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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Inclusive Security to Hold 10th Annual Colloquium

*Women leaders from 12 countries gather to launch curriculum for
Inclusive Security, Sustainable Peace: A Toolkit for Advocacy and Action*

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – From Jan. 10 to 23, 2009, [The Institute for Inclusive Security](#) will convene 21 women from 12 conflict areas for its tenth annual Colloquium and Policy Forum in Cambridge and Washington, D.C. Participants in this year's colloquium, which will focus on preparing women leaders to build and sustain peace, hail from Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Pakistan, Palestine, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.

Colloquium 2009 also marks the launch of *Inclusive Security: A Curriculum for Women Waging Peace*. The curriculum, which accompanies *Inclusive Security, Sustainable Peace: A Toolkit for Advocacy and Action*, consists of presentations, video clips, and interactive activities to enhance women's capacity to prevent war, stop violence and rebuild their communities after conflict.

"Participants in this year's colloquium are among the foremost women peace builders globally," said Carla Koppell, director of the Institute for Inclusive Security. "They are spearheading leadership development critical to ensuring peace and prosperity return to the most volatile parts of the world. We are honored to collaborate with them to promulgate an exceptionally rich curriculum for driving forward inclusive conflict prevention, resolution and reconstruction."

Colloquium 2009 participants will be featured in public events in both Cambridge and Washington, D.C. In Cambridge, select women leaders will participate in a panel discussion at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, "Will Obama's Security Policy Be Inclusive?," a conversation about how women's global leadership can define the new administration. The panel will take place Jan. 14 at 6 p.m.

In Washington, Inclusive Security's Policy Forum will convene more than 400 key policymakers from the U.S. government, the World Bank, the U.S. Agency for International Development and its private contracting organizations, foreign governments, regional security organizations, and NGOs.

During their time in Washington, colloquium participants will develop a set of recommendations for elevating women's participation in a variety of peace and security processes, such as post-conflict reconstruction and negotiations. In individual meetings, small group discussions, and public forums, participants will advocate to government officials and other experts for the implementation of these recommendations.

The Institute for Inclusive Security is chaired by Ambassador Swanee Hunt, Eleanor Roosevelt Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and founder of its Women and Public Policy Program.

Editor's Note: *Members of the media are invited to attend any event in the Cambridge or Washington areas. Please call Shari Abrams, 617.995.1923, to arrange an interview with any of the experts or to attend the events listed below. A list of participants is available upon request.*

The Institute for Inclusive Security Colloquium 2009 Schedule

JANUARY 14, 2009 (CAMBRIDGE)

6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Public Forum – Will Obama’s Security Policy Be Inclusive?

Location: JFK Jr. Forum, Harvard Kennedy School

Women have the capacity to stabilize fragile countries. Around the world, they resolve conflict, build sustainable peace, and strengthen economies. Yet currently, the US government has no systemic strategy to increase global security by supporting women’s leadership. Could the new administration provide the real change we need? Join women from around the world for a panel discussion on why and how Barack Obama could use women’s global leadership to meet critical security and economic goals. An opportunity for questions will follow the formal speaking portion and there will be a dinner reception after the forum.

JANUARY 19-23, 2009 (WASHINGTON, D.C.)

Members of the media are invited to observe strategy sessions facilitated by Inclusive Security staff and partners. For more details, please contact Shari Abrams, shari_abrams@huntalternatives.org or 617.995.1923.

JANUARY 21, 2009 (WASHINGTON, D.C.)

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Policy Roundtable Discussions

Fairmont Hotel, 2401 M Street NW

Participants will discuss recommendations for increasing women’s participation in peace and security processes with a diverse group of experts and policymakers.

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Policy Forum Luncheon

Fairmont Hotel, 2401 M Street NW

Participants will advocate for increased women’s participation in peace processes at Inclusive Security’s tenth annual policy forum, attended by over 400 key decision makers representing government, private contractors, the World Bank, and non-governmental organizations.

Members of the media must contact [Shari Abrams](#) to attend the events.

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The Institute for Inclusive Security advocates for the full participation of all stakeholders, especially women, in peace processes. Creating sustainable peace is achieved best by a diverse, citizen-driven approach. Of the many sectors of society currently excluded from peace processes, none is larger—or more critical to success—than women. Since 1999, Inclusive Security has connected more than 800 women experts with over 5,000 policy shapers to collaborate on fresh, workable solutions to long-standing conflicts across the globe. For more information visit www.InclusiveSecurity.org.