

The Next Century Foundation
In partnership with Caux-Initiatives of Change
Middle East Peace Process Conference
31 July - 4 August 2009 at Caux, Switzerland



The Next Century Foundation

Resolving conflict in the Middle East and beyond through dialogue and responsible media

“Breaking the Deadlock”

The Middle East Peace Process, taking a longer view?

31 July – 4 August 2009

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In partnership with Caux-Initiatives of Change

Venue:

International Conference Centre for Initiatives of Change
CH-1824 Caux sur Montreux, Switzerland.

BROAD OBJECTIVE:

1. To promote a long term comprehensive peace process on a ten year timescale, while still supporting efforts for immediate peace.
2. To underpin current peace process work by actively pursuing inter-Palestinian peace as a foundation for Israel-Palestinian peace.
3. To underpin current work on comprehensive peace in the Middle East and examine the role of Iran.

SPECIFIC AIMS:

1. To create dialogue between those involved, with the objective of reducing misunderstanding and to diffuse tension.
2. To change the strategic view:
 - a. There is a need to shift the focus from talk of cease-fires to a longer lasting settlement.
 - b. There is the opportunity to offer more imaginative input to those working for peace thus expanding their respective range of options.
3. To produce a working paper on the peace process that takes into account changes in both the U.S and Middle Eastern regional governments.

DAY ONE: *Friday 31st July*
Guests arrive Friday afternoon

31 JULY 2009	
15:45 – 16:15	Tea
16:15 – 17:15	Conference registration
19:00 – 20:30	Supper
20:30 – 21:30	<p>Informal Pre-Conference Dialogue. Key Subjects for Dialogue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The impact of the wider arena - Prospects for stability in the Middle East as a whole - The Iranian role.</i> ● <i>The future for a stable Middle East - the role of the international community</i> <p>Chairman: Hon Mark G Hambley, former US spokesperson to the Middle East; former Ambassador to Qatar and Lebanon</p>
1 August 2009	
07:30 – 08:30	Breakfast/ Further Registration (for non-resident guests) and coffee.
8:45 – 09:15	<p>SESSION ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr Christoph Spreng, Council member, Caux - Initiatives of Change, and Chargé de Mission for Intercultural Dialogue at the Council of Europe, will announce details of conference procedures and program. <p>Welcome to delegates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● H.E. Mohamed Sahnoun, Chair, the Caux Forum for Human Security, and former special advisor to the UN Secretary General, will be giving some of his personal reflections on the broader Middle East scenario post the US elections.
9:15-10:15	<p>SESSION TWO – OFF THE RECORD</p> <p>The current situation: Israel / Palestine the way forward</p> <p><i>Key focus: The impact of the isolation of Gaza on the peace process. And the need for further rapprochement between Hamas and Fatah</i></p>

