinese law from the University of East Asia, Macao. She speaks and reads Mandarin Chinese.

Brant Houston

Brant Houston is the Knight Chair in Investigative & Enterprise Reporting at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign where he is a professor and teaches investigative and advanced reporting. He is the co-author of *The Investigative Reporter's Handbook* and author of *Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide*. Before becoming the Knight Chair, he was executive director of Investigative Reporters and Editors and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting for nearly 12 years. He also was a professor in journalism at the University of Missouri. As executive director, Houston oversaw all of IRE and NICAR's programs and personally conducted hundreds of seminars in the U.S., Europe, South America, Africa, Asia and Australia. He is a co-founder of the Global Investigative Journalism Network. Houston was a daily journalist for 17 years before he joined IRE. He was an award-winning investigative reporter at The *Hartford Courant* and at the *Kansas City Star* where he was part of the newsroom staff that won the Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of a hotel building collapse. He began his career by working for news organizations in the Boston area. His newsroom experience included working on investigative teams and on beats including courts, government, health and the environment.

Rob Jenkins

Rob Jenkins is Professor of Political Science at Birkbeck College, University of London. †He is the author or editor of several books, including *Reinventing Accountability: Making Democracy Work for Human Development* (Macmillan/Palgrave), *Democratic Politics and Economic Reform in India* (Cambridge), and *Regional Reflections: Comparing Politics Across India's States* (Oxford). Jenkins's research has focused on India, but has also involved work on

governance reform in Malawi, Uganda, and South Africa. He was a consultant on the UNDP's *Human Development Report 2002: Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World*, and has undertaken advisory work and commissioned research for UK DFID, the World Bank, and other donor agencies. He is currently Visiting Senior Fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies at the City University of New York, where he is researching the formative stages in the development of the two-year-old UN Peacebuilding Commission. This will form the basis of a book, *Peacebuilding: From Concept to Commission*, to be published by Routledge in 2009. Jenkins is beginning two new projects: on the implementation of the transparency and social-audit provisions of India's landmark National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, and on the process by which Special Economic Zones are being established in various Indian states.

Lisa Jordan

Lisa Jordan is Deputy Director of the Global and Civil Society Unit at the Ford Foundation. Ms. Jordan graduated cum laude in 1992 with a Master's Degree in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, Netherlands. She has acted as a consultant for numerous foundations both in the fields of development and environment and has published articles in Dutch, English and Spanish on changes in the field of development, the phenomena of non-governmental organizations and on the multilateral development banks. Previous positions included directing the U.S. component of the Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE), an environmental exchange program for parliamentarians; acting as a legislative assistant to Congressman Jim Scheuer, who served the people of the 8th district in New York; directing the multilateral development bank program of BothEnds, a non-profit in the Netherlands; and directing the Bank Information Center, a non-profit in Washington D.C.

Sampa Kangwa

Sampa is currently heading the Freedom of Expression & Right to Information Program at the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) Regional Secretariat; a media freedom advocacy organization based in Windhoek with 11 national chapters in southern African. She is in charge of MISA's regional advocacy strategy, which seeks among others the enactment of Right to Information legislation in a region where only one out of 11 countries have such a law. Ms Wilkie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology & Media Studies and is in her final year of reading for a Masters in Mass Communication at University of Leicester, UK. She is a mother, a performing and visual artist. She lives in Windhoek, Namibia.

Gergana Jouleva

Gergana Jouleva is the founder and executive director of the *Access to Information Programme* (AIP), Bulgaria. Since 1996, Ms. Jouleva has been involved in freedom of information issues. She is a member of Steering committee of *Freedom of Information Advocates Network* and a member of editorial board of <http://freedominfo.org/>. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Access-Info Europe and the Advisory Board of Privacy International. She has written a number

of publications on freedom of information issues, including the case study *The Access to Information Programme: Fighting for Transparency during the Democratic Transition* (July 2002); as well as *The Year of the Rational Ignorance (results from a sociological survey)* (2002). She has been a co-author and editor of the *2001 - 2007 Annual Reports on Access to Information in Bulgaria*, which give account of the developments in the freedom of information legislation and its implementation. She has international lecturing experience on access to information issues and a large number of participations in radio and TV talk shows. Ms. Jouleva earned her MA degree in Philosophy from Moscow State University and her Ph.D in Sociology from the Sofia Academic Counsel of Philosophy and Sociology in 1986.

Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo

Hon. Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo, a graduate from Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education, received his Diploma in Journalism at the John New Homes School of Journalism in 1979. Previously having entered the teaching profession with the aim of serving humanity, he then followed his passion for journalism and was appointed Assistant Editor of Sierra Leone's most critical newspaper then, "The Tablet". He then moved to "The Flash Newspaper" where he served as Co-Editor for two years. Whilst working with this media house, he bagged another certificate in journalism which armed him enough to open his own media house. In 1982, The "New Citizen Newspaper" was born and Mr. Kargbo became its Managing Editor up to the time he was appointed Minister of government by the current regime. His track record as Journalist and civil society activist earned him a place in several organizations within and without Sierra Leone. In 2004, Mr. Kargbo was elected President of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists, a position he held until was appointed Minister of Information and Communication by H.E Ernest Bai Koroma in September, 2007.

Stephen Kay

Stephen Kay is the coordinator of Latin American analysis at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and coordinator of the Bank's Americas Center. His research focuses on political economy and public policy in Latin America. His articles on pension reform in Latin America have appeared in *Comparative Politics*, *Foreign Policy*, the *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*, the *Journal of European Social Policy*, the *Journal of Inter-American Studies* and *World Affairs*, *International Social Security Review*, and the *Atlanta Fed's Economic Review*. He is the editor of *Lessons from Pension Reform in the Americas* (with Tapen Sinha, Oxford University Press 2008). He has testified twice before committees of the United States Congress on pension reform in Latin America. He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to joining the bank he taught at UCLA and California State University, Fullerton.

Ronald Krall

Dr. Ronald Krall is Senior Vice-President and Chief Medical Officer for GlaxoSmithKline. He is responsible for all matters of human safety for all GSK compounds in development and

medicinal and vaccine products, and for pharmaceutical regulatory affairs and GxP Compliance. Ron joined GSK in 2003. Before joining GSK, he held positions at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, Abbott Laboratories and Lorex Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Krall earned a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from Swarthmore College, his MD from the University of Pittsburgh, trained as a Staff Associate at the National Institutes of Health Epilepsy Branch, and completed his training in neurology and clinical pharmacology at the University of Rochester. He is board certified in neurology, and is a member of the Institute of Medicine Drug Forum, the Board of Directors of the Delaware Valley Science Fairs, the University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics Advisory Board, a former member of the Board of Directors of the National Sleep Foundation, and a past Trustee of the American Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians.

Huguette Labelle

Huguette Labelle holds a Doctor of Philosophy, Education. She is a Companion of the Order of Canada. She has been awarded honorary degrees from 12 Canadian Universities and has received the Vanier Medal of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada, the Outstanding Achievement Award of the public Service of Canada, the Management Achievement Award and Ordre de la Pléiade. She has served for a period of nineteen years as Deputy Head of different Canadian Government Departments including Secretary of State, Transport Canada, the Public Service Commission and the Canadian International Development Agency. She has served on more than 20 Councils and Boards. Huguette Labelle is currently Chancellor of the University of Ottawa, Vice President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and is serving on the Board of Directors of a number of organizations such as the UN Global Compact, Katimavik, the African Virtual University and Chair of the Financial Services Ombudnetwork. She is Co-Chair of the Task Force on Chinas Environment and Development Review and Prospect. She is also providing advisory services to several national and international institutions. A board member since 2003, she was elected as TI's Chair on 13 November 2005 at the Annual Membership Meeting in Berlin.

Issa Luna Pla

Issa Luna Pla is a researcher at the UNAM Legal Research Institute and has a doctorate in the right to information from Western University, Sinaloa, Mexico and a master in human rights from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, UK. Luna Pla has been a researcher in the Program on Comparative Media Law and Policy (PCLMP), Oxford University (Great Britain). Her published books include *El Derecho de Acceso a la Información Pública*, UIA-Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Mexico 2002; and *Agenda Setting de los Medios*, UIA-Western University, Mexico 2003. She is Director of the International Center for Transparency and Access to Information Studies (CETA) based in Mexico. Among the activities that Luna has participated in are the Global Media Assistance Strategies conference organized by the World Bank, USAID, and the PCMPL, held in Paris, France, 2001 and she directed the non governmental organization Freedom of Information Mexico (LIMAC). Luna Pla has written numerous articles in specialized journals and prestigious newspapers.

