

MEDIA ADVISORY – PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

‘Crowning’ of new IMF managing director

When: Thursday, June 23rd, 2011 10.00 – 11.00 am

What: Media Stunt – The ‘crowning’ of Queen Christine Lagarde, likely the next IMF managing director. Lagarde as a queen on a throne (wearing a photo facemask), a crown being lowered onto her head by European men in suits, the EU flag on their lapels.

Where: Edward R Murrow Park (across from the IMF) on the corner of Pennsylvania Ave. and 18th NW

Who: Organized by civil society groups including Oxfam, Jubilee USA, Americans for Informed Democracy and the Bretton Woods Project.

Background:

With the resignation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn, campaigners have called for an open and merit-based process to elect the next IMF chief. Civil society groups want an end to the deal which puts a European in charge of the IMF, and an American at the head of the World Bank.

Note: Christine Lagarde will be interviewed for the job on Thursday 23 June, the day of the stunt. The IMF will announce their choice by June 30.

Sarah Wynn-Williams of Oxfam said: “The backroom deal that has pushed Lagarde forward makes a mockery of the appointment process. The new IMF chief should be elected openly, not crowned by Europe.”

Eric LeCompte of Jubilee USA Network said: “The IMF is a multilateral organization, not a unilateral one. Instead of a European coronation we need a legitimate selection process powered by global opinion.”

Karen Showalter of Americans for Informed Democracy said: “Young people in the United States recognize that the IMF takes decisions that directly affect people around the globe, and demand a truly fair and democratic appointment.”

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