



COMBONI JPIC NETWORK

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Sudan and South Sudan: A Critical Time for Compromise.

There are loopholes in the Sudans' comprehensive peace agreement, chief among them: a lack of an oil revenue sharing plan, and of any established criteria for border demarcation. Starvation is the current "weapon of war" that, without intervention, cannot end well for the people. As relief organizations have left the Nuba Mountain war zones, the Church continues taking the risk to help, while international leaders seem afraid of all cross-border operations. The violence continues at a time when Sudan and South Sudan's economies are imploding; each country hoping the other will collapse first, but in the meantime, more innocents are lost. *Will the international community act now on behalf of the 100,000s being starved or bombed indiscriminately in the Nuba*

Mountains, Blue Nile and Darfur? **To take direct action, watch the 20-minute clip with (Comboni) Bishop Macram Max Gassis on EWTN's World Over, [here](#) (begin at 21:30).**

Resources to stay informed: ♦ **Video Clips.** Watch *Sudan: Brink of War* [here](#), with Sudanese ambassador Abdullahi Elazreg (Khartoum) and human rights activist John Prendergast, and also *Unreported World: Terror in Sudan*, [here](#); ♦ **Read** Eric Reeves' *Sudan, Obama and George Clooney: What is the real connection?* [here](#).

Cassava key to food security, say scientists. Cassava has emerged as a "survivor" crop able to thrive in higher temperatures expected to be caused by climate change, according to a recent scientific conference in Kampala, Uganda. The *Global Cassava Modelling Consortium* has launched— to better understand the physiology of the plant and explore ways to protect it. [Click here](#).



Nuns on the Bus "Road Trip" raises key election points, speaks out on injustice. From June 18-July 2, a colorful bus of nuns rolled through nine states, from Des Moines, IA to Washington, D.C., creating a groundswell "for a more just and equitable world for all." Stops at Congressional offices were made to remind legislators that many government policies "have worked for the few, but have abandoned the majority." The conversation focused on the Ryan Budget and the significant cuts recommended for services critical to people's survival. [Get the details here](#); sign on to *The Faithful Budget* campaign, [here](#). **Watch** Bill Moyers' *Nuns, Faith & Politics* show, [here](#).

♦ In preparing for the **U.S. Election 2012**, get perspectives from these groups: *Faithful Citizenship*: [click here](#); *NETWORK*: [click here](#); *Prosperity for America*: [click here](#); *Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good*: [click here](#).

"Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN)" Movement improves worldwide access to good nutrition. With over 1 billion under-nourished people in the world, the SUN movement, guided by a high-level U.N. group, has taken hold in 27 vulnerable countries. Proven solutions will help meet the *Millennium Development Goals* and are ready to be "scaled up." SUN brings together over 100 organizations and governments committed to working together to fight hunger and under-nutrition. **Watch** the video [here](#). **Get additional U.N. information, [here](#).**

Take Actions

♦ **Sign U.N. Watch's petition asking Ambassador Osman to withdraw Sudan's shameful bid for a seat on the U.N. Human Rights Council, [here](#)**; the deadline to stop this is November 12; ♦ **"I Was Here"** was the theme of the special event commemorating *World Humanitarian Day* last month at the United Nations. **Hear** Beyoncé's beautiful anthem and take action to step up your own humanitarianism, [here](#); ♦ **Every minute** eight people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution or terror. **Download** the app, *My Life as a Refugee* at [here](#).

U.N. News & Others Events

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

- ♦ **September 3, 2012: Labor Day.** Get the history of this federal U.S. holiday, [here](#).
- ♦ **September 8, 2012: International Literacy Day.** Every year, UNESCO reminds the international community of the status of literacy and “adult learning” globally. [Learn more here](#); [Spanish](#); [French](#).
- ♦ **September 15, 2012: International Day of Democracy.** [Learn more](#); [Watch these short videos](#). Get information [from Greening the Blue](#); [Spanish](#); [French](#).
- ♦ **September 16, 2012: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer: HCFC Phase-out: a Unique Opportunity.** This year’s theme focuses on HCFCs (hydrochlorofluorocarbons) that are both ozone-depleting substances and powerful greenhouse gases: the most commonly used HCFC is nearly 2,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide in adding to global warming. [For U.N. info](#); [Spanish](#); [French](#).
- ♦ **September 21, 2012: International Day of Peace: Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future.** [For U.N. information](#); [Spanish](#); [French](#), and *Peace One Day with Global Truce 2012* at [PeaceOneDay](#), and [Culture of Peace](#).

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT): Where Things Stand. On July 27, a joint statement on behalf of 90 countries was published, asserting that the treaty process continue at the U.N. General Assembly in the Fall. [Read this statement](#). For reflections, [click here](#). Meanwhile, the *Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons*, a review conference, continues at the U.N. until September 7. For the latest news from this conference, [click here](#), and [here](#); for the *Small Arms Survey News*, [here](#); and for *International Action Network on Small Arms’ Talking Points*, [here](#).

Follow-up on Rio+20: (1) Read the **blogsite** from Rio +20 Secretary General Sha Zukang for updates and conversation, [here](#), which links to the outcome document, *The Future We Want*; and for (2) Join the global conversation, *The World We Want*, about the vision for a sustainable world, free from poverty, [here](#).

Resources

- ♦ **Brazil’s Evolving Public Security Situation, Human Rights, and Brasilia’s Foreign Policy.** Listen to the interview with the *Washington Office on Latin America* program chairman, Joseph Bateman, on *Latin America Today with Adam Isacson*, [here](#). Learn more about the *Brazilian Forum on Public Safety*, [here](#).
- ♦ **Obstacles to Justice: Accountability for Human Rights Violations in Guatemala** (video) tells the story of Óscar Ramírez, a 32-year-old Guatemalan living in Massachusetts, who survived the 1982 *Dos Erres* massacre in Guatemala. He was kidnapped at age 3 by a Guatemalan soldier who murdered his mother and eight siblings. [Watch the film here](#).
- ♦ **Sun Come Up.** Join 100s of Catholic schools, parishes and organizations in hosting a screening of this Academy Award-nominated [film](#) depicting some of the world’s first “**climate refugees**.” They are inhabitants of the Carteret Islands just north of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea (see [trailer here](#)). A step-by-step packet will help spur discussion and action steps to take regarding the unfolding climate crisis from a faith perspective. [Get flyer here](#).
- ♦ **Curtailing Criticism: Intimidation and Obstruction of Civil Society in Uganda** is a new report from *Human Rights Watch* that documents increasing government attacks on organizations whose focus includes oil revenue transparency, land acquisition compensation, legal and governance reform, and protection of human rights, particularly the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. [For the report, click here](#).
- ♦ **U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS): Multilingual Research Center.** This is the hub for all USCIS materials, offered in 22 languages, and featuring 13 newly translated “How Do I...” guides in Chinese. [Learn more](#).

JPIC Combonline

- ♦ **The Peace Corner Youth Center (PCYC)** on the west side of Chicago has grown into a community center that provides employment services, GED classes, basic skill development, basketball leagues, legal counseling, mentoring, tutoring, and more. [Learn more](#) about the “Corner” and its upcoming events, [here](#).
- ♦ **Hope for Kabingo** is a non-profit organization, founded by **Comboni Fr. Richard Kyankaaga** and U.S. volunteers, with the aim of “ending the cycle of poverty with the cycle of education.” Medical mission trips and a strong education program are among its key components. [Watch video here](#).

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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!**