Firoze Manji

A Kenyan with more than 30 years experience in international development, health and human rights, Firoze Manji is Director of Fahamu, a pan African organization committed to using information and communications technologies to support the struggle for social justice in Africa . He is editor of the prize-winning Pambazuka News, produced by a pan-African community of some 500 citizens and organizations - academics, policy makers, social activists, women's organizations, civil society organizations, writers, artists, poets, bloggers, and commentators). He has previously worked as Regional Representative for Health Sciences in Eastern and Southern Africa for the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Nairobi; Chief Executive of the Aga Khan Foundation (UK) and Africa Programme Director for Amnesty International. He has published widely on health, social policy, human rights and political sciences, and authored a number of textbooks and interactive training manuals for human rights and advocacy organizations in Africa. He has edited a wide range of books, including on women s rights and on China in Africa. He is Visiting Fellow at Kellogg College, University of Oxford and has a PhD and MSc from the University of London, and BDS from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Conrad Martin

Conrad Martin is the Executive Director of Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust. The Charitable Trust makes grants in the areas of: government accountability, arms control, political finance reform, civil rights/civil liberties, and population & reproductive rights. Concurrently, Mr. Martin serves the Executive Director of the Fund for Constitutional Government, a tax-exempt publicly supported foundation created to eliminate corruption in government and foster constitutional principals of governance. The Fund sponsors the Project on Government Oversight (POGO), the Government Accountability Project (GAP), and the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC), as well as an Investigative Journalism Project. Additionally, Mr. Martin chairs the Board of Directors of HALT - - Americans for Legal Reform. Mr. Martin also serves on the The Boards of the Progressive Caucus Policy Foundation, the Center for International Policy and the Center for Investigative Reporting.

Emily Martinez

Emily is the Director of Special Initiatives at the Open Society Institute. She currently oversees four global funding efforts on access to information, criminal justice, disability rights and training for journalists. Emily has been with OSI since 1995. Before moving to Washington DC to set up this new program, she was the director of the Budapest-based Human Rights and Governance Grants Program, where she helped to promote the development of human rights and accountability groups in Eastern and Central Europe and the former Soviet Union. As the founding director of that program, Emily has developed expertise in a broad range of fundamental human rights issues in that region, as well as civil society's role in promoting rule of law and accountable governance. Emily graduated from Georgetown University with a BS in

International Affairs and Developmental Economics. She also holds an MA in Human Rights from the University of Essex.

Modibo Makalou

Jennifer McCoy

Dr. Jennifer McCoy was appointed director of the Latin American and Caribbean Program (LACP) in August 1998. She is also a political science professor at Georgia State University, and served previously at The Carter Center as associate director (1987-88) and Senior Research Associate (1988-98). She has organized election missions in Nicaragua, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela, and has been a member of election missions in Jamaica, Haiti, Guyana, and Suriname. Dr. McCoy directs the Carter Center's Transparency Project in Latin America, is organizing a hemispheric conference on Challenges to Democracy in Latin America for Fall 2000, and serves as Executive Secretary to the Center's Council of Presidents and Prime Ministers of the Americas. Dr. McCoy's research focuses on democratization in Latin America, the role of international actors in mediating processes of democratization, and global anti-corruption norms. She is editor and contributor to *Political Learning and Redemocratization in Latin America* (2000) and *Venezuelan Democracy Under Stress* (1995). Dr. McCoy received her doctorate from the University of Minnesota.

Toby Mendel

Toby Mendel has been the Law/Asia Programmes Director for the last 10 years at ARTICLE 19, an international human rights NGO focusing on freedom of expression and the right to information. He has provided expertise on these issues to a wide range of actors including the World Bank, various UN and other intergovernmental bodies, and numerous governments and NGOs in countries all over the world. In these various roles, he has on a number of occasions played a leading role in drafting legislation in the areas of the right to information and media regulation. Before joining ARTICLE 19, he worked as a senior human rights consultant with Oxfam Canada and as a human rights policy analyst at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). He has published extensively on a range of freedom of expression, right to information, communication rights and refugee issues, including comparative legal and analytical studies on public service broadcasting, the right to information and broadcast policy.

Marcos Mendiburu

Marcos Mendiburu holds a Master's degree in Public and International Affairs, with a major in Economic and Social Development from GSPIA, University of Pittsburg. He also pursued graduate studies in International Relations in Argentina, at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), where he worked for approximately five years. Marcos joined the World Bank in 1999, managing and supporting several initiatives on access to information,

transparency, and social accountability in different regions of the world such as Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia. In implementing the above activities, he forged partnerships with international institutions, local public bodies and NGOs. On July 1, 2006, he joined the Media, Information & Governance Program of the World Bank Institute. Within the broader framework of promoting good governance, he has focused on promoting access to public information and strengthening the role that media plays in accountability and governance, mainly in Latin America and the Caribbean. Prior to this position, he was a member of WBI's Social Empowerment and Social Inclusion Program.

Jonas Moberg

Jonas Moberg is the Head of the Secretariat of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. Before joining the EITI, Jonas was a Senior Advisor to the UN Global Compact. Prior to that, he was Director Corporate Policy and Practice at the Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum, London, which he joined 2002. At IBLF, he oversaw the Forum's programmes 'Business and Human Right and Conflict' and 'Business and Corruption'. During 1996-2002 Jonas worked for the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. During this tenure he worked at the Foreign Ministry in Stockholm and was posted to Mozambique and the United Kingdom. Jonas holds Masters degrees in Law from the University of Stockholm and the London School of Economics. During 1992-1996 he was the vice chairman of the Swedish National Committee for United World Colleges. Jonas is a Swedish citizen, is married to Jenny and they have three sons.

Carlos Monge

Carlos Monge obtained a BA in Anthropology and Ph.D. in Latin American History. He is currently the Research Associate at DESCO/ Propuesta Ciudadana in Lima, Peru, and Latin America Consultant for Revenue Watch Institute, New York. In addition, he serves as the Coordinator of the Diploma on Decentralization at the School of Political Science of the Universidad Catolica en Lima. Dr. Monge has been Researcher and advisor to rural organizations at the Centro Bartolome de las Casas en Cusco, and researcher, field projects manager and advisor to rural organizations at the Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales in Lima. His professional development has taken him to organizations such as the World Bank, where he worked as Rural Development and Environment Specialist. He has also served as Chief advisor and Planning Manager at the Oficina Nacional de Procesos Electorales and as Chief Advisor and Planning and Budget Manager at the Fondo Nacional de Compensacion y Desarrollo Social in Lima. He has also worked as Monitoring and Communications Manager at Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana. Has done extensive consulting, researching and publishing on social movements and organizations, rural development, decentralization and participatory democracy

Victor Ndoma-Egba

Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba S.A.N was born on 8th March 1956 in Ikom, Cross River State of Nigeria. He is a graduate of the Universities of Lagos and Calabar, in Nigeria, where he obtained

the LL.B and LL.M degrees respectively. He also was at the Irish Development Institute, Shanon, Ireland for a program in Export Processing Zones Administration. He was called to the Nigerian Bar in July 1978 and has been in active legal practice since specializing in civil and commercial law litigation and arbitration. He was Commissioner for works & Transport in (the old) Cross River State of Nigeria and also acted as its Attorney-General & Commissioner for Justice. He was Chairman of the Calabar Bar. President of the Calabar Chamber of Commerce, and a Member of the Body of Benchers. He was elected Senator representing Cross River Central in 2003 and re-elected in 2007. He was elevated to the rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria in 2004. He was Chairman, Senate Committee on Media and Public Affairs and is currently Deputy Senate Leader. He is married to Amaka with children.

Laura Neuman

Laura Neuman is the Assistant Director for the Americas Program at The Carter Center. She is the Access to Information Project Manager for the Carter Center and directs and implements its transparency projects, including projects in Jamaica, Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Mali. Ms. Neuman edited six widely distributed guidebooks on fostering transparency and preventing corruption and has presented at numerous international seminars relating to access to information legislation, implementation and enforcement. Ms. Neuman is a member of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue task force on transparency, a board member of the Center for Transparency and Access to Information Studies, Mexico, and an International Associate to the Open Democracy Advice Center, South Africa, and has served as a consultant to the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and a number of governments. As part of her transparency work, she served as Executive Secretary for the Carter Center's Council for Ethical Business Practices. Ms. Neuman also has led and participated in international election monitoring missions throughout the Western hemisphere. Prior to joining The Carter Center in August 1999, Ms. Neuman was senior staff attorney for Senior Law at Legal Action of Wisconsin. She is a 1993 graduate of the University of Wisconsin law school.

Tavinder Nijhawan

Tavinder Nijhawan is a Program Management Officer based at the headquarters of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa Canada. IDRC is a Canadian Crown corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies. Originally from Kenya, Tavinder has been with IDRC for over 15 years and has extensive experience in research and program management. Her research specialities include the role of information in, as well as the cultural dimensions of, international development. An earlier focus was on research about information and networking, and the role that these played in social and economic development. More recently, she has been involved in exploring the contributions that research can make in building democratic societies, and the entry points for applied research in making democracies work for the poor. Tavinder has studied at the University of Ottawa (Bachelors of Social Sciences in political science) and the University of Guelph (graduate studies in international development).

Deunden Nikomborirak

Dr. Deunden Nikomborirak is Research Director at the Thailand Development Research Institute, an independent economic policy think-tank based in Bangkok. During March 2007 to 1 February 2008 she assumed a political position as Secretary to the Minister of Finance. She graduated with a PhD in Economics from McGill University, Canada. Her areas of specialization include corporate governance, corruption, competition law and policy, regulation and privatization. Some of her work on corruption includes *Politics and Business Interests under the new Constitution* (2002), commissioned by the Thai Research Fund through Prajatipok Institute, *Anti-money Laundering* (2002) (in conjunction with Dewey Ballantynes Co. Ltd. and Chulalongkorn University), funded by the Asian Development Bank, *Corruption in Thailand: An Analytical Framework* (2000), funded by the World Bank, 2000. She has also written many papers on corporate governance including, “Building Good Corporate Governance after the Crisis: The case of Thailand (2005)”, in *Reforming Corporate Governance in Southeast Asia*, edited by Ho Khai Leong, ISEAS Publications, Singapore; Problems of Corporate Governance Reform in Thailand (2004), in *The Governance of East Asian Corporations: Post Asian Financial Crisis*, edited by Ferdinand Gul and Judy Tsui, Palgrave MacMillan Publications, Great Britain (2005).

