



COUNCIL OF
Women World Leaders
at the Aspen Institute

Fall 2007

E-news Update

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COUNCIL MEMBERS IN
THE NEWS

Nine Council Members listed in *Forbes* Magazine's annual 100 Most Powerful Women list. Compiling lists of women who run companies, governments, or non-profits, *Forbes* annually consults with the Council's Secretary General **Laura Liswood** to determine the list of most powerful women using a power ranking score based on a composite of visibility and economic impact. Access the 2007 list through the [Forbes website](#).

Council Chair **Mary Robinson** joins historic council *The Elders*, comprised of an international group of former heads of state, Nobel laureates, leading entrepreneurs, and

NEWS & UPDATES

Madeleine K. Albright Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute Series



Building on the demonstrated success of the ongoing Women's Voices Roundtable Series generously supported by the Aspen Institute for the last three years, the Council of Women World Leaders plans to expand the Series to honor the service of one of our most distinguished US women leaders and the chair of the Council's Ministerial Initiative, Secretary **Madeleine K. Albright**.

The **Albright Series** will engage high-level leaders from a diverse range of portfolios in order to achieve clear objective-based outcomes and activities that move beyond the initial dialogue. Importantly, invited participants will have the capacity and capability to take the outcomes of each discussion forward to those individuals and institutions with the influence and resources to create real and strategic action for change. Roundtable discussions and subsequent outcomes will be published in a series of white papers for broad distribution.

Please contact the Council Secretariat if you wish to become a Founder of the Madeleine K. Albright Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute Series.

Roundtable: Cross-Cultural Partnerships as a Catalyst for Women's Empowerment

On July 17, 2007, the Council of Women World Leaders and the Women's Bureau at the US Department of Labor presented *Cross Cultural Partnerships as a Catalyst of Women's Leadership and Empowerment*, the second roundtable in the 2007 program of the Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute Roundtable Series.

philanthropists. Launched by former South African President Nelson Mandela, The Elders includes South African Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, philanthropist Graca Machel, former US President, Jimmy Carter and Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus. The set of elder statespersons are expected to tackle an array of world problems from climate change to poverty. Read more in the [International Herald Tribune](#) and [Christian Science Monitor](#).

An [Op-ed](#) by H.E. Benazir Bhutto regarding her return to Pakistan was featured in the September 20th Washington Post. She plans to end her eight-year exile this October, returning to campaign for a post as the country's Prime Minister once again. She has previously served two terms, from 1988-90 and 1993-97.

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was recently named as a recipient of a 2007 **Freedom Award** from the National Civil Rights Museum, to be officially awarded at a banquet in October in Memphis, Tennessee. On October 24th, she will also be awarded with **Bishop John T. Walker Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award** at the 2007 Africare Dinner's salute to "women's empowerment Africa-wide."

Chancellor Angela Merkel and UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown pledge "urgent action" to tackle disease in the world's poorest countries. According to *BBC News*, an international health partnership aimed at improved targeting of incidences

Featured speakers included, **Shinae Chun**, Director of the Women's Bureau, US Department of Labor and Fellow in the Council's Ministerial Fellows Exchange Program; **Zaida Arguedas**, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Global Democracy Programs, League of Women Voters; and, **Yolonda C. Richardson**, President & CEO, Centre for Development and Population Activities. The roundtable was moderated expertly by **Charlotte Ponticelli**, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, Bureau of International Affairs, US Department of Labor. More than 35 women participants and 15 women observers attended. Insightful and thought provoking comments made by the panelists and moderator inspired a high-level of interaction between the speakers and the participants, leading to a highly successful roundtable *discussion*.

And the discussion continues--

with the Council's new online community resource, coming soon. As the Madeleine K. Albright Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute series expands, it endeavors to connect individuals and organizations working independently in diplomatic efforts together in a sustainable way through an online resource on the Council's website coming later this year. Participants in Council roundtables and their organizations' projects and partnerships will be featured in a searchable database available to fellow participants, the public, leaders, funders, and practitioners.

Women Leaders in the News

On July 21st, 2007 India elected its first woman president. Former governor of Rajasthan Pratibha Patil won almost two-thirds of the votes cast in the state assemblies and parliament. Read more about President Patil and the election in the [BBC News](#) and the [International Herald Tribune](#).

