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## Poll question

**This week's question: What could make the next climate summit more effective?**

- A reformed UN
  - Bridging the North – South divide
  - Engaging more CSOs
  - Making the summit more manageable
  - Focus on developing countries
- To answer the question, [click here](#)

**Previous question: What would be the most important human rights challenge during 2010?**

- Freedom of expression
- Violence against women
- Children and education
- Refugees
- Climate change

**Results: a. - 11.9%, b. - 8.9%, c. - 15.5%, d. - 8.9%, e. - 45.2%**

## Get involved

### Stand with Haiti

Source: [AVAAZ.org](#)

The worst earthquake in 200 years has struck Haiti, devastating the capital and threatening over 3 million people. Haiti's infrastructure and communications have been shattered and untold thousands killed. Haitians are desperately appealing to the world for help -- let's come together to send a worldwide wave of donations to the most effective community-based relief efforts there! For details, [click here](#).

### Your mobile giving by state

Source: [American Red Cross](#)

You can donate 10 USD to Haiti relief by texting "Haiti" to 90999, the mobile fundraising effort launched on January 12, approximately three hours after the earthquake struck Haiti. The programme is powered by Mobile Accord and the MGIVE Foundation in coordination with the U.S. State Department as part of its ongoing support of this disaster response. For

## From the Desk of the Secretary General



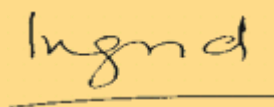
### 2010 : Re-defining the Agenda

2009 ended much as the previous decade did, with the impasse at COP-15 in Copenhagen echoing the confrontations of 1999 at the WTO in Seattle. Both events were marked by sharp differences in perceptions and positions between countries on the core issues, enormous civil society protests followed by ruthless crackdowns, failure to reach binding agreement and marginalisation of the least powerful countries by a cabal of the rich and powerful. Whilst Seattle appeared to invigorate the quest for genuine multilateralism, Copenhagen could yet subvert progress towards greater democratisation of global decision-making.

Beyond the consequences to global governance, the decade book-ended by those two events could have realised the promises of the peace dividend by actualising the Earth Charter, the Beijing Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus and the MDGs, as well as progressed towards the reform of international institutions. It was instead hijacked: at first by untrammelled market fundamentalism, then by the events of 9/11 and the ensuing 'War on Terror' and finally by the fallout of the financial crisis.

To read more, [click here](#).

With faith, gratitude and solidarity,



**CIVICUS seeks nominations of individuals to stand for election to its Board of Directors.** Deadline for nominations: midnight GMT, Friday, 29 of January 2010. For details, [click here](#).

## Highlights from CIVICUS

### CIVICUS to visit Nicaragua where civil society faces growing hostility

Source: [CIVICUS](#)

Since early 2009 CIVICUS' Civil Society Watch programme has noted a serious trend of increasing threats to civil society and decreasing civic space in Nicaragua and the wider Latin American region. Throughout Latin America, hostile governments continually defame and condemn independent civil society. In Venezuela, President Chavez and other government officials publicly insult and threaten civil society organisations and their members on a regular basis in an effort to undermine their legitimacy and curtail their activities. Members of civil society have been labelled, amongst other things, as "defenders of oligarchy", "traitors" and "lackeys of imperialists"; similar accusations were also regularly made in Nicaragua. For details, [click here](#).

### Interview with Ingrid Srinath, Secretary General, CIVICUS

By [Duduzile Mathebula](#), Communications Intern, CIVICUS about civil society in 2010

Looking into this New Year, I posed some questions to Ingrid Srinath, CIVICUS Secretary General. She shared with us her thoughts on how civil society fared in 2009 and her wishes for civil society in 2010. To read the interview, [click here](#).

### The aftermath of Haiti's quake

By [Anabel Cruz](#), Chair of the CIVICUS Board

We have started 2010 on a very sad note: a 7.0-magnitude quake struck the south of Haiti late Tuesday afternoon, demolishing entire buildings and inflicting destruction and casualties yet to be accurately tallied. More than 100,000 are feared dead, and the quake destroyed or severely damaged at least eight health facilities, including at least four hospitals. Our brothers and sisters in Haiti have endured too much suffering in the last two centuries: many decades of colonialism, three decades of a brutal military dictatorship, extreme poverty and, more recently, the consequences of tremendous natural disasters. Haiti has the Americas' highest rate of HIV/AIDS, the highest rate of maternal mortality and child mortality. Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the world and suffered through four major hurricanes or storms during 2008. It is especially vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters. To read more, [click here](#).