Priscilla Nyokabi

Priscilla Nyokabi Kanyua is the head of the Policy Research and Advocacy Programme of the ICJ-Kenya that works towards pro-human rights laws and policies. The mandate of ICJ-Kenya is promotion and protection of human rights, rule of law and democracy organized around four programmes. She coordinates the Freedom of Information Project, whose ultimate goal is to have Freedom of Information Act enacted and implemented in Kenya. Another objective of the project is to enhance Freedom of the Press through creation and maintenance of appropriate and enabling legislative environment. She has helped to draft The Freedom of Information Bill, 2007 that was tabled before Parliament by a Private Member but lapsed at an advanced stage as it was not finalized before elections. This Bill is set to be re-published so that it can be re-introduced in Parliament this year. She spearheads the Right to Know Campaign and the Kenya FOI Network and we are in the process of revising and updating the FOI Bill. She is an LLB Graduate of the University of Nairobi, now pursuing an LLM at the same University on Law, Governance and Democracy thematic area. She is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a member of the Law Society of Kenya.

Sina Odugbemi

Sina Odugbemi heads the Communication for Governance and Accountability Program at the World Bank. He has over 20 years of experience in journalism, law and development communication. Before he joined the World Bank in 2006, he spent seven years with the UK's development ministry, DFID. His last position was Program Manager and Adviser, Information

and Communication for Development. Mr. Odugbemi holds a Bachelors degree in English (1980) and in Law (1986) from the University of Ibadan and a Masters degree in Legal and Political Philosophy (1999) from the University College London. He is finishing his doctoral thesis in Laws this year at the same university. His subject is Public Opinion and Direct Accountability between Elections: A Study of the Constitutional Theories of Jeremy Bentham and A.V. Dicey. Mr. Odugbemi's publications include *The Chief's Grand-daughter*, a novel (Spectrum Books, 1986) and he co-authored *With the Support of Multitudes: Using strategic communication to fight poverty through PRSPs*.

Edetean Ojo

Edetaen Ojo is Executive Director of Media Rights Agenda, an NGO in Nigeria, which works to promote media freedom and freedom of expression, and is also Vice Chair of the Board of the Media Foundation for West Africa, a regional non-governmental organization based in Accra, Ghana, working in the defence of media freedom in West Africa. He has over 20 years experience as a journalist and is a former visiting media fellow at the DeWitt Wallace Center for Communications and Journalism at Duke University in North Carolina; and a British Chevening Scholar. Mr. Ojo has worked on Freedom of Information issues in Nigeria and regionally over the last 12 years and is Coordinator of the Nigerian Freedom of Information Coalition as well as Director of the Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC). He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD). Mr. Ojo is currently serving as coordinator of the international Partnership on Media and Conflict Prevention in West Africa, which is made up of international, regional and national media freedom and media development organizations collaborating to provide relief for media affected by conflict in the region.

Juan Pablo Olmedo

Juan Pablo Olmedo is President of the Pro-Access Foundation and partner in the law firm Colomara Olmedo, Lawyers in Santiago de Chile. He received his law degree from the Universidad Catolica de Chile (1993) and obtained his Masters in International Law with a focus in Human Rights from the University of Essex, England (1996). He focuses particularly in international, constitutional, administrative law, as well as fundamental and consumers rights, transparency, and access to information in the public domain—areas in which he has represented landmark cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; he has also contributed to the formulation of Chilean public policy. His work lends him to the defense and assessment of NGO's and individuals. Additionally, he has intensely developed his academic work and counts with many specialized publications in his fields of competency.

Juan Pablo Olmedo B, es Presidente de Fundación Pro Acceso y socio de la firma Colomara Olmedo, Abogados en Santiago de Chile; recibió su título de Abogado de la Universidad Católica de Chile (1993); y obtuvo un Master en Derecho Internacional con mención en Derechos Humanos en la Universidad de Essex, Inglaterra (1996). Su área de especialización es el derecho internacional, constitucional y administrativo, así como la protección de los derechos

fundamentales y del consumidor, la transparencia y el acceso a la información en la gestión pública, áreas en las cuales ha representado casos emblemáticos ante el Sistema Interamericano de Protección de Derechos Humanos y contribuido a la formulación de las políticas públicas del país. Su trabajo lo vincula a la defensa y asesoría a organizaciones no gubernamentales y personas naturales. Adicionalmente desarrolla una intensa actividad académica y cuenta con publicaciones especializadas en las más materias de su competencia.

Bill Orme

Bill Orme is the United Nations Development Programme's Policy Advisor for Independent Media Development, based in the Democratic Governance Group at UNDP's Bureau for Development Policy. From 2003 to 2006 Bill was UNDP's chief of External Communications, overseeing its global press relations and advocacy campaigns. A former Latin America correspondent for The Washington Post, The Economist, and other publications, Bill served from 1992 to 1998 as Executive Director of the Committee to Protect Journalists in New York. He returned to journalism as a Middle East reporter for The New York Times (1998-2001) and UN bureau chief for The Los Angeles Times (2001-2). Bill was the founding editor of LatinFinance, a regional monthly launched in 1988. He is the author of "Understanding NAFTA: Mexico, Free Trade and the New North America" (University of Texas, 1996) and the editor and lead writer of "A Culture of Collusion: An Inside Look at the Mexican Press" (University of Miami, 1997). Other books to which he has contributed include the "Encyclopedia of International Media and Communications" (Elsevier Science - Academic Press, 2003); "Crimes of War" (Roy Gutman and David Rieff, eds., W.W. Norton & Co., 1999), and "Journalists in Peril" (Nancy J. Woodhull and Robert W. Snyder, eds., Transaction, 1998). For his work at CPJ, Bill was presented the First Amendment Award by the U.S. Society of Professional Journalists. Bill is an alumnus of Friends World College and taught post-graduate courses in journalism and Latin American studies at the University of Southern California.

Emilio Ortega

Emilio José Ortega Porras is a native of Nicaragua with a bachelor's degree in Law and a master's in Methodological Formation of Legal Instructors. He has diplomas in Sales and Government Contracting, and possesses experience in the fields of democracy, citizen participation, access to information, municipalities, political impact, transparency, and anti-corruption. Mr. Ortega has developed himself in various civil society organizations; has coordinated projects on citizens' participation and impact on the strengthening of democracy, and has worked as a public official of the Executive Branch. As a public official he helps to capacitate citizens and civil servants executing the State's power in the topics of transparency and ethics in civil service. He is a member of the Promotional Group for Access to Information, as a representative of the civil society organizations he has worked with. He has also worked on representing the State of Nicaragua in various international events focusing on the fight against corruption. Currently he works in the Violeta Barrios de Chamorro Foundation in the execution of access to information projects.

Emilio José Ortega Porras, Nicaragüense, Licenciado en Derecho, con Postgrado en Formación Metodológica de Instructores Jurídicos y Diplomado en Compras y Contrataciones del Estado, posee experiencia en el tema de democracia, participación ciudadana, acceso a la información, municipalismo, incidencia política, transparencia y anticorrupción. El Licenciado Ortega, se ha desempeñado en diferentes Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil, coordinando proyectos relacionados con la participación e incidencia ciudadana en el fortalecimiento de la democracia y también ha trabajado como funcionario público del Poder Ejecutivo, capacitando a servidores de ese poder del Estado y a ciudadanos en el tema de la transparencia y la ética en el ejercicio de la función pública. Es miembro del Grupo Promotor del Acceso a la Información Pública de Nicaragua, en representación de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en las que ha laborado. Ha participado en representación del Estado de Nicaragua, en diferentes eventos internacionales relacionados con la lucha contra la corrupción. Actualmente trabaja en la Fundación Violeta Barrios de Chamorro en la ejecución de proyectos que promueven el Acceso a la Información.

Nana Oye Lithur

Nana Oye Lithur is a lawyer by profession and a human rights advocate. She holds an LLB from the Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, and a Masters (LLM) from the University of Pretoria, South Africa. She is currently the Coordinator of the Africa regional office of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, where she coordinates CHRI programmes on Police Accountability, Freedom of Information and Access to Justice in Ghana and Africa. She is a member of the technical steering committee of the Freedom of Information Centre for Africa that coordinates and monitors the activities of African countries with respect to RTI/FOI and coordinates the Freedom of Information Coalition in Ghana which advocates the passage of a Right to Information bill. Nana conducted a survey for OSI and the Open Democracy and Advisory Centre (ODAC), South Africa in 2004, on the filing of requests for information at public institutions in Ghana, and organised the African Regional Conference on the Freedom of Information, Accra, Ghana (2007). In Ghana, she has a panellist and discussant on many TV and Radio programs and has written various articles in the print media on Freedom of Information. She was honoured by the University of Pretoria, South Africa with the Vera Chirwa Award for Human Rights for her outstanding performance in protecting human rights in Africa in 2007.

