

# International Conference



## THE ARAB SPRING:

### Political and socio-economic impact on sub-Saharan Africa

#### Speakers include:

**Professor Abdoulaye Bathily**  
Senegalese Politician and the  
Secretary- General of the Democratic  
League/Movement for the Labour  
Party (LD/MPT)

**Mr. Sam Akaki**  
Founder and executive Director of the  
Democratic Institutions for Poverty  
Reduction in Africa (DIPRA) &  
International Envoy representing  
Uganda's main opposition FDC party in  
the UK and European Union

**Ms. Rainatou Sow**  
Founder & Executive Director of Make  
Every Woman Count (MEWC), UK

**Mr. Hisham Fouad**  
Leader, Revolutionary Socialists of Egypt

**Mr. Peter Hudis**  
Lecturer, Oakton Community College, USA

2011 saw dramatic changes in Africa's governance landscape. Unprecedented popular demonstrations in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya led to the overturning of a century of autocratic rule in North Africa. These protests, demanding greater political freedom, economic opportunity, and an end to systemic corruption, have resonated deeply across Africa, sparking calls for change throughout the continent.

A question often asked since the launch of the Arab Spring in January 2011 is what effect these popular protests will have on democracy in the rest of Africa. Frequently overlooked in this discussion is that sub-Saharan Africa has been experiencing its own democratic surge during this time with important advances in Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Zambia, among other countries.

Recognizing these complex and still fluid crosscurrents, the Africa Center for Information & Development (ACID) would like to enhance a platform and facilitate dialogue to analyze the linkages between the Arab Spring and African democracy — with an eye on the implications for governance norms on the continent over the next several years.

#### Topics Include:

- The Arab Spring: Experiences from Tahrir Square (Egypt)
- Women's voices on the Arab Spring: How to enhance women's emancipation and empowerment in Africa
- The role of the mass media and civil society organizations in enhancing democratic change
- The 'Walk to Work & the Arab Spring': Civic protests in Uganda
- The Occupy Wall Street movement and the Arab Spring: An alternative to Capitalism?

**Date:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2012

**Venue:** P-Hotels, Grensen 19, Oslo

**Time:** kl 10.00-17.00

For further details and registration,  
please contact: The Africa Center for Information & Development (ACID) at;  
email [acidcenter@acidcenter.no](mailto:acidcenter@acidcenter.no), tel 98063631, or [saikou@acidcenter.no](mailto:saikou@acidcenter.no), tel 91261605

**THERE IS NO FEE CHARGED AND ALL ARE WELCOME**

**The conference is fully funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)**