

### JUBILEE MOVES REPUBLICANS & DEMOCRATS TO ACTION

ead any paper or turn on any news channel, and you'll hear about the stalemate dominating Washington, DC. Many organizations have faced challenges to achieving their priorities; political progress has slowed due to the divisive debates on issues like healthcare and financial reform. Yet Jubilee USA is successfully spanning the political divide by using our broadbased support across the country, on Capitol Hill, and at the White House.

In August, a bi-partisan group of fortyeight Members of Congress sent a letter to **President Obama** showing their support for expanded debt cancellation for impoverished countries without harmful conditions and a fair sytem of lending and borrowing. The introduction of the Jubilee Act and the passage of the Haiti Debt Relief for Earthquake Recovery Act brought together Republican and Democrat partnerships.



National and international press covered Jubilee's successful bipartisan advocacy for Haiti debt relief

In addition, Jubilee USA coordinated meetings of high-level officials like Lael Brainard, Treasury

Undersecretary (see above photo), and Gayle Smith, of the National Security Council, with high-profile religious and human rights leaders to push forward our critical agenda to stop the IMF/World Bank and expand debt relief.

Our relevance in Washington is possible because of our supporters on the ground. This fall we will mobilize across the country to demand that the United States take the lead to end poverty and ensure economic justice for all.

justice for the world's

# Jubilee USA brought its message of economic The Washington Post

poorest to the Washington Post in an op-ed written by Presbyterian Church Stated Clerk Rev. Grady Parsons and New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good President Rev. Richard Cizik.

## **JOIN US IN JUBILEE** JUSTICE THIS FALL

Converge in our nation's capital on October 8 for the Break the Chains, Transform the System Mobilization at the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings in Washington, DC.

This summer and fall, Jubilee supporters across the country are collecting paper chains to deliver at the moblization.

We will break these chains of debt that have enslaved impoverished countries for decades and demand real reform

Visit www.jubileeusa.org to download your chain links.



#### **STAND UP TAKE ACTION**

Raise vour voice September 17-19 with **Stand Up, Take Action!** Join Jubilee USA groups around the country and millions worldwide to Stand Up against global poverty by organizing an event in your community. Part of a Christian faith community? Dedicate part of your service on September 19 for **Jubilee Sunday.** 

This year is critical: With only five years left to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the UN is meeting in September to review progress.

In preparation, Jubilee organized fourteen religious leaders and heads of denomination to send a **letter to President Obama calling** on him to act boldly to achieve the **Millennium Development Goals.** 

# UNCOVERING THE ROOTS OF GLOBAL POVERTY

Debt means death!" cries Wahu Kaara, of the Kenya Debt Relief Network. Kaara spread this passionate message and spoke of the harsh reality for millions of the world's poorest on our Roots of Global Poverty tour this spring in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Washington DC to religious, student, and community

leaders. Wahu's visit inspired the formation of our newest grassroots chapter – Jubilee Massachusetts, who will now carry the torch of Wahu's fire into its congregations and communities.

Jubilee USA's activists and staff brought Wahu's energy and message to thousands at the **United States Social Forum** in Detroit, where, as a member of the National Planning Committee, we drew the connections between our economic policies at home and abroad.



A Warm Welcome to our Newest Chapters Jubilee Massachusetts, Jubilee Oklahoma & Jubilee Indiana!

Our new partnering program **Linking Our Voices** will bring together Jubilee Chapters in the US and leaders from Jubilee South to work in solidarity.

→ GET INVOLVED with our Linking Our Voices Program at www.jubileeusa.org

# A DEFINITIVE END TO DEBT AFRICAN PARTNERS & JUBILEE USA PUT DEBTORS IN DRIVER'S SEAT

hat happens if you have a debt you think is unfair? Unlike individuals who can declare bankruptcy in a bind, countries are left with few choices. They can continue to pay huge debts at the expense of their citizens, try to negotiate with creditors who hold all of the cards, or default and are marked as irresponsible. Can all of this be avoided? Since 2001, The African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)'s answer has been a resounding "yes."

Jubilee USA hosted our close partners from Zimbabwe, AFRODAD experts Collins Magalasi and Tiri Mutazu this August to advocate for a new process to deal with impoverished countries' debt fairly.

During meetings set up by Jubilee USA with policy heavyweights like the **United Nations**, **World Bank**, **and US Treasury** in New York and Washington, DC, AFRODAD's Executive Director Collins Magalisi, testified to debt cancellation's benefits, but pressed that it is not the ultimate solution. "Debt relief initiatives have not offered a lasting solution to the fundamental debt problem. **Creditors have been in the driver's seat, controlling the amount, terms, and conditions of debt cancellation."** 

AFRODAD highlighted the need for a neutral space, such as the United Nations, where borrowers and lenders can make their case. "As more new creditors, like China, India, and Brazil, lend to countries benefitting from Western debt relief initiatives, it is critical for both past and future debts to develop a mechanism where all creditors are willing to come to the table...Such fair and transparent arbitration would help to address past odious loans to Democratic Republic of Congo's Mobutu or Apartheid South Africa, and provide incentives for responsible lending and borrowing in the future," said Tiri Mutazu, AFRODAD's program officer.

## **MAKING PROGRESS**

- Jubilee Debt Campaign,
  UK Parliament passed a
  precedent-setting law
  to prohibit Vulture Fund
  profiteering from poor country
  debt relief in April. Jubilee USA
  moved Congress to introduce similar
  bipartisan legislation.
- Jubilee USA's report, "Making the Grade? The G20's Commitments to the World's Poorest" found that wealthy nations had delivered shockingly little of what they promised to poor countries and called for broad and bold reforms. Read more about the G20's "D" grade at www.jubileeusa.org/g20
- While the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank cancelled Haiti's debts after the tragic earthquake, the IMF just recently cancelled \$268 million debt and gave a \$60 million new loan. Jubilee USA raised concerns over this new loan and continues to work with Haitian partners to end this debt domination.

**JUBILEE USA NETWORK** is an alliance of 75 religious denominations and faith communities, human rights, environmental, labor, and community groups working for the definitive cancellation of crushing debts to fight poverty and injustice in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

We rely on your generous support.
You can give online at www.jubileeusa.org/support-us or send a check here:

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