**COMBONI JPIC NETWORK**

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**North American Province**



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**Selected Global News**

**Climate activists chide new deal as lacking in “ambition, equity and justice.”** After the recent ***U.N. Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC)*** in Durban, South Africa, one *Friends of the Earth* policy analyst described the resulting agreement as “another milestone in a very long history of the wealthy world backtracking on their existing promises and reneging on existing obligations.” **Outcomes**? The 5-10 year delay of the negotiation and ratification of the new treaty not only lowers ambition, but attempts to shift the burden to developing countries. *In fact, this critical delay on climate change may cause large parts of Africa to become uninhabitable*.

**Check out these resources:**

 ♦ **Review** the Durban news log at [**www.democracynow.org/tags/durban\_climate\_summit\_2011**](http://www.democracynow.org/tags/durban_climate_summit_2011)**.**

 ♦ **Read** the ***Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference Pastoral Letter on Climate Change***at [**www.sacbc.org.za/**](http://www.sacbc.org.za/)**.**

 ♦ **Visit** [**www.diakonia.org.za/newsarticleviewpublic.aspx?id=100**](http://www.diakonia.org.za/newsarticleviewpublic.aspx?id=100) for behind-the-scenes perspectives.

**Congo Presidential Elections: “Results do not Conform to Truth.”** These comments by Congo’s Cardinal Monsegwo came after the Congo Supreme Court’s decision to uphold the electoral commission’s provisional results without fully evaluating widespread reports of irregularities. Citing the lack of credibility observed by several international election monitors, including The Carter Center, he said that the published results of Presidential election “*do not* conform to the truth nor to the justice:” **See** [**www.jpic-jp.org/59-en.html**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/59-en.html) from Kinshasa.  **Also, follow the news at** [**www.misna.org**](http://www.misna.org) and[**www.cartercenter.org**](http://www.cartercenter.org)**.**

**Indigenous peoples of Peru demand elimination of petroleum activity that threatens survival.** Through the ***Radio Voice of the Forest*** (Iquitos, Loreto), the people of the Amazon Basin have clearly articulated their demands to President, Ollanta Humala, all international activists and the people of Peru. They require respect, ask for an investigatory commission and a platform for discussing their legislative proposals, and much more. **Read the article** in four languages at[**www.jpic-jp.org/58-en.html**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/58-en.html).

**Wide food insecurity and violence still threaten border towns of South/North Sudan.** The violence has recently escalated and, along with the rainy season, impedes the work in the fields in South Kordofan, according to the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Khartoum. Estimates are that 200,000 have fled since last June. At least 10,000 arrived in Wau where clashes between Khartoum and Juba were ignited in December. At the same time, a Catholic radio broadcast reported fighting in the towns of Talodi and Taruje that left at least 19 dead. **Keep abreast** at[**www.misna.org/en/?s=Sudan&lang=en.**](http://www.misna.org/en/?s=Sudan&lang=en.)

**Current Actions**

♦ Are you a Latin American or Caribbean NGO or organization seeking a stronger voice? The *U.N. Sustainable Development Conference* in Rio will be the launching point for a new “network of representatives” from these regions, as proposed by RUN and others in NYC. Read the article at [www.jpic-jp.org/56-en.html](http://www.jpic-jp.org/56-en.html), and join on *Facebook*, [www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=100003182391819](http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=100003182391819).

**UN & Others Events**

## ♦ 2012 is the *International Year of Sustainable Energy for All*, [www.sustainableenergyforall.org](http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org/).

♦ **January 1, 2012: 2012** **World Peace Day.** ***Educating Young People on Justice and Peace*** is Pope Benedict XVI’s selected theme. **Visit** [**www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm**](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm), and [**www.vatican.va/holy\_father/benedict\_xvi/messages/peace/documents/hf\_ben-xvi\_mes\_20111208\_xlv-world-day-peace\_en.html**](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/peace/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20111208_xlv-world-day-peace_en.html)**.**

## ♦ January 8-14, 2012: National Migration Week 2012: *Welcoming Christ in the Migrant*. This annual week is a teaching opportunity for classrooms and groups. Order or download the multilingual resources [www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week](http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week).

