

Establishing Professional and NGO Services for
Mediation, Reconciliation and Humanitarian Aid at the United Nations

A Global Mediation and Reconciliation Service

presented on the panel:

“Building an Effective World Security System: Enhancing the Capacity of the United Nations to Prevent and Resolve Armed Conflict” in the Transforming Violent Conflict Strand

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Virginia Swain, Co-Founder and Director

Center for Global Community and World Law

Abstract

Innovative approaches to diplomacy need to be integrated into the United Nations System to strengthen the UN's response to violent conflict. At present, conciliation and mediation are used to address protracted historic conflict. A new discipline, reconciliation, integrated into the United Nations System, offers support for the Good Offices of the Secretary-General. This paper approaches innovative approaches to diplomacy in three ways:

- Examining a provision for a mediation and conciliation service under the guidance of the Security Council, approved by the General Assembly in Article 22 and never implemented.
- Examining a proposal that implements the General Assembly Resolution 39/11 "the peoples of our planet having a sacred right to peace" (November 12, 1984) with a proposal for a Global Mediation and Reconciliation Service (Reconciliation Service) to commemorate the UN Decade on Non-violence for the World's Children, to be launched in January 2000. This proposal includes training a cross-sectoral group of Reconciliation Leaders in peacebuilding skills for 21st century challenges to address the failure of current mediation and conciliation efforts. The first training for Reconciliation Leaders is in summer 2000. The Reconciliation Service has been developed in local and international settings since 1992 at the United Nations in a master's thesis study on how to resolve protracted, historic conflicts and build global community without the use of force.
- Examining other attempts to start mediation, conciliation and reconciliation as internal and external consultation services.