### Interview with Katsuji Imata: On what is missing in between

Source: [Kultura Liberalna](#)

Active citizens see the overarching issues provoking global concern. Is the shared list of problems enough for us, the global civil society, to unite and counteract? Are we ready for the challenge? And do we really see over the global North-South axis? Anna Mazgal asks Katsuji Imata, Deputy Secretary General-Programmes at CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. To read the interview, [click here](#).

details, [click here](#).

#### Haiti earthquake response

Source: *Aidmatrix*

Aidmatrix is working diligently with our global NGO and local partners in Haiti to connect the various response efforts to the recent earthquake. Needs for in-kind and transportation donations are currently being assessed and will be posted to the Aidmatrix Network as they become available. To see how you can get involved, [click here](#).

### We Welcome Contributions

e-CIVICUS is a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news, publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us your contributions by Monday for publication in the coming week to [editor@civics.org](mailto:editor@civics.org). To read the contribution guidelines, [click here](#).

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### Events

#### The Civil Society Summit: The state of the republic @ 60 24 - 26 January 2010, Bangalore, India

The Civil Society Summit is to celebrate continuing freedom struggles in India, and to recognise present day freedom fighters. It is a premier knowledge and networking event of civil society in India. For details, [click here](#).

#### Participatory theatre

26 February - 3 March, 2010, Maharashtra, India

By the end of the workshop, the participants will have explored, experimented and practised facilitating participatory theatre processes. The effort will be towards creating a participant-centred environment for experiential learning. The facilitation will explore a wide range of participatory tools and methods to encourage learning from each other. The workshop is open to participants from CBOs, NGOs, government departments, theatre groups and educational institutions. The workshop will most benefit participants working on community empowerment issues, with an interest/experience in exploring theatre. For details, [click here](#).

### Book Reviews

#### An Overview of The World Bank Unveiled

Source: *Parkhurst Brothers, Inc Publishers*

The World Bank Unveiled comes at a crucial phase of the Bank's evolution and its timing is compelling. In the wake of Paul Wolfowitz's resignation as Bank President and the appointment of Robert Zoellick as his successor in 2007, The New York Times offered a frank assessment. Zoellick's first task would be to convince donors to fully replenish the International Development Association's (IDA) funding that occurs every three years. IDA funding is directed to the Bank's poorest client countries. "But continuing that aid, and perhaps increasing it, is now a major hurdle... wealthy countries are balking because of their own budget problems and lingering questions after recent turmoil over the Bank's relevance, its priorities and its effectiveness," wrote Steven Weisman of The Times. For details, [click here](#).

#### Freedom of Information (FOI) and women's rights in Africa

Source: *FEMNET*

As part of strengthening women's participation in the lobbying for freedom of information in African, FEMNET collected case studies in five African countries, namely Cameroon, Kenya, Ghana, South Africa and Zambia. The case studies have been compiled into a book which will be distributed to African women's organisations to be used in their advocacy and

#### "Civil society needs more professionals" Interview with Oluseyi Oyebisi, membership manager of the Nigeria Network of NGOs

By *Oluwakorede Asuni, Web Editor, CIVICUS*

In reviewing the year 2009 or in comparing it to others before it we have to bear in mind the global economic challenges of 2009. This had huge negative impact in terms of civil society organisations securing funds for projects. However, specific milestones include: (1) civil society organisations were able to effectively manage their resources and achieved a lot in the direction of holding government more accountable (2) the NNNGO mobilised civil society in Nigeria to canvass support for the actualisation of the MDGs and encouraged Nigerians to hold governments at all levels accountable (3) consequent to (1) and (2) governments at the local level became more responsive to the people's needs and to correct some of the challenges confronting the people. On a scale of 1 -100, I will rate civil society in Nigeria-80. To read the interview, [click here](#).

#### Reflections on Copenhagen

By *Dudzile Mathehula, Communications Intern, CIVICUS*

The Copenhagen climate change summit had everyone talking; the outcome was looked down upon in many instances. Some good also came out of the summit. With so much to be said about it here is a brief reflection on Copenhagen. For details, [click here](#).

### News in brief

#### 5 Reasons to be hopeful about 2010

Source: *tckttck*

Despite the epic failure of the UN climate summit in Copenhagen, there are plenty of reasons to be hopeful that 2010 will be a banner year for achieving new and lasting environmental protection. Here are the top 5 reasons why: To read more, [click here](#).

#### Copenhagen agreement fails UN processes and the planet

Source: *Without Your Walls*

Climate negotiations in Copenhagen ended with a whimper and some chaos in the final plenary. About 115 national leaders attended the Copenhagen climate talks but the final 'agreement' announced by the US, India, China and South Africa, was drafted far outside the consensus process of the United Nations and amounted to only aspirational targets and promises, falling far short of an ambitious, fair and binding treaty demanded by civil society. For details, [click here](#).