Marta Oyhanarte

Marta Oyhanarte, lawyer, mediator and honors graduate from the Universidad de Buenos Aires, is the current undersecretary for institutional reform and strengthening of democracy for the government of Argentina. Previously she served as the President of the Commission on Justice of the Legislature of Buenos Aires (2000-2003)—where she was a legislator for two consecutive three-year terms and as a member of the Organizational Committee for Female Leadership in the Hemisphere, under the auspices of the Inter-American Dialogue and the International Center for Women's Studies in Washington D.C. She was also a member of the Academic Council for the Institute for the Promotion of Human Rights (A joint effort between the Argentine government and the United Nations) (1993-96); Director of the Center for Citizens' Participation and Control of Government in Buenos Aires (1996-97), and she chaired the Poder Ciudadano Foundation

(1989-95). Some of Marta Oyhanarte's publications include: "Your absence, Your presence" ("Tu ausencia, Tu Presencia"), "How to exert you power as a citizen" ("Cómo ejercer su poder ciudadano"; Mediation: a transformation in culture" ("Mediación: una transformación en la cultura"); "Activists and Intelctuals of Civil Society in Public Service" ("Activistas e Intelctuales de la Sociedad Civil en la Función Pública").

Marta Oyhanarte, Abogada y Mediadora, egresada de la Universidad de Buenos Aires con Diploma de Honor es la actual Subsecretaria para la Reforma Institucional y el Fortalecimiento de la Democracia para el gobierno de Argentina. Previamente, sirvió como Presidenta de la Comisión de Justicia de la Legislatura de la ciudad de Buenos Aires (2000-2003), donde fue Legisladora de la ciudad de Buenos Aires por dos términos consecutivos de tres años y fue Integrante del Comité Organizador de Liderazgo Femenino para el Hemisferio (Auspiciado por Diálogo Interamericano y el Centro Internacional de Estudios sobre la Mujer) en Washington. También fue miembro del Consejo Académico del Instituto de Promoción de Derechos Humanos (Convenio Gobierno Argentino y Naciones Unidas) (1993-96); Directora del Centro para la Participación y el Control Ciudadano del Gobierno de la ciudad de Buenos Aires. (1996-97) y Presidió la Fundación Poder Ciudadano (1989-95). Algunas de las publicaciones de Marta Oyhanarte han sido: Tu ausencia, Tu Presencia", "Cómo ejercer su poder ciudadano", "Mediación: una transformación en la cultura". (Coautora), "Activistas e Intelctuales de la Sociedad Civil en la Función Pública". (Coautora)

Suchi Pande

Suchi Pande is Secretary, National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI). Suchi has worked for Parivartan, a Delhi based citizens' group against corruption, before joining the NCPRI. She is also an independent researcher, looking at interlinked issues of governance and accountability with respect to the urban poor. Suchi graduated from Delhi University and has a MBA in International Management from Australia.

Darian Pavli

Darian Pavli is Legal Officer for Freedom of Expression and Information at the Open Society Justice Initiative. He has been involved, among other things, with impact litigation before international human rights mechanisms, and has played a leading role in efforts to establish the right of access to government information as a basic human right internationally. He works closely with human rights groups in Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America and elsewhere to address a broad range of freedom of expression and information deficits, and writes and speaks extensively on these issues. Prior to joining the Justice Initiative, Darian was the Southern Balkans researcher for Human Rights Watch and a senior attorney for the OSCE Mission in Albania. He taught constitutional law in his native Albania, and holds advanced law degrees from NYU Law School and Central European University. Darian is a founder and steering committee member of the International Media Lawyers' Association.

Mitchell W. Pearlman

Mitchell W. Pearlman is currently a government information consultant and attorney. He was Executive Director and General Counsel of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission from 1975-2005, and now holds the title of Executive Director Emeritus of that organization. He has practiced law for over 37 years. Mr. Pearlman is a frequent speaker on Freedom of Information, privacy, freedom of expression and related topics. He has served as an expert for such organizations as the American Bar Association, the Center for First Amendment Rights, the Freedom Forum, Freedom House, the United States Department of State, and Yale Law School's China Law Center. He's a director of the National Freedom of Information Coalition, the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information, and the Connecticut Legal Services Corporation. He was formerly a steering committee member of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL), and a member of the International Conference of Information Commissioners. Mr. Pearlman's writings have been published in numerous journals, and his work cited authoritatively by many sources. He is now in the process of publishing his first book, entitled *Piercing the Veil of Secrecy: The Fight for Freedom of Information*.

Jose Tomas Perez

Jose Tomas Perez has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, and received a Master's in Higher Education and a Master's in Marketing. He served as Secretary General of the PLD for four years, and simultaneously served as Director of the Industrial Development Corporation under the first year of management of Leonel Fernandez. In March of 2003 he presented a draft bill for the free access to public information, which was approved in July of 2004. Currently, he works as Secretary of State and Director General of the Dominican Institute of Civil Aviation (IDAC).

José Tomás Pérez es Licenciado en Psicología con Postgrado en Educación Superior y Maestría en Mercadeo. Ocupó por cuatro años la Secretaría General del PLD, al tiempo que fue Director de la Corporación de Fomento Industrial en el primer año de Gestión de Leonel Fernández. En marzo de 2003 presentó una propuesta de la ley para el libre acceso a la información pública que fue aprobada en julio de 2004. Actualmente, es Secretario de Estado y Director General del Instituto Dominicano de Aviación Civil (IDAC).

Suzanne J. Piotrowski

Suzanne J. Piotrowski is an Assistant Professor of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University-Newark. She earned a Ph.D. in political science from School of Public Affairs at American University, Washington, D.C and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Delaware. She is a member of the Board of the Directors of the New Jersey Foundation for Open Government. Piotrowski is also on the Sunshine Advisory Board for the Citizen Access Project at the Brechner Center for Freedom of Information, University of Florida. In May 2006, she was named as a Prudential Business Ethics Center Fellow, Rutgers University. Dr. Piotrowski's research focuses on non mission-based values in public administration,

including administrative transparency and ethics. Piotrowski's work on governmental transparency includes access to documents through mechanisms such as freedom of information and open meetings laws. Her current research focuses on defining and measuring municipal transparency. Piotrowski has also written widely on public management and freedom of information issues including book chapters, journal articles, case studies, and encyclopedia articles. She authored the book, *Governmental Transparency in the Path of Administrative Reform* from the State of University of New York Press (2007).

Javier Ponce Cevallos

Andrew Puddephatt

Andrew Puddephatt is a Director of Global Partners and Associates (GPA). He has worked to promote human rights for twenty years and has specific expertise in programme development and evaluation with a focus upon transparency, the role of media in society, and implementing human rights. Andrew was Executive Director of ARTICLE 19 from January 1999 to October 2004. He has been an expert member of both the Council of Europe and the Commonwealth Expert working groups on freedom of information and freedom of expression. He is the Vice-Chair of International Media Support; a Danish based NGO that provides emergency support to journalists in conflict areas. He is also a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics. Andrew has led human rights organisations in the not for profit sector for more than twelve years. Between October 1995 and January 1999 he was the Director of Charter88 the UK's leading constitutional reform organisation. Between 1989 and 1995 he was General Secretary of Liberty, a domestic human rights organisation in the UK. He played a leading role in securing a Bill of Rights for the UK. In January 2003 he was awarded an OBE for services to human rights. Andrew is currently chair of the Nirex Independent Transparency Review panel and Chair of the Audit Committee for the UK's Parliamentary Ombudsman.

Juan Ramón Quintana

Rakesh Rajani

Rakesh Rajani, a citizen of Tanzania, was until recently the founding Executive Director of HakiElimu (www.hakielimu.org), an independent civil society organization in Tanzania that promotes public engagement in education governance and enables citizens to hold government to account. Rakesh's interests include the use of information in promoting citizen agency, political economy of policy making, budget transparency and public engagement, and education governance. He has written and/or edited over 300 academic papers, popular publications, and op-editorials in English and Swahili. Rakesh serves on several national and international boards, including HakiElimu, The Foundation for Civil Society and the Media Council of Tanzania. He is a fellow of the Harvard Global Equity Initiative, and advises its Joint Learning Initiative on

Children and AIDS. Recently, he has also advised the Gates/Hewlett Foundations' Initiative on Quality Learning Outcomes in international education and Google.org on its program development on information and governance. Currently Rakesh is working with several partners to develop an East Africa wide initiative on citizen agency and accountability.

Graeme Ramshaw

Graeme Ramshaw is a Program Officer with the Transparency and Accountability Project (TAP), a program funded by the Hewlett Foundation and jointly operated by the Brookings Institution and the Results for Development Institute. In this capacity, he serves as the principal researcher and writer for the program's publications, hosts many of its public events, and manages its smaller projects. Mr. Ramshaw's expertise and experience are in the fields of public sector transparency and accountability, citizen-state relations and the development of civil society, and African democratization. Prior to joining TAP, he worked with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in its Central and West Africa section and with the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa) in Pretoria on its community and citizen engagement projects. He has also held short term consultancy positions with the Brookings Institution and NOI Polls, an opinion polling organization in Nigeria started by Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. Mr. Ramshaw received his M.A. in International Economics and International Development from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in 2006 and his A.B. in History from Princeton University in 2002.

Hyeon-Ju Rho

Hyeon-Ju Rho is Country Director for the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative China Program, where she oversees rule of law capacity building programs in areas including government transparency and accountability, public interest advocacy, and criminal justice. Before joining the ABA in February 2007, she was based in China as a visiting scholar at Peking University Law School, researching the development of public interest litigation in China through a Ford Foundation grant. Prior to moving to China, she worked as a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and as a staff attorney at the Urban Justice Center in New York. She has a J.D. from New York University Law School, where she was a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Interest Scholar, and a B.A. from Swarthmore College.

