

International Conference on the Right to Public Information

The Carter Center, Atlanta GA

February 27-29, 2008

Tuesday February 26

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. **Conversations at The Carter Center “Are we Safer with Secrecy?” (optional)**
Laura Neuman, Access to Information Project Manager, Carter Center (moderator)
Tom Blanton, Executive Director, National Security Archive
Kevin Dunion, Information Commissioner, Scotland
Michelle Roberts, Reporter, The Oregonian

Wednesday February 27

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon and Speakers – Cyprus Room**
Jennifer McCoy, Director, Americas Program, The Carter Center
Justice Diego Garcia-Sayan, Vice-President, Inter-American Court of Human Rights

Plenary Sessions – Cecil B. Day Chapel

2:00 p.m. **Opening Session**
Laura Neuman, Access to Information Project Manager, The Carter Center
Former President Jimmy Carter, USA
Juan Ramón Quintana, Minister of the Presidency, Bolivia
Maharafa Traoré, Minister of Justice, Mali

3:00 p.m. **ATI as a Tool for Socio-Economic Rights and Development**
Chair: Alejandro Toledo, Former President of Peru
Rob Jenkins, Professor, Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies
Mukelani Dimba, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Open Democracy Advice Centre, South Africa
Sina Odugbemi, Program Head, Communication for Governance and Accountability, World Bank

4:15 p.m. **Break**

4:30 p.m. **ATI as a Tool for Better Governance**
Chair: Lawrence Bropleh, Minister of Information, Liberia
Alasdair Roberts, Professor, Maxwell School, Syracuse University
Marta Oyhanarte, Subsecretary of Institutional Relations, Argentina
Jonas Moberg, Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Norway

5:45 p.m. **State of ATI in the World: Challenges and Successes**
Chair: Olivia Grange, Minister of Information, Jamaica
Meredith Fuchs, General Counsel, National Security Archives, USA
Gergana Jouleva, Executive Director, Access to Information Program, Bulgaria
Jie Cheng, Associate Professor of Law, Tsinghua University, China
Juan Pablo Guerrero, Commissioner, Federal Institute Access to Information, Mexico

- 7:00 p.m. **Cocktails – Carter Presidential Museum Library Lobby**
Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum Tour available
- 8:00 p.m. **Buses begin to depart for hotel (second bus will depart at 8:30pm)**

Thursday February 28

- 8:00 a.m. **Hotel Pick-up**
Breakfast at the Carter Center
- 8:45 a.m. **Plenary Sessions: Break into working groups – Cecil B. Day Chapel**
- 9:00 a.m. **Simultaneous Working Groups**
- Group 1 – Politics and Economy: shifting the balance toward openness**
 Facilitator: Andrew Puddephatt – Global Partners, UK
- Group 2 – Structure and Culture: creating an environment for transparency**
 Facilitator: Shekhar Singh – National Campaign for People’s Right to Information, India
- Group 3 – Non-state and Multilateral Actors: examining roles and responsibilities**
 Facilitator: Richard Calland –Institute for Democracy in South Africa, South Africa
- Group 4 – International Norm-building: considering universal standards and a global community**
 Facilitator: Jorge Santistevan – Former Ombudsman, Peru
- Group 5 – Indicators and Measurement: demonstrating and improving impact**
 Facilitator: Jamie Horsley – China Law Project, Yale University
- 12:00 p.m. **Luncheon and Speaker – Cyprus Room**
Huguette Labelle, Chair of Board of Directors, Transparency International
- 1:30 p.m. **Working Groups Reconvene**
- 4:00 p.m. **Break**
- 4:30 p.m. **Working Groups Reconvene: Draft Conclusions**
- 5:45 p.m. **Transport to Dinner**
- 6:15 p.m. **Cocktails and Dinner at the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank**
Justice Albie Sachs, Constitutional Court, South Africa

Friday February 29

- 8:30 a.m. **Hotel pick-up**
Breakfast at the Carter Center
- Plenary Sessions – Cecil B. Day Chapel**
- 9:30 a.m. **Working Groups Report Back**
Chair: Former President Jimmy Carter

- 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:45 a.m. **Plenary Discussion and Conference Findings**
Chair: Former President Jimmy Carter
- 12:30 p.m. **Conclusions and Next Steps**
- 12:45 p.m. **Lunch (optional) or Transport to Airport**