Press Release

Berlinale *World Cinema Fund*:
New funding decisions and *World Cinema Fund*-Spotlight in Jakarta

In the seventh selection round of the *World Cinema Fund (WCF),* chaired by Berlinale director Dieter Kosslick, four film projects have been recommended for funding from Armenia, Indonesia, Iran, and Israel.
The new Jury of the *WCF* – film scholar and curator Viola Shafik (Germany/Egypt), programme coordinator of the Swiss Television, Alberto Chollet (Switzerland), director of the script programme of the EON Screenwriters' Workshop Alby James (England), as well as *WCF* fund managers Sonja Heinen und Vincenzo Bugno – had to choose between 108 projects submitted from a total of 40 countries, and granted funds of 220.000 €.

The funding recommendations of the seventh selection round on November 19, 2007:

Chnchik, director: Aram Shahbazyan (Armenia), production: ARMNA LLC, Yerevan. German co-producer: zero fiction film GmbH, Berlin. Feature film, funding: 50.000 €

Jermal, director: Ravi Bharwani (Indonesia), production: SALTO FILMS, Jakarta. Feature film, funding: 55.000 €

The Hunter, director: Rafi Pitts (Iran), production: AMA MEDIA PRODUCTIONS, Tehran. Feature film, funding: 50.000 €

Tanathor, director: Tawfik Abu-Wael (Israel), production: LAMA FILMS, Tel Aviv. Feature film, funding: 65.000 €

Since the founding of the *WCF* in October 2004, 710 projects from 61 countries of the WCF focus regions (Africa, Latin America, Middle East and Central Asia, as well as, since summer 2007, South East Asia and the Caucasus) have been submitted. 43 projects have received production or distribution funding so far.
Within merely three years, the *World Cinema Fund* has established itself as an instrument for cultural funding and intercultural dialogue, as well as for promoting international contacts within the film industry.

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The next deadline for *WCF* funding applications for production funding is March 13, 2008; for distribution funding it is December 20, 2007. (More information at www.berlinale.de)

World Cinema Fund-Spotlight in Jakarta in December 2007

In cooperation with the Goethe Institute, the event series *World Cinema Fund* –Spotlights has been launched as a WCF "showcase": selected WCF-funded films have so far been shown in Israel, the Palestinian Territories, Peru and Chile in order to inform filmmakers and producers about the WCF. Besides the films series, the respective Goethe Institutes organize workshops and case studies on the films that have been funded by the WCF so far.

The next *World Cinema Fund*-Spotlight will take place at the Jakarta International Film Festival (08.–17.12.2007). The following WCF films will be presented:

Atos Dos Homens (Brazil, Director: Kiko Goifman)
A Perfect Day (Lebanon, Directors: Khalil Joreige, Joana Hadjithomas)
El Custodio (Argentina, Director: Rodrigo Moreno)
El Otro (Argentina, Director: Ariel Rotter)
Faro - La Reine Des Eaux (Mali, Director: Salif Traoré)
Possible Lives (Argentina, Director: Sandra Gugliotta)
Rome Rather than You (Algeria, Director: Teguia Tariq)
Suely in the Sky (Brazil, Director: Karim Ainouz)

The *World Cinema Fund* is an initiative of the **German Federal Cultural Foundation** and the **Berlin International Film Festival** in cooperation with the **Goethe Institute**.

Press Office
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