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**URI HELPS LAUNCH WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK
New tool card offers ideas for interfaith action**

San Francisco, CA January 11, 2011 – URI (United Religions Initiative), the world’s largest grassroots interfaith organization, has issued a new [tool card](#) to help launch the first annual United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week, February 1-7 2011.

First proposed by H.M. King Abdullah II of Jordan, the week was established by the UN General Assembly in October 2010 in recognition of the importance of “mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue” to peace. URI, a global network founded on the principle of enduring interfaith cooperation for peace and justice, endorsed the resolution in a letter to King Adbullah in December and has called on its 500 member organizations to join in the inaugural observance this year.

The new URI World Interfaith Harmony Week Tool Card provides ideas for action by individuals and groups alike, including interfaith gatherings, community service projects and social networking as ways to bridge the religious divide and build relationships of trust.

Dozens of events are already being planned by URI members around the world, and will be posted on [URI’s website](#) as well as on the official [World Interfaith Harmony Week site](#). Click [here](#) to view or download the tool card and get more information on URI’s World Interfaith Harmony Week activities.

To schedule an interview with URI Executive Director Charles Gibbs or Monica Willard, URI’s United Nations representative and president of the UN Committee of Religious NGOs, please contact [Julian Foley](#).

About URI:

URI is a global network of 500 grassroots organizations, called Cooperation Circles, dedicated to peace and justice through interfaith and cross-cultural cooperation. Its nearly half a million members are overcoming distrust and hostility every day for the good of their communities—mediating religiously motivated conflict; building schools, orphanages and health clinics; campaigning for citizenship rights and more in 78 countries. They touch the lives of an estimated 2.5 million people. The network is led by

Executive Director Charles Gibbs, President William E. Swing, and Yolanda Trevino, chair of an elected 29-member Global Council of Trustees from 19 countries.

Visit www.uri.org for further information on URI's projects in:

Africa

Asia

Europe

Latin America and the Caribbean

Middle East and North Africa

Southeast Asia and the Pacific

North America