



## **Western Hemisphere African Diaspora Network**

**1612 K Street NW, Suite 1104, Washington, DC 20006**

Tel: (202) 331-1333 • Fax: (202) 331-8547

Email: [info@democracy-africa.org](mailto:info@democracy-africa.org)

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### **ZUMA AND EZOZO NAMED IIFWP “AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE”**

Los Angeles, California, September 29, 2005, 2005 – The Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace presented Jacob Zuma and Agrippa Ezozo with its prestigious “Ambassador of Peace” Award this past weekend in Los Angeles. The award was given to Zuma and Ezozo in recognition for their decades of work in fostering peace and conflict aversion in Africa. The IIFWP acknowledges as Ambassador for Peace those individuals who dedicate themselves to promoting the ideals of the IIFWP, including universal values of justice and human rights, interreligious cooperation, international harmony, and the establishment of a culture of peace.

Deputy President Zuma served from 1999 to 2005 as Deputy President of South Africa under Thabo Mbeki and is the current Deputy President of the African National Congress (“ANC”). A former political prisoner, Zuma helped mobilize internal resistance to the South African apartheid. He left South Africa in 1975, and, over the next two decades, moved about various African countries working for the ANC and playing an instrumental role in the transition to peace and freedom in South Africa.

In 1991, after the ban on the ANC was lifted, Zuma was elected the Deputy Secretary General of that organization. He is generally regarded as the person most instrumental in achieving the peace that is now enjoyed by the people of KZN province of South Africa, and in October 1998, he was honored with the Nelson Mandela Award for Outstanding Leadership. In December 1994, Zuma was elected National Chairperson of the ANC and chairperson of the ANC in KZN. He was re-elected to the latter position in 1996. He was elected Deputy President of the ANC in December 1997 and was appointed Executive Deputy President of South Africa in June 1999.

Agrippa Ezozo is the founder and current president of the African Diaspora Foundation, an organization dedicated to developing peace centers, peace curricula,

teachers, and outreach programs that promote peace, nonviolence and reconciliation in Africa and other parts of the world. The ADF, and its sister organization, the Western Hemisphere African Diaspora Network (“WHADN”), represent broad coalitions of Western citizens with ties to Africa who use their collective knowledge and resources to provide support for African development and democracy.

Ezozo, a native Nigerian, is a former schoolteacher who works in various capacities to integrate working relationships between African citizens and African-Americans. He is former Co-Chair of the California delegation to the National Summit on Africa (Washington, D.C.), a Benefits Analyst at the office of Benefits Services at Healthcare Human Resources at UCLA, publisher of the Black Church Review magazine and Past Executive Director of the League of Patriotic Nigerians in Los Angeles, CA.

"I sincerely thank the Interreligious and International Federal for World Peace in their confidence in me and Honorable former Deputy President of South African and Deputy President of ANC Jacob Zuma to this important award," remarked Ezozo. "I am sure Zuma and I will accept the responsibility of carrying the torch of peace throughout Africa, the African Diaspora and other parts of the world."

For More Information on the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, go to [iifwp.org](http://iifwp.org). For more information on the African Diaspora Foundation and the WHADN initiative, go to [www.theadf.com](http://www.theadf.com) and [whadn.org](http://whadn.org).

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Provided by Taylor Ferrell of the Foundation for Democracy in Africa, e-mail: [www.democracy-africa.org](http://www.democracy-africa.org), 202-331-1333.