PRESS RELEASE

GENDER AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA
A Short Course on Human Rights and Transitional Justice

Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) and the University for Peace (UPEACE) have organised a short course on Human Rights and Transitional Justice, which is taking place from the 9-13th April 2007, at Laguna Beach in Mbodiène, Senegal. The course will be attended by experts, researchers and university professors specialising in the field of gender and peace.

The short course will bring together practitioners, researchers and people working with Regional and International Institutions and NGOs for the five day workshop which aims to improve the participants skills and expertise on issues regarding gender and peace building.

The specific aims of this workshop are:
- To present and discuss specific aspects of gender and conflict management;
- To clarify terms, definitions and key concepts of human rights and transitional justice in Africa;
- To examine the gender dimension in transitional justice and violations of human rights during conflict and its transformation into peace;
- To empower women as actors of change;
- To examine the use of video and other training methods and materials;
- To share experiences and lessons learned;
- To create networks of people involved in gender issues specifically relating to peace.

Thirty participants from twenty African countries, including Sudan, Cameroon, Burundi and the DRC, will attend the workshop which follows on from the first short course organised by FAS and UPEACE in July 2006. Both courses are intended to lead to the creation of a Master degree programme in Gender and Peace-
building which is part of the programme of FAS’ Pan-African Centre on Gender, Peace and Development.

FAS recently initiated a study on 10 years of peace building practices in Africa and works in collaboration with several organisations, including technical assistance from the United Nations.

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