Ministerial Fellows Exchange Program

The US Department of State-supported Ministerial Fellows Exchange Program is in the midst of its second exchange of government officials. In May, Dr. Elizabeth Duke, Administrator, US Department of Health & Human Services; Dr. Deborah Parham Hopson, HIV/AIDS Bureau Director, US Department of Health & Human Services; and Stephanie Monroe, Assistant Secretary, Office of Civil Rights, US Department of Education traveled to Tanzania for a week-long field visit in Dar Es Salaam and surrounding regions. This fall, the three US Fellows will host their Tanzanian counterparts-Dr. Aisha Kigoda, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare, Mwantumu Mahiza, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education & Vocational Training, and Joyce Mapunjo, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Economy, & Empowerment. The six Fellows will continue to examine the similarities and differences in ministerial work in both the education and health sectors. They will address the policy and advocacy links between the two sectors with respect to public education, government and private-sector funding, and overall goals of social equity.

New Zealand Fellows Program

This year six Fellows traveled from the South Pacific to participate in the Council's South Pacific Emerging Women Leaders Program. The Council, with the support of the Government of New Zealand, provides Leadership Training for emerging women leaders from the South Pacific Island States in partnership with the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. The Fellows are strategically selected so that these emerging women leaders return to their countries equipped to lead in areas of economic and development reform and become part of a Network of Women Leaders who share a common goals and

of HIV/AIDS and child and maternal mortality rates will be officially launched on 5 September 2007. The partnership is comprised of Britain, Germany, Canada, Norway, the World Bank, and the World Health Organization.

Chancellor Angela Merkel as "uncrowned queen of Europe;" see Josef Jeffe's opinion article in the [Washington Post, 5th August 2007](#).



Ten-year updated edition coming this fall!



MADAME PRESIDENT
a documentary feature
film and television series

about the eleven seated female democratically elected Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Chancellor of the world today. The story of women as Heads of State is one that has rarely been told. Our goal is to reveal who these women leaders are and heighten their visibility as we bring their stories forth in a compelling and inspiring documentary and series.

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understanding to enhance good governance.

Graduate Student Fellows Program

As the summer draws to a close, the many talented fellows from Harvard University and Columbia University who worked with leaders in the field of international policy and development have just finished their respective fellowships in the following offices and organizations:

- Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, chaired by Mary Robinson in New York, NY
- The F.W. DeKlerk Foundation in Cape Town, South Africa
- Office of Susannah Agnelli, Il Faro Foundation in Rome, Italy
- Office of Madeleine K. Albright, The Albright Group in Washington, DC
- Office of the Council Secretariat, Council of Women World Leaders in Washington, DC
- New York Stock Exchange Internship Program in New York, NY
- Office of Saadia Zahidi, Director of the Women's Programme, World Economic Forum, in Geneva, Switzerland
- Office of the Honorable Vabah Gayflor, Minister of Gender and Development in Monrovia, Liberia
- Office of Alyson Bailes, Director, Stockholm Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in Stockholm, Sweden
- Office of the President, Club of Madrid in Madrid, Spain
- Office of Professor Taipale, Director General STAKES, National Research & Development Centre for Welfare & Health in Helsinki, Finland

International Women's Summit

The Council of Women World Leaders and its convening partners is proud to announce the launch of [WomenInGlobalSecurity.org](#) in anticipation of our soon-to-be-announced global security summit. The site previews the International Women Leaders Global Security Summit, a truly historic initiative that will bring together an international network of women leaders, including current and former heads of state and government, influential ministers and the leaders of intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations committed to addressing global security issues.

The Summit, a project of The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnyslans in partnership with The White House Project, the Council of Women World Leaders and the Women Leaders Intercultural Forum will be held November 15-17, 2007.

The Initiative's goal is to bring the perspectives and voices of women leaders from around the world on the issue of global security.

Her Excellency Mary Robinson, President, Ireland (1990-97), and the Right Honorable Kim Campbell, Prime Minister, Canada (1993) will co-host the Summit, and women heads of state from New Zealand, Finland, Jamaica and Canada will Co-Chair.

We invite you to visit [WomenInGlobalSecurity.org](#) to learn more about the initiative, its goals, our partners, and the historic November Summit.

Join Our Mailing List!

SUPPORT CWWL

To find out how to support the Council of Women World Leaders financially, please call us at +202-736-2531 or [click here](#)

WHO WE ARE

The Council of Women World Leaders is a network of current and former women presidents and prime ministers. The Council currently has 35 Members. The Council's mission is to mobilize the highest-level women leaders globally for collective action on issues of critical importance to women and equitable development. The Council and its Ministerial Initiative create global architecture for giving collective voice to women at the highest levels of government. Their mission is to promote good governance and enhance the experience of democracy globally by increasing the number, effectiveness, and visibility of women world leaders. Mary Robinson, President of Ireland (1990-97) is Chair of the Council, and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright (1997-2001) is Chair of the Women's Ministerial Initiative.

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