



COMBONI JPIC NETWORK

The News Service of the Comboni Missionaries
North American Province

August 2012 – Vol. 2. No. 8.

Selected Global News

support. U.N. Women spotlight the 2012 SIGI Index showing the high level of social and legal discrimination against women. President Jimmy Carter speaks out about “human rights in peril.” Photo: www.caballeroverde.blogspot.com.

Peruvian mining families rise up against government corruption as the extractive industry fails to garner community



Boiling Point reached in fight for human rights and environment.

Throughout July, the Peruvian people rose up in a fury against the \$4.8 billion Conga mining project in **Celendin, Cajamarca (Peru)**. From a *National Day to Combat Conga* (7/12) to the *International Day in Support of Cajamarca* (7/20), supporters in Peru and around the world rallied. This, after five violent deaths at the hands of the Peruvian government. Letters sent to President Humala underscored the violations of human rights and devastating effects of the mining. Now, the government has shut down all dialogue and criminalized any further protests against the mining. [Read more](#). Request a basic statement from NGOs [here](#), VIVAT International's response, [here](#), and the Comboni Missionaries', [here](#). **Other resources:** ♦ *Environmental News Service* [press release](#); ♦ Newmont Mining Company (Denver, CO) statements,

www.newmont.com; ♦ [story of Fr. Marco Arana](#); ♦ Watch three videos, [You Tube 1](#), [You Tube 2](#) and [You Tube 3](#).

U.N. Women highlights discrimination against women that hampers development. According to the 2012 Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), there is still much work to be done in many countries regarding social and legal discrimination against women. The results of the index, covering 121 countries, will call out the 86 countries that still have discriminatory inheritance practices or laws. Also, since 2009, progress is noted even within the most unequal regions. **Read the press release** [here](#).

Human Rights in Peril. “The United States is abandoning its role as the global champion of human rights,” says President Jimmy Carter in an op-ed piece in the *New York Times* on June 25th. [Read the op-ed](#); [Spanish](#); [Italian](#) and [French](#). **Some good news.** The president of Ecuador, **Rafael Correa**, announced that Ecuador will no longer send its soldiers to the *School of the Americas* (SOA/ WHINSEC).

After the Dust Settled on Rio +20. In the end, the governments side-stepped responsibility for sustainable development at *Rio +20* and media observers considered it a failure to agree on binding policies and targets. [Read more](#). Also, for the “Future We Want” outcomes document (in six languages), [click here](#).

Take Actions

- ♦ **Celebration without Exploitation:** Help keep the **London 2012 Olympic Games** (July 27-August 12) slavery-free. Learn about the additional risks of human trafficking at such events, and the awareness campaign by more than 30 international firms and organizations [here](#). **Sign the Slavery-free London Pledge** [here](#). Urge President Obama to live up to the U.S. government's commitments on human trafficking [here](#).
- ♦ **Sign on** to a letter to President Dilma of Brazil against the **Tamandua Hydroelectric Dam** in the indigenous territory, [Raposa Serra do Sol](#). To read the letter, prepared in Spanish by the indigenous leaders, [click here](#). **Get more information** [here](#).
- ♦ **Join the Great Lakes of Africa Coalition** in urging the U.S. government to take swift and decisive action in **DR-Congo**. Call on Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton to help end the impunity there by enforcing Section 105 of Public Law 109-456 [here](#). **At the same time, thank her for cutting military aid to Rwanda** (by \$200,000); the first time Washington has cut aid to Kigali for political reasons. [Learn more](#).

U.N. News & Others Events

U.N. Observance Days for August are listed [here](#).



Outcomes from Arms Trade Treaty Conference (July): World leaders lacked the political courage to reach agreement, but the fight will continue, [learn more](#). Get the latest at *Reaching Critical Will* [here](#), and the *International Action Network on Small Arms* [here](#). **Clip art note: There are currently more regulations on the sale of bananas than on guns.**

- ♦ **August 9, 2012: International Day of Indigenous People:** *Indigenous designs: celebrating stories and cultures, crafting their own future* highlights the need for preservation and revitalization of indigenous cultures, including their art and intellectual property. [Click here](#), and [for Spanish](#); [for French](#). Also, [for a related story](#).
- ♦ **August 12, 2012: International Youth Day:** *Building a Better World, Partnering with Youth* follows the high-level U.N. meeting on youth. [Click here](#).
- ♦ **August 19, 2012: World Humanitarian Day** aims to raise public awareness of humanitarian assistance worldwide and the people who risk their lives in order to provide it. [Click here](#); [for U.N. site with EN, ES & FR](#).

DID YOU KNOW? (1) According to the **Interfaith Center of Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)**, the shareholder coalition, **Catholic Women Religious**, is influencing corporate policies in big ways. **Read the statement** [here](#). (2) The **Africa Faith & Justice Network (AFJN)** was in *National Catholic Reporter* (7/20/12) in the article entitled, "A Little Office that Reaches a Continent." [Read article here](#).

Resources

- ♦ **Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)** offers a [policy brief series](#) on climate-compatible development and how to achieve it in nine developing countries. **Get the inside story** on the *South African Renewables Initiative* [here](#). Also, in Spanish.
- ♦ **Negotiating an Arms Trade Treaty: A Toolkit for African States** is a basic reference [guide](#) for representatives of African States interested in the ATT conference. **Download** this online publication by the *Institute for Security Studies*, (English and French) [here](#).
- ♦ **U.S. Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa**, the new White House [report](#), focuses on the efforts critical to Africa's future: (1) strengthening democratic institutions, and (2) boosting broad-based economic growth, including through trade and investment. [Read here](#).
- ♦ **Videos:** (1) **A Short Film about Guns**, from *Control Arms*, examines the illegal arms trade, with four experts on arms trafficking, and how the illegal flow of weapons facilitates loss of life and devastation. [Watch here](#). (2) **Welcome to the Anthropocene** opened *Rio+20* and was also shown at the *Comboni Forum*. It describes how the population of urban centers is rapidly growing and that by 2030 city dwellers are expected to reach five billion. In this case, a new one-million person city will be needed every week for the next few years. [Watch here](#).
- ♦ **Women Religious and the Vatican.** An insightful [interview](#) by Terry Gross of National Public Radio with the *Leadership Conference on Women Religious (LCWR)* President, Sr. Pat Farrell, aired on July 17. **Listen to An American Nun Responds to Vatican Criticism** [here](#).

JPIC Combonline

- ♦ **A Taste of Mission** will take place on Saturday, August 25, 4-10 pm on the grounds of the Comboni Mission Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. If you're in this part of the world, stop by for some great food and entertainment. Also in Cincinnati, a free **TEACH Congo! Workshop**, co-sponsored by the Comboni JPIC Resource Center, is aimed at educators and activists on August 7. Education packets are \$15 to benefit the Congo. **To find out more, or RSVP**, [click here](#).
- ♦ **Comboni Fr. Miguel Ayuso Guixot** has been named Secretary of the Vatican's Pontifical Council of Interreligious Dialogue. [For a news story, click here](#).
- ♦ The first-year anniversary of the death of **Bishop Caesar Mazzolari** was commemorated on July 16 by Africans and many others across the globe. [Click here](#) and [here](#).
- ♦ **Open Letter.** "The Comboni Family and the Socio-Environmental Mission" was published after the *Comboni Forum* held in Rio in June. [Click here](#).

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♦ To receive this newsletter, email combonipn@combonimissionaries.org; [for all back issues, click here](#). ♦ **Web site:** www.combonimissionaries.org; [related articles at www.jp-pic-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!**