#### Nani A. Palkhivala Award for the protection of civil rights to Maja Daruwala, CIVICUS board member

Mrs. Maja Daruwala, a CIVICUS board member and Director of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi, has been awarded the prestigious Nani A. Palkhivala Award for the protection and preservation of civil liberties in India. This is the fifth award in the series of awards instituted by the Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Trust. The previous award winners were: PUCL (Delhi), Ms Nawaz Kotwal, Ms Teesta Setalwad, Mr. Shailesh Gandhi, Ms Aruna Roy and the Public Concern for Governance Trust, Mumbai. The Award will be presented at a function on Thursday, 14 January 2010 in Mumbai. On this occasion the Seventh Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Lecture will be delivered by the world renowned author and management expert, Prof. C.K. Prahalad, on "Sampurna Azadi: The Unfinished Agenda".

#### Massive interest in helping Haiti

Source: *Yahoo Buzz*

With Haiti still reeling from Tuesday's devastating earthquake, organisations and governments continue to struggle to get supplies to the island nation. More supplies are on the way, but it is unknown when they will arrive. Meanwhile, on the Web, people eager to help are seeking out unique ways in which they can contribute. For details, [click here](#).

#### Haiti earthquake response - January 2010

Source: *aidmatrix*

Aidmatrix is working diligently with our global NGO and local partners in Haiti to connect the various response efforts to the recent earthquake. Needs for in-kind and transportation donations are currently being assessed and will be posted to the Aidmatrix Network as they become available. Communications and connectivity are difficult at present in Haiti as relief teams are still making their way to the area, so please continue to check back for updates or follow us on the social networks. For details, [click here](#).

#### IMF launches consultative process on financial sector tax

Source: *International Monetary Fund*

The International Monetary Fund is launching a consultative process as it begins to examine policy options for how governments can recover public money that was used to support banks and other financial institutions during the current crisis. Some form of financial sector tax is one of the options under examination. For details, [click here](#).

#### 2009 Big Read film available

Source: *Global Campaign for Education*

The Global Campaign for Education has produced a film compiling a number of the activities undertaken by members and groups across the world during this year's Action Week. The theme for 2009 was The Big read. To watch the film, [click here](#).

#### Warming to civil disobedience after Copenhagen's failure

Source: *Making Waves*

Whether the failure of the Copenhagen Climate Summit has dealt a mortal blow to the process of international climate negotiations in their current form is an important question currently under debate. A broader issue that is receiving attention in a handful of European countries is the future of civil disobedience, especially in the fight for 'climate justice'. For details, [click here](#).

lobbying work. We believe that the book will enhance the collective participation of African women in lobbying for the enactment and implementation of Freedom of Information (FOI) in their respective countries. FEMNET has partnered with UNESCO in executing this project. To receive a full copy, send an email to [communication@femnet.or.ke](mailto:communication@femnet.or.ke).

For more book reviews, [click here](#)

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Check out our video channel:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/civiciworldalliance>

## Appointments

This week, new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please [click here](#). Should you wish to publish a New Vacancy, please click on [Add job](#). Please add an expiry date for applications.

**Resource Mobilisation Manager (Application Deadline: 22 January 2010)**  
*CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation*  
*Location: Johannesburg, South Africa*  
For details, [click here](#).

**Coordinator of the Open Forum Consortium (Application Deadline: 30 January 2010)**  
*Open Forum Consortium*  
*Location: Brussels, Belgium*  
For details, [click here](#).

**DevNetJobs: International Development Jobs Network**  
<http://www.devnetjobs.org>  
DevNetJobs.org lists jobs and consulting opportunities arising within NGOs and CSOs globally free of charge. The objective is to enable these organisations to attract qualified human resources for their projects and activities. Over 9000 NGOs currently benefit from its services at no cost. To post jobs within your non-profit organisation, simply email them to [jobs@devnetjobs.org](mailto:jobs@devnetjobs.org)

## CIVICUS Member profile

### Prova Society

Prova Society was founded by a group of like-minded people, headed by Enamul Kabir. It is a non-profit, non-political and non-governmental voluntary organisation. The mission of the organisation is promoting meaningful change in Bangladesh. They help people live healthier, more productive and more independent lives by participating in various programmes and projects. Since its inception in 1994, Prova Society has been working in the field of health, education, water, sanitation, environment, human rights, agriculture, prevention of women and child trafficking, HIV/AIDS, etc. Prova Society have also been working on income generating activities for the upliftment of the socio-economic status of poor and disadvantaged people in the urban & rural areas of Bangladesh with special emphasis on women, children, the disabled and the aged. Presently Prova Society has been implementing non-formal education, water, sanitation, democratic rights education for women, tobacco control, awareness raising for prevention of HIV/AIDS and early marriage, and agriculture development. It is duly registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau; Department of Social Welfare and Directorate of Youth, government of Bangladesh. For more information, please contact Enamul Kabir, Executive Director at [provasociety@gmail.com](mailto:provasociety@gmail.com).

