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Announcement
14 February 2011

HD Centre announces new Executive Director

Dr David Harland has been selected as the new Executive Director of the [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue \(HD Centre\)](#).

Dr Harland has an exceptional range of peace and conflict resolution related experience that will be invaluable to the HD Centre, including of humanitarian issues in conflict-affected areas of [Uganda](#); as a negotiator in war zones; of peacekeeping in the [Balkans](#); transitional administration in [Timor Leste](#); and state-building in [Haiti](#).

“The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue is a highly respected and successful actor. It now occupies a unique and essential niche in peacemaking. I look forward to the opportunity to build on the achievements of my predecessor and to apply my skills and experience in pursuit of HD Centre’s important aims.” said Dr Harland.

[Jean-Marie Guéhenno](#), the HD Centre’s Chairman of the Board, expressed his pleasure at the decision:

“We are all excited that David is going to lead HD. Thanks to an exceptional team of experienced mediators, HD is already the pre-eminent institution in the field of private mediation. Under David’s vigorous leadership, HD’s future looks very promising. David’s strategic mind and his broad and diverse experience will be invaluable as HD enters a new phase of its development.”

David Harland is currently Director of the Civilian Capacities Review in the [UN Peacebuilding Support Office](#). Prior to that he was Director of the Europe and Latin America Division, at the [UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations \(DPKO\)](#), and served as

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Acting Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, [MINUSTAH](#), in Haiti between March and May 2010.



In 2008 he was the Acting Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, [UNMIK](#) in Pristina. From 2003–2006 he held several senior posts within DPKO after having served as Senior Policy Advisor at the [UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#) in Switzerland and Uganda. Mr Harland was also the Acting Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in East Timor from 1999–2000 and Political Advisor to Commander [UNPROFOR](#) as well as being the Head of Civil Affairs for [UNMIBH](#), in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1993–1998.

Dr Harland has published widely on issues of conflict and international relations. He holds a doctorate from Tufts University, and a Masters from Harvard University. As well as his native English, he has pursued studies in Chinese, French, Swahili, and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian.

He is a citizen of New Zealand and is married with one daughter.

ENDS

For more information on the HD Centre's activities, please write to pr@hdcentre.org

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The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue is an independent mediation organisation dedicated to improving the global response to armed conflict. It mediates directly between belligerents and helps others to do the same. The HD Centre is active in approximately 15 conflicts around the world, some of which are necessarily confidential.

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