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**Committee for the Abolition of Third World Debt**

[www.cadtm.org](http://www.cadtm.org)

## Electronic Newsletter Number 31 - Tuesday, 19, January 2010

English version sent to 2050 subscribers  
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### SUMMARY

#### Haiti

##### » Haiti: Grants to repay an odious debt ?

by Sophie Perchellet, Éric Toussaint

There is a great risk that one of the largest relief operations in history will be similar in nature to the tsunami relief efforts in 2004, unless a radically different approach to a reconstruction model is adopted. Haiti was partially destroyed by an earthquake measuring 7 on the Richter scale. We have all shed tears and the media, as they bombard us with apocalyptic images, report on financial pledges generous States have made. We know that Haiti needs to be rebuilt, this country (...)

International call

##### » Solidarity and respect for Popular Sovereignty : Haiti is Calling

We stand with the people of Haiti at this time of infinite suffering and tragedy, taking on their cry and calling on the whole world to respond with urgent and persistent solidarity. We call on peoples and governments everywhere to be shaken with the same force with which the earth shook the very foundations of that worthy and brave people's life, affecting directly one third of the population - three million people - and adding a destruction of unimaginable proportions to what was for the vast majority, already a situation of tremendous precariousness and the routine violation of its most basic human rights(...)

Before and after the quake

##### » The incapacitation of Haiti

by Ashley Smith

A devastating earthquake, the worst in 200 years, struck Port-au-Prince on Tuesday, laying waste to the city and killing untold numbers of people. The quake measured 7.0 on the Richter scale, and detonated more than 30 aftershocks, all more than 4.5 in magnitude, through the night and into Wednesday morning. The earthquake toppled poorly constructed houses, hotels, hospitals and even the capital city's main political buildings, including the presidential palace. The collapse of so many (...)

#### United States

##### » Obama, an "F" in political theory

by Atilio Boron

Obama's Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech was not much different from the ideological tone set by

Bush Jr. and his cronies. Obama took some courses in political theory at Harvard. But the speech he gave upon receiving the Nobel Peace Prize — an undeserved distinction that still arouses reactions ranging from amusement to indignation — reveals that he did not learn the subject well and that his flawed interpretation of the doctrine of "Just War" merits an "F" in political theory. According (...)

## Climate change

### » How to cure the post-Copenhagen hangover

by Patrick Bond

Copenhagen unveiled that the leading southern countries are willing accomplices in climate crime to the rich nations, while the hope remains with the rising power of the climate justice movements. In Copenhagen, the world's richest leaders continued their fiery fossil fuel party last Friday night, December 18, ignoring requests of global village neighbours to please chill out. Instead of halting the hedonism, U.S. President Barack Obama and the Euro elites cracked open the mansion door to (...)

### » From climate denialism to activist alliances

by Patrick Bond

Seattle offers a lesson to the African negotiators at the climate talks: by walking out - alongside civil society protesters - and halting a bad deal in Copenhagen on December 18, we can together pave the way for subsequent progress. Preparations for the December 7-18 Copenhagen climate summit are going as expected, including a rare sighting of African elites' stiffened spines. That's a great development (maybe decisive), more about which below. While activists help raise the temperature (...)

### » We must support a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth

by Pablo Solón, Cormac Cullinan

For Bolivia, December marked an important and historic step forward in climate change politics. We are of course not referring to Brokenhagen, where we saw the worst of intransigent, undemocratic and cynical tactics from the world's largest emitters of carbon dioxide. The interesting action happened in a completely unreported event in New York when on 22 December, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution which put the issue of Mother Earth rights as an item on the UN agenda. This might (...)

## Pakistan : struggle for land rights

### » After 10 years the struggle for land rights still goes on

by Bushra Khaliq

On 10th January 2010, Anjumn Mazareen Punjab (AMP) (Punjab Tenants Organization) organized a public meeting in Renala Kurd, 100 km from Lahore, to commemorate the 8th death anniversary of Muhammad Basher Ahmad Shaheed, the first martyr among 11 of the movement. He was killed by Rangers in 2002. The meeting was arranged in open venue, decorated with red flags.. Over 3000 tenants, men women and children were present there braving chilly, windy and foggy weather. They were come there on (...)

## THEMATIC ISSUES

### » International Debt Observatory



The International Debt Observatory is born under the impulse of the Committee for the abolition of the Third World Debt (CADTM) and of the Left-wing Economists (EDI, Argentina) on January 28th, 2005 at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

The International Debt Observatory is a tool of exchange of knowledge, analyses and research on the problematic of the debt. Its aim is to provide precise analyses in most domains relating to problematic of the debt as well as a unique statistical database to the individuals and the organizations that study the mechanism of the debt and/or act for an alternative to the domination of the most powerful countries of the North.(...)



### » The Debt in figures

A necessary tool to understand the current global crisis, the data collected here by Damien Millet and Eric Toussaint (CADTM) should enable us to make sense of one of the basic reasons for the international situation, as seen from the viewpoint of the global South. From the 1960s to today's global crisis, the international network of the CADTM has constantly kept a critical eye on the world economy and the mechanisms of domination that affect it. Analysing various statistics is essential to identify what is really at stake and to propose suitable alternatives.(...)

### The CADTM Archive

To read previous articles and analysis published on the CADTM Website, please consult our Archive by [thematic issues](#) or by [country](#).

### AGENDA

#### January 2010

» 24-01 => 28-01 | Porto Alegre, Brazil. World Social Forum: International Seminar "10 years later: challenges and proposals for another world possible"

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