Ramiro Rivadeneira

Ramiro Rivadeneira Silva received his Doctorate in Jurisprudence and International Sciences from the Universidad Central del Ecuador. He has a Superior Diploma in Constitutional Law and Fundamental Rights from the Universidad San Francisco, Quito and also studied Human Rights and Democratic Processes through the University of Chile. He has also taken Specialized Courses in Constitutional Law and Fundamental Rights in the Universidad Carlos III of Madrid, Spain. He has worked for numerous years in human rights, justice, and democracy sponsoring

organizations. He served as the Judicial Advisor to the Constitutional Court of Ecuador for six years. Currently, he is Advisor to the Minister of Justice and Human Rights in Ecuador.

Doctor en Jurisprudencia y Magíster postulante en Ciencias Internacionales por la Universidad Central del Ecuador. Diplomado Superior en Derecho Constitucional y Derechos Fundamentales por la Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Diplomado Superior en Derechos Humanos y Procesos de Democratización por la Universidad de Chile. Cursos de Especialización en Derecho Constitucional y Derechos Fundamentales por la Universidad Carlos III de Madrid – España. Ha colaborado por varios años en organizaciones de derechos humanos, justicia y democracia. Asesor Jurídico del Tribunal Constitucional del Ecuador por seis años. Actualmente Asesor del Ministro de Justicia y Derechos Humanos del Ecuador.

Miguel Rivadeneira

Miguel Rivadeneira is the current News Editor for Ecuadoradio, Radio Quito and Radio Platinum FM and has been so for the past twelve years. He is also a columnist and board member of the Editorial Counsel of El Comercio and a correspondent and board member for the Regional Executive Board of the Press and Society Institute, based out of Lima, Peru. He has been a journalist in Ecuador since 1975 for El Tiempo, Extra and Radio Tarqui, and spent 15 years with El Comercio as a reporter, political editor, and coordinator of writing, five years of which he was Editor in Chief. He has received sixteen national awards, honorable mentions and decorations for his work. Miguel Rivadeneira completed his higher educational studies from the Universidad Central del Ecuador, and received his diploma for postgraduate studies from the Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales. He has also taken part in many courses and seminars in the United States, Germany, Colombia and Peru, at institutions such as the SIP, the Federation of International Editors of Journals, and the American Press Institute.

Doce años director de noticias de Ecuadoradio, Radio Quito y Radio Platinum FM. desde 1995 hasta la fecha. Articulista y miembro del Consejo Editorial del Diario El Comercio. Quince años en el diario El Comercio como reportero, editor político, coordinador de redacción y cinco años de editor general. Corresponsal del Instituto de Prensa y Sociedad con sede en Lima. Reportero desde 1975 de los diarios El Tiempo, Extra y Radio Tarqui. Recibidos dieciséis premios nacionales, menciones de honor y condecoraciones Miembro del Consejo Ejecutivo Regional del Instituto de Prensa y Sociedad, con sede en Perú. Miguel Rivadeneira completó estudios superiores en la Universidad Central del Ecuador. Diplomado del Curso Superior de Postgrado del Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales. Cursos y seminarios en Estados Unidos, Alemania, Colombia y Perú. Cursos de la SIP, la FIEJ y American Press Institute. Pasantías en Colombia y México.

Sarah Rivard

Sarah Rivard holds the position of Program Assistant at the Democracy Coalition Project, a policy research and advocacy organization working to promote democracy around the world, which also serves as the Washington D.C. office for the Club of Madrid. Prior to her work with the Democracy Coalition Project, she worked on the Nicaraguan Election Observation

Mission with The Carter Center, assisting in the logistics and coordination of the delegation and serving as an international elections observer. In 2005 she worked for Catholic Relief Services in Recife, Brazil, where she coordinated an emergency relief project to help victims of flooding in the state of Pernambuco. She has previously served as an intern for the United States Mission to the Organization of American States at the State Department, where she focused on issues of terrorism, anti-corruption and money laundering. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Ms. Rivard graduated with honors from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland with a B.A. in International Studies. During her undergraduate studies, Ms. Rivard spent time studying abroad in Santiago, Dominican Republic at Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra. She is fluent in Spanish and English, and has a working command of Portuguese.

Alasdair Roberts

Alasdair Roberts is a professor of public administration in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. He is a Fellow of the U.S. National Academy of Public Administration and an Honorary Senior Research Fellow of the Constitution Unit, School of Public Policy, University College London. His book on the right to information, *Blacked Out: Government Secrecy in the Information Age*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2006, and has won several book awards. He holds a PhD in public policy from Harvard University and a JD from University of Toronto.

Michelle Roberts

Michelle Roberts is an investigative reporter at The Oregonian in Portland, Ore. She has written several award-winning pieces about the state's mental health system, including a series that exposed abuses at Oregon's oldest psychiatric institution that led to its planned closure. Before joining The Oregonian in 1998, Roberts worked as the lead crime reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Arizona State University and a master's degree from the Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism. Roberts was part of a team that won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news reporting.

Fernando Rodrigues

Fernando Rodrigues, 44, is a Brazilian journalist currently as an International Nieman Fellow at Harvard University. In Brazil, he has been for the past 20 years with newspaper "Folha de S.Paulo" –the daily paper with largest circulation in the country. At "**Folha**" (www.folha.com.br), Mr. Rodrigues has been Economics Editor (in São Paulo) and foreign correspondent in New York, Tokyo and Washington, D.C. Before coming to Cambridge last August, he was based in Brasília as both a political columnist for the paper's op-ed page and a feature reporter. In 2002 Mr. Rodrigues launched the project "Políticos do Brasil" (Politicians from Brasil), with data about Brazilian politicians (electoral information, personal data and list of personal assets). In 2006 (election year in Brazil), the web site www.politicosdobrasil.com.br presented an updated version with some 25,000 records, encompassing virtually all major

Brazilian politicians. Mr. Rodrigues has an MA in International Journalism from the City University of London. He also serves as vice-president for ABRAJI (Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism).

Jorge Romero Leon

Jorge Romero received his Master's in Political Science from the New School for Social Research in New York, and is currently finishing his Doctorate in Political Philosophy there, as well. He also studied political science in ITAM. He is particularly focused on theory of democracy, political identity, sovereignty and migration. He has worked in Fundar since 2000, in various projects related to budget analysis and legislative monitoring. He excelled as an advisor and information coordinator for the parliamentary branch of PAN in the Senate and as project coordinator in the Department of Governance of the Mexican Institute for Social Security. Since January 2007, he is the Executive Director of Fundar.

Maestro en Ciencia Política por la *New School for Social Research*, en Nueva York. Está terminando el doctorado en filosofía Política en la misma escuela, y estudió Ciencia Política en el ITAM. Sus áreas de especialización son la teoría democrática, identidad política, soberanía y migración. Ha trabajado en Fundar desde 2000 en diversos proyectos relacionados con el análisis de presupuestos y el monitoreo legislativo. Se desempeñó como asesor y coordinador de información en la fracción Parlamentaria del PAN en el Senado, y como asesor y coordinador de diversos proyectos en la Secretaría de Gobernación y en el Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social. Desde Enero de 2007 es el Director Ejecutivo de Fundar.

Atila Roque

Atila Roque comes from Brazil where he works in the NGO sector for over 15 years. Most recently, he was Executive Director of ActionAid USA (2003-2006) and he is presently Co-Director of Inesc (Institute of Economic and Social Studies), one of Brazil's best-known NGOs. He has also served as coordinator for the program on Public Policies and Globalization at IBASE (Brazilian Institute of Economic and Social Analyses). He also played other roles within the NGO sector, including as Director for the Brazilian Association of NGOs, International Coordination Committee of Social Watch and on the Coordination Board of the Brazilian Network on Trade and Regional Integration (Rebrip). He is a founder and former organizer of the World Social Forum, and serves as trustee for numerous non-governmental organizations, including the Bank Information Center (USA) and the Center for Studies on Public Security and Citizenship (Brazil). He has a Bachelor's Degree in History and a Master's Degree in Political Science.

Marc Rotenberg

Marc Rotenberg is Executive Director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) in Washington, DC. He teaches information privacy law at Georgetown University Law Center and has testified before Congress on many issues, including access to information, encryption policy, consumer protection, computer security, and communications privacy. He testified before the 9-11 Commission on "Security and Liberty: Protecting Privacy, Preventing Terrorism." He has served on several national and international advisory panels, including the expert panels on Cryptography Policy and Computer Security for the OECD, the Legal Experts on Cyberspace Law for UNESCO, and the Countering Spam program of the ITU. He currently chairs the ABA Committee on Privacy and Information Protection. He is the former Chair of the Public Interest Registry, which manages the .ORG domain. He is editor of The Privacy Law Sourcebook and co-editor (with Daniel J. Solove) of Information Privacy Law (Aspen Publishing 2005). He is a graduate of Harvard College and Stanford Law School. He served as Counsel to Senator Patrick J. Leahy on the Senate Judiciary Committee after graduation from law school. He is the recipient of several awards including the World Technology Award in Law

Roberto Saba

Mr. Saba is Constitutional Law and Human Rights Professor at University of Buenos Aires and University of Palermo (Argentina). He was co-founder (1995) and former Board Member (1995-2001) of the Association for Civil Rights (Argentina). Since 2001, he has been Executive Director. The Association for Civil Rights is a leading organization in Argentina and in Latin American dealing particularly with freedom of expression issues focusing on indirect censorship (as for instance through financial pressures), public broadcasting independence and autonomy, and freedom of information. ADC does its work through a variety of strategies such as impact and strategic litigation, lobbying for legal reform, advocacy before the administration and the publication of reports. ADC, together with Open Society-Justice Initiative (New York), was responsible for the publication of a report on how local governments and the national government in Argentina use the allocation of money for public advertising as a means for manipulating the press. This report, entitled *Buying the News*, as well as the accompanying regulation, have been and are very influential in the public debate on subtle ways of censorship that is taking place in the region. Roberto Saba got his J.D., University of Buenos Aires (1990), and his LL.M., Yale Law School (1995). He is a JSD Candidate, Yale Law School.

