



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 ri



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 holdij12 0 0 12 249cfr0 12 249cfr0 12atgaf9f 12atgaf9f 12atgCnC0p0e43toTar5

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

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**

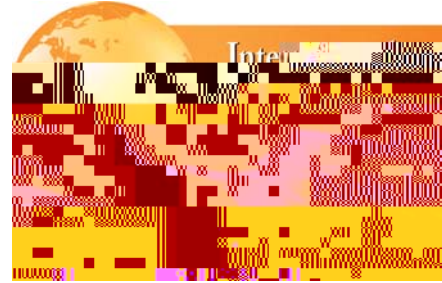
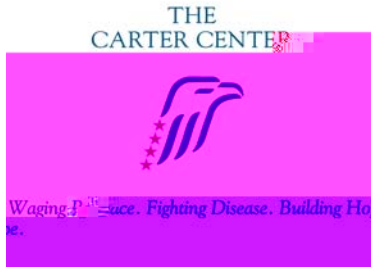
4:30 p.m. **ATI as a Tool for Better Governance**
Chair: Lawrence Bropleh, Minister of Information, Liberia
Alasdair Roberts, Professor, Maxwell School, Syracuse University
Marta Oyhanarte, Subsecretary of Institutional Relations, Argentina
Jonas Moberg, Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative,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

- 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**

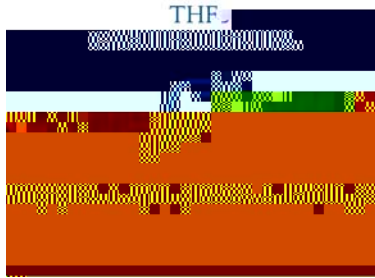
- 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:45 a.m. **Plenary Discussion and Conference Findings**
Chair: Former President Jimmy Carter
- 12:30 p.m. **Conclusions and Next Steps**
- 12:45 p.m. **Lunch (optional) or Transport to Airport**



**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 Azubuike	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	



PARTICIPANT BIOS

Gilma Agurcia

Gilma Agurcia is a Doctor in Law from the Universidad Comp

ents 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 Investigatthesinstitute of LeNnr8

íd i c niversidad 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 Azubike

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

Leslie A. Benton is Senior Po



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 Rios

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

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

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 Democratica" (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 Ad

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

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).

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

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.

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

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of publications on freedom of information issues, including the case study *The Access to Information Programme: Fighting for Transparency during the Democratic Transition* (July



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

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.



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.

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

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 and Africa. She is a

(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

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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*.

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

Children and AIDS. Recently, he has also advise

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, politician in Ecuador (Com) for 9 years. Tef00031 Tc el ePre]TJixt0.00-21.002 Tw19

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

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 Analysis).

Marc Rotenberg is Executive Director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) in Washington, DC. He teaches

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.

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

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

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

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. He launched the "1000 Days for the Poor" campaign in 2002, which aimed to improve the lives of 59 million people. He also implemented the "20th Anniversary Campaign" in 2005, which focused on the 20th anniversary of the 1985 constitution. He was re-elected for a second term in 2005, serving until 2011.

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

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.

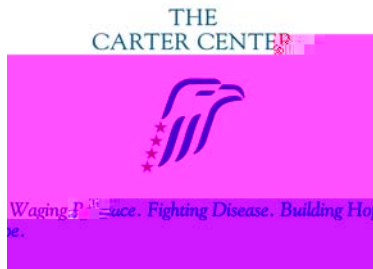
Kari Mackey

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 Ju



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 slides that 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 im