

## **Liberian and Ugandan Women Share Experiences and Insights on Security**

**CAMBRIDGE, MA – May 10, 2007** – Liberia and Uganda have both reached critical moments in securing peace, thanks to the vital contributions of women. With former president Charles Taylor about to be tried at The Hague, Liberia, under the leadership of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf continues to rebuild and seek reconciliation following 14 years of civil war. In Uganda, the government and the Lord's Resistance Army rebels recently began a second round of peace talks to end a 20-year-old conflict.

From May 14-26, seven women legislators and ministers from Liberia and Uganda will be in New York City and Cambridge, MA, to exchange strategies and experiences with national and international policy makers at the UN, the AU, various NGOs, and foreign policy experts at Harvard University. These seven women, all members of The Initiative for Inclusive Security's [Women Waging Peace Network](#), have strong records of public service and a commitment to women's rights and participation at the highest levels of decision-making. They will be in Cambridge to participate in Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government's Women and Power executive program, May 20–25.

**Don't miss an incredible opportunity to meet with these distinguished women leaders and develop contacts in these important countries. They are available for individual interviews or other media opportunities upon request. Please contact Mark Russell to arrange a meeting: by telephone at 617.995.1920, or by email at [Mark\\_Russell@huntalternatives.org](mailto:Mark_Russell@huntalternatives.org).**

### **WHO:**

#### **Liberia:**

- **Senator Gloria Scott**, lawyer and a former member of her country's supreme court
- **Alomiza M. Ennos**, representative to the National House of Assembly and chair of the women's caucus
- **Meima Sirleaf Karneh**, assistant minister for administration for the Ministry of Commerce.
- **Hawah Goll-Kotchi** and **Lwopu Kandakai**, deputy ministers for education and for regional development, research and extension, respectively

#### **Uganda:**

- **Florence Ibi Ekwau** and **Winifred Masiko** are both members of Uganda's parliament, and Ms. Masiko is the chair of the Uganda Women Parliamentary Association.

### **WHERE & WHEN:**

#### **May 14-16: New York City**

**Wednesday, May 16, 8:30-10:00 AM**, Sherman and Sterling LLP at 599 Lexington Avenue.

Members of the press are invited to a breakfast roundtable with the women to discuss recent developments in these two important countries and, in particular, the role of women in building peace and security in Africa. Moderated by Ambassador Donald Steinberg, Vice President of International Crisis Group. Please respond to [mray@crisisgroup.org](mailto:mray@crisisgroup.org).

#### **May 17-26: Cambridge, MA**

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**The Initiative for Inclusive Security**, a program of Hunt Alternatives Fund, 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 500 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](http://www.InclusiveSecurity.org).