

Invitation to the Media: Caux 2008 International Conferences

Caux, 26 June 2008

On Thursday, 3 July, the Caux conference centre – the former Caux-Palace Hotel – opens its doors for the 62nd International Caux Conferences. They will draw around 1500 participants from every continent, and different backgrounds and beliefs, to ‘address the roots causes of human insecurity’. One of the highlights of the programme is a panel discussion with the Swiss Senator Dick Marty.

On Saturday, 5 July, during the first conference, ‘Global Servant-Leadership: Contributing to Human Security’ (3-9 July), there will be a public panel discussion on the theme of ‘Sacrificing Values for Security? Or True Human Security?’ with the Swiss Senator and member of the Committee for Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Council of Europe, **Dick Marty** and **Olav Kjørven**, Director of the Bureau for Development Policy of the United Nations Development Programme. The film ‘**The Imam and the Pastor**’ about Imam Muhammad Ashafa and Pastor James Wuye of Nigeria, will also be shown. Once they led militias in inter-communal violence, and now they head up an interreligious mediation centre in Kaduna, Nigeria. This ‘Official Day’ will be attended by diplomats from Bern and Geneva, local and national authorities, and neighbours.

The conference ‘Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy: Cultivating Knowledge – Generating Action’ (11-16 July) will be opened on 11 July by **Dr Klaus Leisinger**, President and CEO of the Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development. On 12 July a panel of three corporate leaders will speak to the conference following a private two-day Corporate Leaders’ Workshop being held in Caux, to review corporate strategies in the light of the recent crisis in financial markets. Taking part will be **Dr JJ Irani**, Board Member, Tata Sons, India, Ambassador **Luzius Wasescha**, Board Member, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland, **Dr Jean-Pierre Méan**, Group General Counsel, SGS Ltd, Geneva, and **Toru Hashimoto**, Chairman of Deutsche Securities Ltd, Japan. On the same day, **Raymond Baker**, author of ‘Capitalism’s Achilles Heel’ and senior fellow at the Center for International Policy in Washington DC will give a public lecture on ‘Financing a Secure World’.

The conference ‘Tools for Change’ (25 July – 1 August) offers skills-building courses in areas such as peace building, conflict prevention, communications, team-building. The Renewal Arts Forum (3 – 10 August) will gather artists from around the world who aim to contribute through their art to a more just and peaceful society.

The last of this year’s conferences, ‘Developing Cultural Dialogue: Learning to Live Together with Difference’ (12-17 August) is focused on finding ways of bridging the differences between the many cultures and religions present in Europe. Participants from different countries, involved in programmes aiming at encouraging dialogue, will exchange experiences.

You are warmly invited to visit Caux during the conference season, to get a sense of the international atmosphere and meet grass-roots activists from around the world.

The International Caux Conferences are jointly organised by the Swiss Foundation *CAUX-Initiatives of Change* (www.caux.ch) and *Initiatives of Change International* (www.iofc.org). *CAUX-Initiatives of Change* is a member of *Initiatives of Change International*, which is benefitting from the participatory status as an NGO at the Council of Europe and from the Special Consultative Status at the Social and Economic Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations in Geneva.

Contact: Andrew Stallybrass, CAUX-Initiatives of Change, 021 962 91 11, 076 469 96 93, media@caux.ch
Philipp Thüler, CAUX-Initiatives of Change, 041 311 22 13, 076 527 09 07, philipp.thueler@caux.ch