10:15-10:45	Tea						
10:45-11:45	<p>SESSION THREE – OFF THE RECORD The Crisis In the Middle East : A wider perspective <i>Key focus: Forward-looking dialogue on measures to move towards the implementation of the Arab initiative, in order to facilitate delivery of a comprehensive peace.</i></p>						
11:45-12:30	<p>SESSION FOUR – OFF THE RECORD The Initiatives – with emphasis on the way the various initiatives tackle the Refugee Issue with regard to the Peace Process <i>Panel to include members of the Geneva Initiative programme</i></p>						
12:30-13:30	<p>Break for lunch <i>(A working group will distribute a first draft of a report on ways forward for the region, to be completed for the final session).</i></p>						
13:45-14:15	<p>SESSION FIVE: The Peace Process – the Human Factor</p>						
14:15-15:30	<p>SESSION SIX – OFF THE RECORD Iraq – federation or integration? <i>Key focus: Does Iraq have a chance of developing as a fledgling democracy or will sectarian division and autocratic rule become the norm?</i></p>						
15:45 -16:15	Tea						
16:15 -17:30	<p>SESSION SEVEN – OFF THE RECORD The impact of Iraq’s stability on the wider Middle East</p>						
19:00-20:30	Supper						
20:30-21:15	Film “ <i>The Imam and the Pastor</i> ” a story from Nigeria						
21:30-22:30	<p>Breakout groups: A series of separate informal dialogues</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="461 1753 1473 1995"> <thead> <tr> <th>Workshop 1</th> <th>Workshop 2</th> <th>Workshop 3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Palestine and Israel</td> <td>Iran and a Comprehensive Peace</td> <td>Iraq and the Region</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Palestine and Israel	Iran and a Comprehensive Peace	Iraq and the Region
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2 August 2009	
07:30 – 08:30	Breakfast Further Registration (for non-resident guests) and coffee.
08:45 – 9.15	SESSION EIGHT: The Peace Process – Tending to the Wounded Memories
09:15 – 10:30	SESSION NINE – OFF THE RECORD Iran – countering hegemony or enabling rapprochement? <i>Key focus: Does Iran’s role in the resolution of the wider Middle East crisis remain critical to any peace process?</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Tea
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION TEN – OFF THE RECORD The Jerusalem issue – enabling Engagement Key Focus: Does the Jerusalem Issue/ Access to holy sites remain seminal to any peace process?
12:30 – 13:30	Break for lunch <i>(A working group will distribute a second draft of the report on ways forward for the region, to be completed for the final session)</i>
13:45 – 14:15	SESSION ELEVEN The Peace Process – Managing Fears
14:15 – 15:30	SESSION TWELVE – OFF THE RECORD The Syrian Track: A pre-requisite for a wider peace? Key Focus: Whether a separate peace with Syria is useful or a stumbling block on the road to a comprehensive peace. What could the parties be doing?
15:45 – 16:15	Tea
16:15 – 17:30	SESSION THIRTEEN – OFF THE RECORD The International Issue: Discussion on International Participation in the Peace Process

19:00 – 20:30	Supper						
20:30 – 21:15	Film – Half Moon						
21:30 – 22:30	<p>Breakout groups:</p> <p>A series of separate informal dialogues</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="448 548 1481 797"> <thead> <tr> <th>Workshop 1</th> <th>Workshop 2</th> <th>Workshop 3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Palestine and Israel</td> <td>Iran and a Comprehensive Peace</td> <td>Iraq and the Region</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Palestine and Israel	Iran and a Comprehensive Peace	Iraq and the Region
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3 August 2009							
07:30 – 08:30	Breakfast/ Further Registration (for non-resident guests) and coffee.						
08:45 – 09:15	<p>SESSION FOURTEEN</p> <p>Peace Process – The Challenge of Building Trust</p>						
09:15 – 10:30	<p>SESSION FIFTEEN – OFF THE RECORD</p> <p>The Peace Process – short term steps for immediate peace</p> <p>Key focus: Discussion on issues to include the framework for a fast track peace process and the measures necessary to enable immediate peace</p>						
10:30 – 11:00	Tea						
11:00 – 12:30	<p>SESSION SIXTEEN – OFF THE RECORD</p> <p>Prospects for Peace – Now or Ten Years from Now</p> <p>Key focus: What are the steps that need taking to secure the long term road to peace?</p>						
12:30 – 13:30	Break for lunch						
13:45–15:10	<p>SESSION SEVENTEEN – OFF THE RECORD</p> <p>Peace and disarmament</p> <p><i>Key focus: A Middle-East security forum explaining the prospects for</i></p>						

	<i>multilateral disarmament of both conventional and non-conventional weapons, reduced proliferation, and W.M.D. agreement ratification</i>
15:15 -16:15	Tea
16:15 -17:25	SESSION EIGHTEEN – OFF THE RECORD Prospects for Reconstruction and Investment in the wake of peace. Key focus: What is the private sector doing to promote investment and development?
17:25-17:30	Closing remarks: Lord Stone of Blackheath
1900-20:30	Supper
20:30-21:30	Concert
21:30-22:30	– NO FURTHER SESSIONS

Tuesday 4th August

07:30-9:30 **Closing Breakfast** Final Working Paper distributed

Working Group report: **MEASURES TO UNDERPIN THE ARAB INITIATIVE : DECLARATION OF AN END-GAME** to include reference to the importance of the economic sector in its role to underpin peace (a report prepared by the working group will be presented to the participants for their response).

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES