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\*\*\***MEDIA ADVISORY**\*\*\*

**Young S. African Leaders to Visit Columbia and Charleston;  
Delegates to Engage in Dialogue with Local Political Leaders, Study American Political System**

WASHINGTON – From October 10-14, 2007, a delegation of four young, prominent South African political leaders will visit Columbia and Charleston, South Carolina as part of a two week political exchange program organized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) and funded by the U.S. Department of State and El Pomar Foundation. The delegates kicked off their program with meetings and briefings in Washington, D.C. and will also visit Denver and Colorado Springs, Colorado before heading home. During their stay in South Carolina they will be hosted by State Representative Ted H. Pitts, Jr., a 2006 ACYPL delegate to South Africa. ACYPL began exchanging delegations with South Africa in 1993 as the country was preparing for its first multi-racial elections.

**Who:** Members of this ACYPL delegation – the 7<sup>th</sup> to visit from South Africa since the end of Apartheid - include:

- **Ms. Tsakane Mahlaule** (African National Congress Party) - Deputy Director, Change Management, Gauteng Provincial Government
- **Mr. A.M. Shimi Phate** (African National Congress Party) - Member, West Rand District Municipal Council, and Chief Party Whip
- **Ms. Jacqueline Reilly** (Democratic Alliance) - Member, Ekurhuleni District Council, and Chief Party Whip
- **Mr. John H. Steenhuisen** (Democratic Alliance) - Member, eThekweni Council Executive Committee, and Caucus Leader

**What:** Program highlights will include:

- Meetings with South Carolina Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer, a 1999 ACYPL delegate to Australia; former Democratic National Committee Chairman Don L. Fowler, Sr., a 1971 and 1988 ACYPL delegate to the Soviet Union and former ACYPL Trustee.
- Discussions with Richland County Treasurer David A. Adams, a 2007 ACYPL delegate to Japan; Columbia City Councilmember Tameika I. Devine, a 2004 ACYPL delegate to China, and members of the South Carolina State Senate and House of Representatives, including Representative Todd Rutherford, a 2000 ACYPL delegate to El Salvador and Nicaragua.
- Tours of the South Carolina State House in Columbia and Fort Sumter in Charleston.

**When:** October 10-12, 2007 (Columbia) / October 13-14, 2007 (Charleston)

**Why:** The purpose of this exchange program is to:

- Expose the delegates to the American political system at the national, state and local levels;
- Give them a new perspective on American culture; and
- Allow them to engage in dialogue on international issues and forge professional relationships with their American counterparts.

***About The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)***

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

PLEASE NOTE – TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATES OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACYPL OR THIS DELEGATION, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT MIKE GARRETSON AT 202-349-4060 x1201 OR [mgarretson@acypl.org](mailto:mgarretson@acypl.org).