## ♦ January 11-13, 2012: USCCB National Conference: *A 50-State Issue: A Focus on State and Local Immigration Initiatives* is set for the Radisson Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah. Register at [www.cvent.com/events/immigration-a-50-state-issue-a-focus-on-state-and-local-immigration-initiatives/event-summary-901b27d0aaa64b5e8c5c4dfd1a56ccf6.aspx](http://www.cvent.com/events/immigration-a-50-state-issue-a-focus-on-state-and-local-immigration-initiatives/event-summary-901b27d0aaa64b5e8c5c4dfd1a56ccf6.aspx).

## ♦ January 24, 2012: *International Day of Commemoration of the Holocaust*  remembers those who

## suffered. Visit [www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance/2012/calendar2012.html](http://www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance/2012/calendar2012.html).

**Resources**

♦ **Global Women’s Project (GWP): *New Economy Project:*** As millions suffer around the world because of the economic recession, some experts say a “new economic model” is needed. **Read** about it and the work of the GWP at [**www.coc.org/gwp/new-economy-movement**](http://www.coc.org/gwp/new-economy-movement).

♦ **Missionary International Service News Agency (Misna):** Those in the missionary world already know ***Misna*** as a excellent source for international news. The Comboni Missionaries were one of its founders. **Keep up** at[**www.misna.org**](http://www.misna.org)**.**

♦ **The Oakland Institute,** founded in Oakland, California in 2004, is a policy think tank “dedicated to advancingpublic participation and fair debate on critical social, economic, and environmental issues.” **Land grabbing** is just one of its current in-depth topics. **Two excellent resources are:** (1) *Understanding Land Investment Deals in Africa: South Sudan (2011),* [**www.oaklandinstitute.org/understanding-land-investment-deals-africa-south-sudan**](http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/understanding-land-investment-deals-africa-south-sudan)**;** (2) *The Great Land Grab (2009)*, [**www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/LandGrab\_final\_web.pdf**](http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/LandGrab_final_web.pdf)**.**

♦ ***The Road to Rio*** newsletter has launched to help civil society prepare for June’s **2012 U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development** in Rio de Janiero, Brazil. Its intent is to provide a range of different voices and views on key issues as momentum builds towards the conference. **E-mail** **ngls@unctad.org**. For the most recent issue, **see**  **[www.un-ngls.org/rioplus20/newsletter/issue3/toc.html#](http://www.un-ngls.org/rioplus20/newsletter/issue3/toc.html).** Also, learn about *The Future We Wan*t campaign at [**www.un.org/en/sustainablefuture**](http://www.un.org/en/sustainablefuture).

♦ **A Sudanese Speaks Out:** ***Israel, Sudan and Me*,** a poignant account by Simon Deng, a South Sudanese enslaved more than three years in the North, with many insights on Arab racism. Deng highlights the U.N.’s weaknesses regarding Arab racism against the black Africans. **Read** his article at [**www.jpic-jp.org/60-en.html**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/60-en.html).

**JPIC Combonline**

**♦ Robert Ochola, mccj,** of Mount Frere in Kokstad, South Africa, participated in the recent ***U.N. Climate Convention*** in Durban, including the *Global Day of Action,* where more than 5,000 demanded climate justice. **Visit** [**www.diakonia.org.za/newsarticleviewpublic.aspx?id=100**](http://www.diakonia.org.za/newsarticleviewpublic.aspx?id=100)**.** He also prayed with a gathering of the faith communities,[**www.cop17faithcommunities.org.za/**](http://www.cop17faithcommunities.org.za/)**.**

**Note:** To receive this monthly newsletter, email **combonipn@combonimissionaries.org****.** **Visit** [**www.combonimissionaries.org/index.php/publications/comboni-press**](http://www.combonimissionaries.org/index.php/publications/comboni-press) for the current newsletter and back issues, in four languages. Related articles appear at [**www.jpic-jp.org/en.php**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/en.php).

**Comboni Press Network (CPN) newsletter provides access to information on global issues from Church and Mission-related sources. Our focus is on Justice and Peace issues, and on how the U.S. policies affect the Third World countries. Please share your suggestions and ideas with us—we’re only an e-mail or fax away!**

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