



**PRESS RELEASE/MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 14, 2008

Government and Civil Society Dialogue on Canada Supporting the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict

OTTAWA, ON– The Forum on Children and Armed Conflict and the Gender and Peace Building Working Group of the Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee, along with the Conflict Studies Program of Saint Paul University, are organizing a **workshop on the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict** at Saint Paul University in Ottawa on January 17 and 18, 2008.

In 2007, the Canadian International Development Agency commissioned a discussion paper that will be the basis for the two-day discussions between representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations, academics and young people. More than 100 participants are expected from 12 different countries.

International standards and guidelines have constantly strengthened the protection of children in armed conflict through norms and discourse. However, the application of these standards remains problematic and the practice has not steadily followed. Children affected by armed conflict on the ground continue to be discriminated against and left without assistance.

“Communities often fear or reject returning children and youth, some of whom have been involved in extreme violence during armed conflict,” explains co-organizer Guillaume Landry of the Forum on Children and Armed Conflict. “Returning children have a right to social and economic assistance, comprising education, vocational training, community support and ultimately a means of making a living. We hope that this workshop will contribute to the improvement of programmatic work in countries where children are affected by armed conflict as well as supporting Canadian and international agencies and partners in the field working to reintegrate children affected by armed conflict.”

For additional details, please visit www.peacebuild.ca or contact co-organizers Dr. Christina Clark or Guillaume Landry. (See details below).

WHAT: Workshop on the Reintegration of Children Affected by Armed Conflict

WHERE: Auditorium (room 203), Guigues Building, Saint Paul University
223 Main Street, Ottawa, Ontario

WHEN: January 17 & 18, 2007 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm



About CPCC

Founded in 1994, the Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee (CPCC) is a network of Canadian non-governmental organizations and individual engaged in a wide range of activities related to addressing the cause and consequences of violent conflict. The CPCC network is made up of approximately 61 organizational members and 19 individual members from a variety of sectors. CPCC working groups have been established on the following themes: Gender and Peacebuilding, Small Arms, Children and Armed Conflict, Conflict Prevention and Peace Operations.

About Saint Paul University

Established in 1848, Saint Paul University is a bilingual university federated with the University of Ottawa. The Conflict Studies Program offers degrees at Master's and Honour's BA levels. For more information, see: www.ustpaul.ca

For more information, please contact:

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