## Resources

### Transparency festival 2009: Launch of the NIS study

*Source: Transparency International*

The Coalition for Integrity and Accountability – AMAN – Transparency Palestine launched the National Integrity System (NIS) Country Study during its annual celebration of International Anti-Corruption Day. The event was held in Ramallah and Gaza under the slogan "A Functioning National Integrity System is Immunity to Palestine". For details, [click here](#).

### Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) 2009

*Source: Social Watch*

The BCI uses an alternative methodology to register the progress – or lack of progress – towards compliance with the Millennium Development Goals. This index constitutes a new methodology that complements in numerous respects the human development indexes most commonly used. For details, [click here](#).

### Human rights report card: Government positions on key issues 2008 – 2009

*Source: Democracy Coalition Project (DCP)*

As part of its regular series of reports monitoring United Nations human rights bodies, the Democracy Coalition Project (DCP) worked again to provide an independent analysis of the UN Human Rights Council's (the Council) third year of work ending at the close of the Eleventh regular session in June 2009. DCP reviewed the body's performance by studying the trends observed at the intergovernmental body, as well as tracking the positions of governments on thematic, procedural and country-specific issues during the Council's third year of work. For details, [click here](#).

## Opportunities

### ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award

*Deadline: 29 January, 2010*

The International Society for Third-Sector Research (ISTR) is pleased to announce the ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award. This award is presented biennially for a PhD dissertation completed or defended in the two calendar years (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009) preceding the award. Dissertations that contribute to the field of comparative study of civil society organizations, nonprofit organizations, philanthropy, voluntarism and related issues are eligible. We encourage submissions of PhD dissertations from all parts of the world. Dissertations focused exclusively on the United States are not eligible. The winner will be announced and the award will be given at the ISTR 9 International Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, which will be held 7 - 10 July, 2010. The award is USD \$1,000. For details, [click here](#).

### Call for case stories

*Deadline: 29 January, 2010*

The Task Team on South-South Cooperation (TT-SSC) is a Southern-led platform of governments and development agencies. It is identifying and analysing South-South Cooperation (SSC) practices to understand what works and illuminate the synergies with the aid effectiveness agenda. The TT-SSC is especially interested in discovering and documenting the practice of technical cooperation and capacity development among developing countries. Contribute a Case Story that highlights how South-South Cooperation works in practice. Case stories are less than 2000 words and can be submitted in English, Spanish or French using the "Submit your Case" tab above. For complete guidelines and eligibility see the Call for Case Stories document. For details, [click here](#).

### IPPF's Advocacy Flexi Fund for NGOs for promotion of MDGs

*Deadline: 15 February 2010*

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) has announced a call for applications from civil society organisations from low income countries under its Advocacy Flexi Fund. There are grants available up to USD \$10,000 to undertake advocacy work for the promotion of the Millennium Development Goal 5b (MDG5b): universal access to reproductive health by 2015. For details, [click here](#).

### 2010 call for nominations: WWSF prize for women's creativity in rural life

*Deadline: 31 March 2010*

Awarded since 1994 by WWSF Women's World Summit Foundation - an international, non-profit, humanitarian NGO, serving the implementation of women's and children's rights and the UN development agenda - the Prize (\$ 1000 per laureate and \$ 3000 for specific African women's organisations), honours women and women's groups around the world exhibiting exceptional creativity, courage and commitment for the improvement of the quality of life in rural communities (354 prizes awarded so far). The Prize aims

to draw international attention to laureates' contributions to sustainable development, household food security and peace, thus generating recognition and support for their projects. For details, [click here](#).

**Master of Arts in community development (International)**

*Deadline: 1 February, 2010*

The Master of Arts in Community Development - International (MACD-I) is based on a unique partnership between the University of Victoria and the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), a civil society organisation with three decades of experience in grassroots development. Through course work, assignments, field exposure and interactions with students and instructors, you will explore the theory and practical learning on facilitating sustainable community development, as well as leadership and management in organisations and networks. For details, [click here](#).

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