Marta Sacasa

Marta Pasos de Sacasa is the Vice President of the Executive Board of Televisión de Nicaragua-Chanel 2. Through her work in communications she has helped to support the efforts of the Violeta Barrios de Chamorro foundation, which strived towards the creation and implementation of an Access to Information Law in Nicaragua. She was born in Nicaragua in 1949 and is married with four children and two grandchildren.

Vicepresidente de la Junta Directiva de Televisión de Nicaragua- Canal 2, medio que ha apoyado el trabajo de la Fundación Violeta Barrios de Chamorro para la promulgación y la

puesta en vigencia de la Ley de Acceso a la Información. Nacida en Managua, Nicaragua en 1949, casada, con cuatro hijos y dos nietos.

Albie Sachs

Albie Sachs, born in 1935, is a justice on the Constitutional Court of South Africa, appointed by Nelson Mandela in 1994. His career in human rights activism started at the age of seventeen, when as a second year law student at the University of Cape Town, he took part in the Defiance of Unjust Laws Campaign. He attended the Congress of the People at Kliptown where the Freedom Charter was adopted. He started practice as an advocate at the Cape Bar aged 21. The bulk of his work involved defending people charged under racist statutes and repressive security laws. In 1966 he went into exile. After spending eleven years studying and teaching law in England he worked for a further eleven years in Mozambique as law professor and legal researcher. During the 1980s working closely with Oliver Tambo, leader of the ANC in exile, he helped draft the organisation's Code of Conduct, as well as its statutes. In 1990 he returned home and as a member of the Constitutional Committee and the National Executive of the ANC took an active part in the negotiations which led to South Africa becoming a constitutional democracy. After the first democratic election in 1994 he was appointed by President Nelson Mandela to serve on the newly established Constitutional Court.

Salimah Samji

Salimah was born in Nairobi, Kenya, has a Bachelor of Mathematics from the University of Waterloo (Canada) and a Masters in Public Administration in International Development (MPAID) from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. She has worked in Kenya, Canada, USA, Pakistan, India and Tajikistan. She is a qualified Casualty Actuary who decided to volunteer with a Canadian NGO (FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance), based in Pakistan for 18 months sponsoring Afghan Refugees to Canada. Her experience working in afghan refugee camps led her to change careers from an actuary to working in the international development arena. After graduating from the Kennedy School, she spent 3 years at the World Bank in South Asia (based in India) as a social/rural development as well as a monitoring and evaluation specialist. She is currently a Program Manager at Google.org leading the Inform and Empower initiative in India.

Jorge Santistevan

J. Santistevan de Noriega is a Doctor at Law and Attorney at Law by the Catholic University of Peru, with post graduate studies at NYU's School of Law and University of Wisconsin's School of Law. He is a practicing lawyer, arbitrator and law professor at the Catholic University of Peru (PUCP), the Peruvian Science University (UPC), the Magistrates Academy of Peru (AMAG) and the Lima University (UL). In 1996 he was elected by the Peruvian Congress as the first Defensor del Pueblo (Ombudsman). Mr. Santistevan's devoted and independent performance as

a defender of human and constitutional rights in adverse circumstances has given him a reputation that has been recognized in Peru and else where in Latin America

Patrick Schmidt

Patrick Schmidt teaches Political Science at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. After completing a Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University, he also held posts at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford, and Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. His works include books on regulatory policymaking in the United States and the adoption of human rights into domestic legal systems, as well as numerous articles and chapters on the American Supreme Court, litigation, and the administrative process. His current research focuses on the challenges faced by laws requiring disclosure in a variety of settings, including securities, public freedom of information, and campaign finance in the United States.

Emanuel Shears-Moses

Emanuel Ekundayo Shears-Moses attended schools in the Federal Republic of Nigeria and obtained a Bachelor of Arts [combined honors] degree in English and Philosophy from the University of Lagos, Bachelor of Laws from the University of London and a master's degree in Business Law from London. Called to the bar at Gray's Inn , London, he was a magistrate in the Republic of Sierra Leone before leaving to enter private legal practice. Presently he is head of the law firm: Shears-Moses &CO and past President of the Sierra Leone Bar Association. He is also lecturer in Law at the University of Sierra Leone, Chairman of the National Social Security Appeals Tribunal & Medical Appeals Tribunal, and member of the University Appeals Committee and of the Law Reform Commission. He was chairman of the committee of inquiry set up by the government to investigate the security in the Central prisons during the rebel war. He has been a long time an advocate for law reform relating to freedom of information by the public and therefore the right of the press to search for and obtain information on the activities of government and its officials in the interest of good governance.

Ousamane Sidibe

Ousmane Sidibe was born on December 25th, 1954 in the Republic of Mali. He received juris doctor from the University of Bordeaux, France, and his bachelor's degree from l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Mali. From 1984 to 1993 to served the role of professor and subsequently of Director of l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration. Throughout the course of his university career, he has published many articles on the right to work and democracy in Africa. Between 1993 and 2000, Mr. Sidibe has occupied many positions within the Malian government—most notably in as the Minister of Labor, where he carried out many reforms. Since 2001, he has worked as the Commissioner of Institutional Development where he has put into action a program on extensive administrative reform. Internationally, Mr. Sidibe has chaired over various administrative councils, particularly in the African Center for Administrative Research for the Development of Morocco, and in the International Labor Organization. Mr.

Sibide is also a member of the scientific council of the Advanced Studies Institute of the University of Nantes, France. Mr. Sidibe was honored by the President of Mali as a Knight of National Order of Mali.

Shekhar Singh

Shekhar Singh is a founder member and past convenor of the National Campaign for Peoples Right to Information (NCPRI). The NCPRI was at the forefront of the movement to draft and have legislated the Indian Right to Information Act. Shekhar Singh taught social and moral philosophy, and epistemology, at St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, and at the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong. He subsequently taught at the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi and was Director of the Centre for Equity Studies, New Delhi. His major areas of work and interest include biodiversity conservation, environmental management, right to information and good governance. He has also worked with the Government of India as Advisor to the Planning Commission of India and has been a consultant to various organisations including the UNDP, FAO, ADB, DANIDA, the World Commission on Dams and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). He is a past governor of the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and a co-chair of the task force on transparency, as part of the Initiative on Policy Dialogue (IPD), based in Columbia University, New York.

Rick Snell

Rick Snell is a senior lecturer in public law at the Law School, University of Tasmania. His principal area of interest is administrative law but he has published and studied in a wide number of areas (including history, politics and the South Pacific). He is considered an authority on Freedom of Information (FOI). He has been a visiting teacher at Law Schools in New Zealand, Canada and Ireland. In the past 8 years he has been invited to speak on a ccess to information, the reform of administrative law and public law teaching in all Australian states, Canada, New Zealand, Fiji, Indonesia, Mexico, United Kingdom, Ireland, USA, Philippines, Malaysia, Cambodia and South Africa. He has been a government FOI officer, serial applicant, provided advice to media requesters, NGOs and Ombudsman, made numerous submissions on law reform and for 10 years was editor of the FoI Review. He is regarded as a thought provoking and provocative speaker and writer. He is a frequent media commentator on both state and national legal issues especially affecting governance issues. His current research concentrates on the interfaces, conflicts and contradictions between FOI and other statutes and comparative research of Ombudsman and FOI.

Dario Soto

Dario Soto Abril is a Colombian attorney. Since 2002 Dario serves as Director of Programs for the Trust for the Americas, the non-profit affiliate of the Organization of American States (OAS). Among other roles, Mr. Soto is in charge of the coordination of the regional alliance for access to information and freedom of expression. The "alliance" is a network of civil society

organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean that work together to promote participation and transparency through better FOIA laws. Mr. Soto holds a Masters of Law from Tulane University and is admitted to practice law in the state of New York.

John Stremlau

Dr. John Stremlau is vice president for peace programs at The Carter Center, named to the post in January 2006. He oversees the Center's programs to advance human rights, democracy and conflict resolution globally, regional cooperation in the Americas, and promotion of grassroots democracy, rule of law, and social justice in China. For the past eight years he resided in South Africa where he was Jan Smuts Professor and Head of International Relations and the founding director of the Centre for Africa's International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Previously, he served as senior advisor to the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict in Washington, D.C. (1994-1998), deputy-director for policy planning in the office of the U.S. Secretary of State (1989-1994), strategic planning officer for the World Bank (1988-1989), and an officer of the Rockefeller Foundation (1974-1987), directing its international relations division from 1984-1987. At the Rockefeller Foundation, his responsibilities included supporting research and training in the fields of international security, arms control, and international economic cooperation. He also administered a special trustee-supported program to fund black leadership development in South Africa. Dr. Stremlau publishes extensively on foreign affairs and is a frequent media commentator on international network news programs. He authored "The International Politics of the Nigerian Civil War," and edited several books. He comments frequently on foreign affairs, including more than 200 opinion pieces for South African and international media since 1998.

