

### **Invitation to Attend a Consultative Workshop on Mediation**

The Centre for Mediation in Africa invites you to participate in a consultative workshop on international mediation, which will take place from 9:00 to 16:00 on 5 April 2012 at the University of Pretoria.

The workshop will be held in collaboration with the United Nations Mediation Support Unit (MSU) and will contribute to the forthcoming report by the UN Secretary-General on the topic of effective mediation. This report was requested by the UN General Assembly in 2011 through resolution 65/283.

The workshop will focus on the following questions, identified by the MSU as important in the context of its consultations with member states:

- What are the qualities of a good mediator?
- What are the key attributes of an effective mediation process, including during the design and implementation stages?
- What considerations are important for effective co-operation between different third-party actors involved in a mediation process?
- What are the vital elements of a successful peace agreement?
- How can continuous mediation efforts contribute to the effective implementation of a peace agreement?

A programme and details regarding the venue (on the UP campus) will be distributed towards the end of March and a report emanating from the workshop will be submitted to the MSU.

The Centre for Mediation in Africa was established in 2011 by the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Pretoria. Its mission is to contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of mediation in major conflicts in Africa through teaching, training, research and support to the UN, the AU, sub-regional organisations and African governments.

The Centre's Director, Prof Laurie Nathan, is a member of the UN Mediation Roster and has close relations with the MSU. He has recently completed a set of guidelines on UN-AU mediation partnerships, commissioned by the MSU.

Please contact Ms Ojima Salifu ([ojima.salifu@up.ac.za](mailto:ojima.salifu@up.ac.za)) if you wish to attend the workshop, which will be limited to 40 participants.

Best regards



**Laurie Nathan**  
Director: Centre for Mediation in Africa



**Maxi Schoeman**  
Head of the Department of Political Sciences