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International Coalition of Concerned Mediators

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International Coalition of Concerned Mediators

The International Coalition of Concerned Mediators (ICCM) is a global project that encourages competent direct negotiations between nations, organisations and community groups. It also aims to encourage the use of credible mediation assistance. It does this through advocating that effective negotiation principles be promoted by the media and used in public dialogue.

This coalition was formed after, and in response to, the *Consolidating Our Collective Wisdom Conference* in October 2006 in Colorado, USA. The conference participants formulated a statement that may serve as a permanent document to encourage endorsements and signatories, which may in turn lead to the development of action plans address global mediation shortfalls. The statement reads as such:

Given that the world is confronted with real and perceived threats from several international arenas we, the undersigned, urge that citizens of our nations insist their elected and appointed government officials immediately engage in honest, direct and unconditional negotiations with all authorities and powers who

can resolve these pending crises in ways that are equitable and practical for all concerned without sacrifice to national sovereignty or security. As citizens of the world and as professional negotiators and mediators we urge that proven conflict resolution processes be employed now.

The motivation behind the statement is two-fold:

- (1) the undeniable existence of the current perils which confront innumerable nations and the world as a whole;
- (2) the opportunity for representatives of our profession to clearly insist that proven processes and skills for the prevention, management and resolution of volatile intra-national and international conflict must be endorsed and effectively employed by elected and appointed government officials everywhere.

The ICCM has currently attracted support from over 600 mediators, and are currently asking for signatories and support from both mediators and the public. Associate CRI Director Polly Davis hopes that, 'The Mediators' Statement and birth of the International Coalition of Concerned Mediators initiative [will] emphasise that we need to bring civility back into our negotiation and conflict resolution discussions'. ●

For further information see <www.concernedmediators.org>.