Miguel Suazo

Miguel Suazo is a native of the city of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, where he pursued medicine as his primary career. He later specialized in the field of bioethics in the Universidad de Chile. He is director of Ethics within the National Council for State Reform (CONARE), where he serves as coordinator of a specialized unit responsible for the implementation of law 200-04, on free access to public information. He is also coordinator of an inter-institutional committee for the development and implementation of an action plan for the creation of the Access to Information Offices (OAI) and the development of a draft bill for the creation of a guiding body for the realization of the law. He is responsible for the training process for members of the ethics committee belonging to state dependencies and for their linkages to the Access to Information Offices, as well as for those Responsible for Access to Information (RAI). His post is defined under the responsibility to serve as an ethical support in the establishment of an integrated framework for state reform processes

Tom Susman

Tom Susman is a partner in the Washington Office of Ropes & Gray, where his practice includes counseling, litigation, and lobbying on access to government information and privacy. He has testified on FOIA reform before the U.S. Congress and authored a number of works on information and privacy. He advised Shanghai on open government information, wrote a chapter on Access to Documents in the European Union for an ABA publication, co-authored a BNA portfolio on business information, and taught classes and courses on the FOIA to government lawyers, government access professionals, and law students. He has also been involved in a number of freedom of information cases at the state and federal levels and before foreign tribunals. Currently serving in the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, is also a member of the American Law Institute, Chairman of the National Judicial College, and President of the District of Columbia Public Library Foundation. Before joining Ropes & Gray, Mr. Susman served on Capitol Hill as chief counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee; prior to that he was in the Office of Legal Counsel of the US Department of Justice. He graduated from Yale University and received his J.D. from the University of Texas Law School.

Nardi Suxo

Nardi Elizabeth Sexy Iturry is the Vice Minister of Transparency and Anticorruption. She focused in Humanities throughout her secondary education, and received her Bachelor's degree in Political and Juridical Science from the Universidad Publica Mayor de San Andres. She received her diploma in human rights from the Universidad Carlos Tercero in Spain, and has accumulated experience in the field through courses in penal reform and human rights in Costa Rica, Peru, and the US and from organizations such as the UN and the Andian Commission of Jurists. She also has wide experience in Civil Society and its relationship with Central Government, and Legislative and Judicial Power. At the same time she has had experience in the public sector.

Nardi Elizabeth Suxo Iturry es la Viceministra de Transparencia y Lucha contra la Corrupción. Ella recibió su bachiller en Humanidades, y su licenciatura en Ciencias Jurídicas y Políticas de la Universidad Publica Mayor de San Andres. Esta Diplomada en Derechos Humanos de la Universidad Carlos Tercero, España y ha acumulado experiencia en el ámbito de Derechos Humanos a través de cursos de reforma penal en Costa Rica y Peru, EEUU y organizaciones como las Naciones Unidas y la Comision Andina de Juristas. Ella ha tenido amplia experiencia en el trabajo con Sociedad Civil y su relacionamiento con entidades del Gobierno Central, Poder Legislativo y Judicial. Asimismo experiencia en el Sector Público.

Min Tang

Min Tang is the Deputy Secretary General of the China Development Research Foundation of the Development of Research Center of the State Council of China, which is in charge of conducting research work in the fields of macroeconomic, financial reform, energy conservation and climate change, and public finance and social investment. Previously, Mr. Tang served as Deputy Resident Representative of the Asian Development Bank's Resident Mission in China and as Principal Economist of the Asian Development Bank. His most recent publications

include "Growth Triangles in Asia-A New Approach to Regional Economic Cooperation" (Oxford University Press, 1994); "Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle: Theory to Practice" (Asian Development Bank Press, 1996); "Issues on Contemporary Economics" (Commerce Press, Vol.1, 1989, Vol.2, 1992, Vol.3, 1996); and "Thousand Thoughts and One Achievement" (Guangdong Economic Press, 2002). Min Tang received both his Ph.D and M.A in International Trade Finance and Econometrics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his B.S in Mathematics from Wuhan University, China."

Mohammed Tibandenyerera

Mr. Mohamed Tibanyendera is an Advocate entitled to practice in all legal matters in the High Court of Tanzania and Subordinate courts, save for the Primary Courts. He completed his Bachelor of Laws degree in 2003 at the University of Dar es Salaam, specializing in human rights, intellectual property, and corporate and commercial laws. Mr. Tibanyendera has undertaken various activities in his current and previous positions. He first worked as a legal counselor with the Womens' Legal Aid Centre, then joining ILM Advocates, a private law firm in Tanzania in 2003, where he worked as a legal officer. Since May 2004, Mr. Tibanyendera has been working at his current position with the Media Institute of Southern Africa –Tanzania Chapter (MISA-TAN) as an Advocacy/Broadcasting Officer. MISA is an international non-governmental organization campaigning for Freedom of Information and media freedom in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Besides, Mr. Tibanyendera has participated in various forums to address issues of access to information. He is currently the secretary to the Coalition for Freedom of Information Campaign in Tanzania and has also worked as a consultant to the Coalition on matters relating to freedom of information.

Alejandro Toledo

Dr. Alejandro Toledo was democratically elected President of Peru from July 2001-July 2006. His Presidency was characterized by its fight against poverty through health and educational investment, and due to sustained economic growth and deliberate social policies directed at the poor, extreme poverty was reduced by 25 percent in five years. Before becoming President, Dr. Toledo worked for the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, and the United Nations in New York. During his academic years, Professor Toledo was a visiting scholar and a research associate at Harvard University and Waseda University in Tokyo. He is currently an economics professor (on leave) at the University of ESAN and Director of the Economic Development Institute (IDE/ESAN) in Lima, Peru. He is also Founder and President of the Global Center for Development and Democracy (GCDD), which studies the interrelationship between poverty, inequality, and the future of democratic governance. He is a Payne Distinguished Visiting Lecturer at the Freeman Spogli Institute of International Studies and Visiting Scholar at the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) for the 2007-2008 academic year, Distinguished Fellow in residency at the Center for Advanced Studies and Behavioral Science (CASBS) at Stanford for the 2006-2008 academic years. He also served as Co-leader with Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ardito Barletta in the Presidential Election Observation Mission to Nicaragua in November 2006. Dr. Toledo holds a Ph.D. and

Master's in Economics of Human Resources, in addition to a Master's in Economics from Stanford University.

Tseliso Thipanyane

Tseliso Thipanyane is the Chief Executive Officer of the South African Human Rights Commission. He has worked extensively on human rights, democracy and good governance over the last 15 years, and has held positions as former researcher and acting director of the Centre for Criminal Justice, University of KwaZulu-Natal, law lecturer, University of the Western Cape. He is the former Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the National Institution for Public Interest Law and Research, as well as the Former head of the Research and Documentation of the South African Human Rights Commission. Mr. Thipanyane served as the former Corporate Affairs Officer of the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities and was a former member of the Juvenile Justice Project Committee of the South African Law Reform Commission. Currently, Mr. Thipanyane is an active member of the Board of various organizations, including the Open Society Foundation (South Africa), and the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, as well as former board member to the South African Anti-Racism Forum; he is also an Advocate of the High Courts of Lesotho and South Africa. Mr. Thipanyane has a Masters in Constitutional Litigation and a Bachelor's in Laws and Sciences; he also received a fellowship for the Salzburg Seminar.

Jack Thurston

Based in London, UK, Jack Thurston is a co-founder of farmsubsidy.org, a network of journalists, researchers and activists pushing for transparency in European Union farm subsidy policies. He has led the campaign for access to data on farm subsidy payments in the UK and continues to work with a pan-European network on budget accountability and openness. His work on transparency has resulted in fundamental changes to laws governing public access to information about European Union budgets. He is also a Transatlantic Fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the US, an American institution that stimulates the exchange of ideas and promotes cooperation between the United States and Europe in the spirit of the post-war Marshall Plan. He was formerly a political adviser to the Rt. Hon. Nick Brown MP, the UK Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Food (1998-2001). Mr Thurston writes widely on agriculture, food and trade policy and his articles have appeared in The Guardian, The Observer, European Voice, New Statesman, Prospect and Tribune. He holds degrees in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University (1994) and Public Policy Analysis from the University of California at Berkeley (1999), where he studied for two years as a Fulbright Scholar.

Anel Townsend

Anel Townsend is a consultant for the Unit of Gender and Diversity at the Inter-American Development Bank, Washington DC. She is a Member of the Advisory Council of Parliament Latin-American (regional organization which gathers 22 Parliaments from Latin American and Caribbean and promotes latinamerican integration and democracy) and of the Advisory Council

of Vital Voices for a Global Partnership (which promotes women 's leadership globally) in Washington DC. Visiting Fellow of the Center for Hemispheric Affairs at the University of Miami , Florida (2008), Faculty of the Salzburg Seminar, Session 447, Austria (2007). Member of the Congress in Peru between 1995 and 2006. As a parliamentarian she focused her work in human rights, gender equality and anticorruption matters. She is the author of the first Access to Information Law approved in Perú in the year 2003 and was the Chair of the Special Committee to prepare the text of such law (2002-03) . Former Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development (2003). Between November 2000 and June 2001, she participated actively in the first Investigation Committee to be formed in the Peruvian Parliament after ten years in which the authoritarian government headed by Fujimori had blocked any kind of research about them . From August 2001 to June 2002, she was the Chair of the Special Investigation Committee about Fujimori's regime illegal actions. This Committee produced more than one hundred accusations and many of them have been included in the Extradition Procedure of Alberto Fujimori approved by the Supreme Court in Santiago de Chile.

