

# The World March for Peace and Nonviolence



June 1, 2009 • No 1

## Footprints

Bi-Weekly Bulletin with News on the World March from the US and Abroad

### UNITED NATIONS

#### UN Presentation a Success

International March spokesperson Rafael de la Rubia addressed UN Delegates and NGO representatives attending the NPT Preparation

Conference at a special presentation on the World March for Peace and Nonviolence on at the United Nations on May 6. The presentation was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations.

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De la Rubia proposed that the heads-of-state endorsing the World March make a joint declaration of support at the opening of the UN General Assembly in September and asked the delegations to help organize a reception for the international team of marchers when they come to the UN on December 1. Logistical support from governments, including assistance with visas, lodging, transportation, and border crossings was also requested.

Delegates from Argentina, China, Iran, Uruguay, Syria, Guatemala, Poland and Burkina Faso were receptive to the March and promised to share information with their governments. Contact was also made with the Chinese delegation to bring the World March to China. Several present NGOs, including UNIFEM, endorsed the march.

#### High Level Meetings Widen Support

De la Rubia also met with the Ambassador of Bolivia and with the deputy director of the UN Deputy Director of Outreach of the UN Department of Public Information, and made a presentation at the annual meeting of Abolition 2000, a network of more than 2000 international organizations which has endorsed the World March.



WM Int'l Spokesperson Rafel de la Rubia

### USA NEWS

#### CODEPINK: Women for Peace has endorsed the World March.

CODEPINK: Women for Peace, a "grassroots peace and social justice movement working to end the war in Iraq, stop new wars, and redirect our

resources into healthcare, education and other life-affirming activities has endorsed the World March." CODEPINK members have staged marches, protests, and high-visibility publicity



CODEPINK Co-Founder Medea Benjamin

stunts in pursuit of their goals. Women-led and initiated, CODEPINK welcomes men at the local and national level and has more than 250 chapters full worldwide.

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# The World March for Peace and Nonviolence

## USA INITIATIVES

### A reception will be held at the Peace Abbey in Sherborn, MA commemorating the first day of the WM and Gandhi's birthday.

On October 2, to celebrate the first day of the WM, a reception will be held at the Peace Abbey in Sherborn, MA in honor

of Gandhi's birthday and kick-off of planned 93-day vigil and candle lighting ceremony by participating organizations, religious groups and volunteers.

On Saturday, October 3, a Stone Walk (<http://www.stonewalk.org/>) will be held between Natick MA and the Peace Abbey,



Peace Abbey in Sherborn, MA

where the banner of the World March will be raised and displayed throughout the 3 months.

For more info: mail to [jan.krause@verizon.net](mailto:jan.krause@verizon.net)

## RECENT USA ENDORSEMENTS



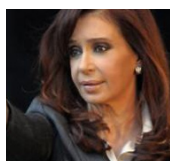
**Cindy Sheehan**, author, peace activist, former candidate for the US Congress, Nobel Peace prize nominee and "Peace Mom," best known for her public protests over the Iraq War and the death of her son Casey. Sheehan continues her activism through writing, speaking engagements and her radio show, "Cindy Sheehan's Soapbox." "I lost my son Casey to war" says Sheehan, "I know the pain and suffering such a loss entails. I support The World March for Peace and Nonviolence in the hopes

that other parents may not suffer as I have and that the countries victimized by these wars will not continue to suffer such losses."



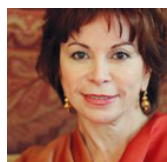
**Margaret Cho**, comedian, actress and recipient of the ACLU's First Amendment Award, honored by GLAAD as well as American Women in Radio and Television, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF), and PFLAG for "making a significant difference in promoting equal rights for all, regardless of race, sexual orientation or gender identity."

## RECENT INTERNATIONAL ENDORSEMENTS



### ARGENTINA

**Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, President** and Nestor Kirchner, former President. The Parliament of Argentina has also declared the march an **event of national interest.**



### CHILE

**Isabel Allende**, former journalist and award-winning author of *House of the Spirits*, *Of Love and Shadows*, *Eva Luna*, *Paula* and *Sum of Our Days*, among other works.



### GUINEA

**El Hadj Ibrahima Bah**, first Imam of the Faycal mosque of Conakry, the most senior Muslim cleric in Guinea, has endorsed the World March for Peace and Nonviolence with these words:

"This Movement of Peace has need of all possible support. I commit myself to the World March and I endorse it."



### GUATEMALA

**Rigoberta Menchú**, Guatemalan advocate for indigenous rights and 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

To see all US endorsements, go to [www.worldmarchusa.net](http://www.worldmarchusa.net) and to see all international endorsements, go to [www.theworldmarch.org](http://www.theworldmarch.org)

