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Dear «Salutation»

THE AFRICA PROGRAMME OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ACCORD'S Sixth Circular on Academic Work with regard to Conflict and Ways of Dealing with Conflict

As indicated by the dual letterhead and caption, this letter is a very special one in ACCORD's project of communicating with universities in Africa. It shares the exciting news that the University for Peace of the United Nations (UPEACE), based in Costa Rica, is extending its programmes in other regions of the world, and has assigned top priority to the development of education and research activities in Africa.

The programme proposed by the University for Peace is designed – through sustained partnerships with African universities and other institutions over a number of years – to support the strengthening of African capacities for education, training and research on the vital issues of peace and security on which the future of many African nations depends.

The objectives of the programme are as follows:

1. To stimulate and support the strengthening of capacities in Africa for education, training and research on peace-related issues so that young Africans and mid-career professionals from all sectors of society can acquire the knowledge and skills required to address peace and security issues.
2. To support collaborative research and sound scholarship on issues of peace and security in Africa so as to improve our understanding of the causes and dynamics of conflict and peace – thus improving the prospects for successful prevention and reconstruction. Also to build up a body of knowledge, including case studies and lessons learned, which can be of value in the formulation and implementation of policy.
3. To enhance the participation and contribution of African experts, scholars and policy makers in the international analysis of, and response to, issues of peace and security, particularly in regard to conflicts in Africa.
4. To promote a better appreciation in the rest of the world of African attitudes and approaches to the mediation of disputes, conflict prevention and consensus building, rooted in African values and traditions.'

As can be inferred from the above quotation, UPEACE is operating in a way which will 'ensure full African participation in all UPEACE activities'. A consultative mission is already visiting a number of African countries for consultations with universities, research institutions and various other organisations. On the 6th of April it was ACCORD's privilege to meet the UPEACE mission and discuss the envisaged programme.

One of the first steps is obviously that of compiling a survey of the current activities of academic institutions and other organisations working in the field of educating for peace in Africa. Gathering such information is therefore the main objective of this letter and its attached questionnaire.

Realising that questionnaires are usually not heartily welcomed by busy people, we have tried to make this one brief and user-friendly. We are confident, however, that the prospect of your institution benefiting, either indirectly or even directly, from the envisaged programme will encourage you to devote prompt and proper attention to completing and returning the questionnaire. We also remember how well many universities responded in 1995 when ACCORD was compiling a report for UNESCO on peace education in Southern African universities.

Since the beginning, in 1993, of our correspondence with universities (the number of which has grown from 80 to 145), we have gathered encouraging information on what the following 46 universities are doing in the field of peace and conflict studies:

Country	University (City)
Botswana	University of Botswana (Gaborone)
Egypt	Zagazig University (Zagazig)
Kenya	Egerton University (Njoro)
Lesotho	National University of Lesotho (Roma)
Liberia	University of Liberia (Monrovia)
Malawi	University of Malawi (Zomba)
Mauritius	University of Mauritius (Reduit)
Mozambique	Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (Maputo)
Namibia	University of Namibia (Windhoek)
Nigeria	Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University (Bauchi)
	University of Calabar (Calabar)
	Federal University of Technology, Akure (Akure)
	Federal University of Technology, Minna (Minna)
	University of Jos (Jos)
South Africa	University of Cape Town (Cape Town)
	University of Durban-Westville (Durban)
	University of Fort Hare (Alice)
	Medical University of South Africa (Pretoria)
	University of Natal (Durban, Pietermaritzburg)
	University of the North (Sovenga)
	University of North-West (Mmabatho)
	University of the Orange Free State (Bloemfontein)
	University of Port Elizabeth (Port Elizabeth)
	Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education (Potchefstroom)
	University of Pretoria (Pretoria)
	Rand Afrikaans University (Johannesburg)
	Rhodes University (Grahamstown)
	University of South Africa (Pretoria)
	University of Stellenbosch (Stellenbosch)
	University of Transkei (Umtata)
	University of Venda (Thohoyandou)
	Vista University (Pretoria)
	University of the Western Cape (Bellville)
	University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg)
	University of Zululand (KwaDlangezwa)
Sudan	Ahfad University for Women (Omdurman)
	University of Juba (Khartoum)
Swaziland	University of Swaziland (Kwaluseni)
Tanzania	University of Dar es Salaam (Dar es Salaam)
	Sokoine University of Agriculture (Morogoro)
Uganda	Makerere University (Kampala)
Zambia	Copperbelt University (Kitwe)
	University of Zambia (Lusaka)
Zimbabwe	Midlands State University (Gweru)
	National University of Science and Technology (Bulawayo)

University of Zimbabwe (Harare)

Once again we wish to express our sincere appreciation for all the responses we have received and especially for all the meaningful work that is being done at all these places. Obviously, however, it is now necessary to bring our existing information up to date and to integrate new information that has become available.

We will greatly appreciate it, therefore, if you would immediately forward this letter to the staff member who is in the best position to respond on behalf of your institution. We would like to have the completed questionnaires by **31 July 2002**, so that the data can be incorporated in a report to be submitted by the end of August, in preparation for a conference in October 2002.

Without distracting attention from the main focus of this letter, we just wish to add a reminder about ACCORD's *African Journal on Conflict Resolution*. Vol 3 No 1 is scheduled to be published by July 2002 and Vol 3 No 2 by November 2002. We are keen to publish sound academic articles on conflict-related topics, from various regions and cultural perspectives, and from both genders. We are especially oriented towards topics, methods and perspectives relevant to Africa. Our (flexible) guidelines with regard to length are about 6000 words (plus a 100-word abstract) for an article and about 1000 for a book review. For reference purposes we use the Harvard system. Contributions may be sent to the following e-mail (or postal) address:

E-mail address: malanj@accord.org.za

Postal address: ACCORD, c/o University of the Western Cape, Private Bag X17, Bellville, 7535, South Africa

Please be assured of our appreciation for your interest and co-operation, and of our best wishes for all the justice and peace-promoting work you are undoubtedly doing.

Yours sincerely

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Jannie Malan
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ACCORD