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MEDIA ADVISORY

ASIL COSPONSORS DIALOG AND PRESS CONFERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL PROSECUTORS

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law (ASIL), in cooperation with the Chautauqua Institution, The Robert H. Jackson Center, Washington University's Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies, ENOUGH! Project, Case Western University School of Law's Frederick K. Cox International Law Center, and Syracuse University College of Law, will cosponsor a conference for current and past prosecutors of international criminal tribunals. Entitled *The Second Annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogs*, the event will take place **August 25-26, 2008**, at The Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. Members of the press are invited to attend the meeting and related press conference by registering with Carol Drake, Office Manager, Robert H. Jackson Center, at cdrake@roberthjackson.org or +1.716.483.6646.

Marking the 60th anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, this year's conference will bring together

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prosecutors of international criminal tribunals, including former prosecutors who were present at Nuremberg, to lead discussions concerning the anniversary of the Convention and international criminal law. The Dialogs will address a number of current issues, such as “ethnic cleansing,” the forced service of children in wars, and how international courts identify the perpetrators of such crimes and bring them to justice. In conjunction with the Dialogs, the Robert H. Jackson Center will feature an exhibit, “From Nuremberg to The Hague,” that explores how the international justice system has evolved since Nuremberg. The Dialogs will once again culminate with the issuance of a Chautauqua Declaration from the prosecutors.

The participating prosecutors will include **Benjamin B. Ferencz**, **Whitney Harris**, and **Henry King** (all Prosecutors at the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg); **Stephen Rapp** (Chief Prosecutor, Special Court for Sierra Leone [SCSL]); **David M. Crane** (former Chief Prosecutor, SCSL); **Hassan Jallow** (Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda); **Robert Petit** (Co-Prosecutor, Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia); **Serge Brammertz** (Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia); and **Fatou Bensouda** (Deputy Prosecutor, International Criminal Court).

Conducted in a roundtable setting, the conference will allow the prosecutors, their guests, and the public to reflect on lessons learned and to consider future developments involving the law of war, also known as humanitarian law. Guest experts who will also participate in the conference are **Robert Krueger**, former US Senator and Ambassador; **Mark Drumbl**, Washington and Lee University; **Omar Ishmael**, ENOUGH! Project; **Clint Williamson**, US Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues; **Michael Scharf**,

Frederick K. Cox Center, Case Western University School of Law; **Leila Sadat**, Whitney Harris Institute, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law; **Lucy Reed**, President, American Society of International Law; **Michael Newton**, Vanderbilt University School of Law; **John Q. Barrett**, St. John's University School of Law; and **Grace Akallo**, former child soldier in the Lord's Resistance Army, now an author and activist.

The public sessions of the Dialogs will conclude with a **press conference at 3:30 p.m. (August 26)**, at the Athenaeum Hotel (<http://www.athenaeum-hotel.com/maps.html>), Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York. As part of the news conference the prosecutors will issue a second Chautauqua Declaration, summarizing their findings and offering recommendations for the future of humanitarian law. For more information, visit <http://www.asil.org/pdfs/event080825.pdf>.

“It’s an honor for ASIL to once again cosponsor this meeting of the world’s top professionals in international criminal prosecution,” said ASIL Executive Director **Elizabeth Andersen**. “This year’s conference will be a continuation of the important discussion that was initiated last August and promises to lead to further understanding of the challenges to and progress being made in the field of humanitarian law. We hope members of the public and press will join us in the beautiful setting of Chautauqua for another history making event.”

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL’s mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the

establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. ASIL events, such as *The International Humanitarian Law Dialogs*, generally deal with one of the Society's seven thematic focal areas: Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, International Institutions, International Law and Development, International Security, Science and Technology, Trade and Investment, and Transnational Litigation and Arbitration. For more information, visit www.asil.org.