Maharafa Traoré

Patrick Tumwine

Patrick Tumwine is a Ugandan male working with Human Rights Network Uganda (HURINET-U) as the Advocacy Information and Research officer. He is a holder of a Bachelors Degree in Social sciences major in political science and public administration from Makerere University Kampala Uganda. He is currently undertaking a Masters degree in Human Rights from the same University. Have experience in Advocacy, research and Human rights monitoring in the Country through reporting, media Advocacy, and Networking at both local regional and international level. Has attended several National, regional and International conferences, including FOI, Human rights Monitoring, ICC, JRR, among others. He is member of steering committee of African freedom of information centre. And a Human rights defender.

Ricardo Uceda

Ricardo Uceda, Executive Director of the Institute on Press and Society (IPYS), has directed highlighted journalistic investigations in Peru—some of these include the crimes perpetrated by the Grupo Colina, a military squad in charge of extrajudicial executions in the 90's, and the falsification of over 1 million signatures in the 2000 elections. He was a student of Economics and Journalism, and was the director of the *Sí* seminar (1994-1999). Additionally, he served as Chief of the Investigation Unit in *El Comercio* newspaper (1994-2001), and gained prior experience as reporter and editor in various publications and media sources. In 1994, he was awarded the Freedom of Press award from the Journalists' Protection Committee in New York. In 1999 he was considered Defender of Freedom of the Press by the International Press Institute. In 2000, Columbia University granted him the Maria Moors Cabot award. He published "Death in the little Pentagon" (Planeta Colombia, 2004), an extensive investigation on the crimes committed by the Shining Path and the Peruvian Armed Forces between 1983 and 1993. He has been executive director of IPYS since 2001.

Farina Vasquez

Vladimir Villegas

Hely Vladimir Villegas was born in Caracas on December 11m 1961. He received his bachelor's degree in Social Communication, and has been elected to parliament in two instances. He was a member of the Latin American parliament and formed part of the 1999 National Constituent Assembly. He was an attorney of the people in Caracas and served as ambassador of Venezuela to Brazil and Mexico and as President of the State owned station Venezolana de Television. He served as Vice Minister of Foreign Relations for Asia and the Middle East. He was Secretary General of the National College of Journalists in Caracas, and is currently programming coordinator for radio and television. He is married and has two sons.

Alex Wang

Alex L. Wang is an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) based in Beijing and the director of NRDC's China Environmental Law Project. In this capacity, he works with China's government agencies, lawyers, judges and environmental groups to improve environmental enforcement and strengthen the role of the public in environmental protection. In 2008, a major focus of this work will be open environmental information. Mr. Wang is also involved in overall development and management of NRDC's China Program, and helped to establish NRDC's Beijing office in 2006. Mr. Wang is the author of various articles on environmental law that have appeared in The Environmental Forum, Vermont Journal of Environmental Law, World Environment and other publications. He is a regular presenter on China's environment and has spoken at, among other places, the Council on Foreign Relations, New York University School of Law, Columbia University Law School, Tsinghua University and the China University of Political Science and Law. He was a Fulbright Scholar to China from 2004-05. Prior to that, Mr. Wang was an attorney at the law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York City. Mr. Wang received a J.D. degree from New York University School of Law and a B.S. in Biology from Duke University.

Aleem Walji

Aleem Walji is Head of Initiatives within the Global Development Team at Google.org with a focus on Eastern Africa (he was born in Tanzania). Prior to joining Google, Aleem was Chief Executive Officer of the Aga Khan Foundation in Syria where he coordinated and managed a number of initiatives ranging from community health and water management to early childhood education, microfinance and enterprise development. Aleem's particular interests lie in rural economic development, entrepreneurship, and partnerships with private sector and civil society institutions. Aleem is a graduate of Emory University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He completed his Bachelors degree in Near Eastern Studies and Anthropology and

his Master's Degree in International Development and Regional Planning. Aleem was an intern at the Carter Center in 1990.

John Wilson

Mr. Wilson is Senior Legal Advisor for the Office of International Law of the Organization of American States, in charge of topics on Access to Information. In this capacity, Mr. Wilson's principal responsibilities include the development of legislative and procedural recommendations for Member States, including the possible adoption and implementation of local and/or Inter-American instruments on the Access to Information. In this capacity, Mr. Wilson provides advisory services to OAS political and technical bodies, agencies and entities and provides assistance to member states in the implementation of OAS instruments. Before joining OAS, Mr. Wilson was project director with an international research institution in charge of legal reform and implementation efforts in Latin America. Mr. Wilson is frequent speaker and author on topics of international law and legal reform in the Americas and has been lecturer/faculty at numerous institutions. Mr. Wilson is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo and the University of Arizona College of Law.

Staff Bios

Laura Neuman

Laura Neuman is the Assistant Director for the Americas Program at The Carter Center. She is the Access to Information Project Manager for the Carter Center and directs and implements its transparency projects, including projects in Jamaica, Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Mali. Ms. Neuman edited six widely distributed guidebooks on fostering transparency and preventing corruption and has presented at numerous international seminars relating to access to information legislation, implementation and enforcement. Ms. Neuman is a member of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue task force on transparency, a board member of the Center for Transparency and Access to Information Studies, Mexico, and an International Associate to the Open Democracy Advice Center, South Africa, and has served as a consultant to the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and a number of governments. As part of her transparency work, she served as Executive Secretary for the Carter Center's Council for Ethical Business Practices. Ms. Neuman also has led and participated in international election monitoring missions throughout the Western hemisphere. Prior to joining The Carter Center in August 1999, Ms. Neuman was senior staff attorney for Senior Law at Legal Action of Wisconsin. She is a 1993 graduate of the University of Wisconsin law school.

Kari Mackey

Kari Mackey is the Assistant Project Coordinator for the Access to Information Project of The Carter Center's Americas Program. She provides logistical and administrative support to the

project's various country missions and regional initiatives. Prior to joining The Carter Center staff, she interned for The Carter Center's Americas Program in the Spring of 2007, when she completed research on a number of issues related to the right to access public information. Ms. Mackey is currently working on her Master's degree in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations and Comparative Politics at Georgia State University. She graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Georgia State with numerous awards including Best Paper for her presentation of the paper, *Democracy and Human Rights*, at the 2007 Georgia State Political Science Research Conference. Previously she worked for four years as an assistant project manager for Sherwood & Associates, Inc.

Andrea Durango

Andrea Durango joined The Carter Center in June 2007 as program associate in the Americas Program. She conducts research on, designs, and coordinates Inter-American Relations projects. Ms. Durango organized the election observation delegation for the Constituent Assembly elections in Ecuador in September 2007. Ms. Durango holds a Master of Science degree in global affairs from New York University. She worked at the United Nations for six years, both in Ecuador and in New York. Most recently, she was the communications consultant for the Latin American and Caribbean section of the U.N. Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), where she coordinated the 2005 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender violence in Latin America. She was also the focal point for indigenous related issues at UNIFEM. Previously, she was the country operations assistant at the U.N. Volunteers program in Quito, Ecuador, where she worked on human resources mobilization. Ms. Durango is a native of Ecuador.

Sarah King

Sarah King joined The Carter Center in November 2006 as the Program Assistant for the Americas Program where she provides administrative and logistical support to the program. She received her Bachelor's degree in international relations and Hispanic studies from Connecticut College in May of 2006. Previously, she held internships with the International Forum for Democratic Studies at the National Endowment for Democracy and with WorldBoston, a member of the World Affairs Council of America.

Meg McDermott

Meg McDermott is the conference assistant for the Carter Center's Access to Information Project. Meg will graduate with honors from Emory University in May of 2008, where she majors in International Studies and minors in Spanish. She previously interned with the Americas Program in the fall of 2007 and is currently researching transparency laws in Latin America for her honors thesis in the political science department. At Emory, Meg has served as managing editor of *The Emory Wheel* and co-editor in chief of the *Emory Political Review*. In the fall, she will study international relations at the University of St. Andrews as a Robert T. Jones, Jr. scholar.

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Working Group Guidelines

Methodology

The second day of the conference, Thursday, February 28, will be dedicated to working groups. A facilitator and a rapporteur have been assigned to each working group to assist in chairing and recording the discussions of each group. The morning and early afternoon of this day will be dedicated to considering the issues, learned lessons, successes, and challenges pertaining to each group. The last part of the day will focus on summarizing and identifying action points for advancing the right to information. Each working group will be equipped with three Power Point slide templates on which it will capture the following:

1. the issue statement
2. the considerations
3. the action points

The facilitator of each working group will present its Power Point presentation to President Carter and all conference participants for discussion in plenary on Friday, February 29th. From the hard work and discussions of each group, the presented slides, and the final group discussion, we will craft a conference declaration or statement with a clear plan of action to advance the right to public information internationally.

Group Assignment

Designation to each working group was carefully decided with consideration to the following factors:

1. Working group preferences
2. Strong blend of various stakeholders
3. Working languages
4. Group location and size

For this reason, it is imperative that all members of each group remain within their assigned working group. Please do not change your working group for any reason. We apologize in advance if we were not able to assign you to one of your initial preferences.