

2006 Council Report

WFM's annual Council Meetings took place in New York, NY, across from UN Headquarters from 26-28 October. The focus of discussion for much of the agenda was on the Statutes and By-Laws revision process we are now undergoing. For more information on the process or to become more involved in the revisions, please visit www.wfm.org/fg.

Since the meetings took place in New York, only a few short blocks from WFM-IGP's International Secretariat, Councilors and observers had several opportunities to hear reports directly from and interact with the Secretariat staff. These interactions facilitated understanding and insight on the projects of our members and Secretariat staff alike.

The International Secretariat staff reported on the progress of various projects including: The Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society; the emerging Peacebuilding Commission, the campaign that followed the selection of the new UN Secretary-General and the future plans to monitor UN Elections; ReformtheUN.org; and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court. Other projects including the WFM-IGP Internship Program, a partnership with the Center for UN Reform Education and a recent collaboration (and publication) on the initiative for a United Nations Emergency Peace Service were also highlighted. Please find the full written IS report attached.

Financial and strategic reports were disclosed to the Council and the 2007 budget was approved unanimously.

With the resignation of Martin Hagvall in the spring, the Executive Committee agreed that a new Chair for the Credentials, Nominations and Statutes Committee had to be approved by Council. Tony Fleming, who has been assisting in this capacity was nominated and formally elected as the Acting Chair of the Committee. Tony will serve until Congress 2007 when a new chair can be elected by Congress.

Tony Fleming reported that the CNSC has been concerned with both factions of the Indian National Organization of World Federalists throughout the year but unable to determine the legitimacy of their leadership. Due to mounting concerns of the EC, the IS and the CNSC, Council voted unanimously to withdraw recognition of INOWF. However, the Movement will continue to reach out to organizations in India that share the goals of World Federalism.

Due to a vacancy unfilled after the passing of Roy Breivik, Tad Daley, of the Democratic World Federalists was nominated for a co-opted seat on Council. A majority of Council elected Tad Daley to serve as a Councilor until Congress 2007. Our congratulations go out to Tad Daley.

Peter Luff brought to the Council's attention the need for continued discussion on climate change and at his recommendation the International Secretariat has facilitated the creation of a small working group to overlook what changes global warming has on institutional changes in the world. Councilors, members and associated organizations interested in contributing to this working group, are to contact the International Secretariat for more information.

Karen Hamilton chaired the discussion on the report produced by the Facilitating Group on Statutes and By-Laws on 28 October. Many thoughts, concerns and suggestions were raised before the Council and the Facilitating Group intends to continue to work with what was learned through this discussion and provide a document for Congress that would hopefully come as closely to one unified mind and spirit as possible for our Movement. For a full summary of the discussion, please visit www.wfm.org/fg.

Rolf Haegler reported on the plans for Congress 2007 which will last four days with one additional day proposed for a 60th Anniversary commemoration in Montreux. A seminar at the Palais des Nations in Geneva was also proposed. The

Weltföderalisten der Schweiz will coordinate the commemoration. Starting dates for Congress were preliminarily set at August 27-28, with August 20-25 approved as an alternate if necessary. The dates are to be finalized by the Executive Committee meeting in February but, Member Organizations should be aware that due to the logistics of the Congress meeting in Switzerland, registration will need to be earlier than usual and they should plan to make arrangements accordingly.

Member and Associated Organizations had an opportunity to share reports with Council. CGS reported that their organization remains vibrant and busy with greater on-line engagement. Federalist Union shared a desire to move to Member Organization status. The representative from WFNA Nepal reiterated the difficulty of their work given the current political climate in Nepal. WFM Canada has begun the civil monitoring of complex peace operations through a unique web site: www.peacebuild.ca/powg/POM. FN Forbundet has a group of young people engaged in doing model UN and an international level partnership with organizations in Mozambique, Uganda and China. The Swiss and Dutch organizations are looking into creating a web-based compilation of world federalist documents. South Asian Federalists shared the successes of their control arms campaign and brought t-shirts for Council participants. Movimiento Federalista Europeo reported on the 1st European Citizens' Convention in Geneva and their preparations to participate in the World Social Forum in January. Fundación Federalista proposed WFM engage in the global anti-corruption campaign. Planetafilia has started a campaign to review the UN Charter, specifically Article 109. WFM Japan shared great news on their work that has led to a Japanese National Diet resolution formally endorsing a foreign policy based on world federation. WFM Japan has also made great strides in encouraging earlier accession of Japan to the Rome Statute of the ICC. Copies of reports presented to Council are available from the International Secretariat. It is encouraging to note that so much work is being done around the world to further the goals of federalism. The International Secretariat would welcome continued reports and update from all of our members. Please send us your updates via mail or email to info@wfm-igp.org.

2006 COUNCIL PARTICIPANTS:

Kjartan Almanning, Én Verden
James Arputharaj, South Asian Federalists
Paul Berendsen, WF Beweging Nederland
Keith Best, Association of World Federalists
Jean-Francis Billion, UEF Rhone-Alps France
Pascale Bruderer, World Federalists Switzerland
Edward Chobanian, Ex-Oficio
James Christie, WFM-Canada
Tad Daley, Democratic World Federalists[†]
Rommel Santos Diaz, Fundación Federalista
C.R. Dutta, IOWF*
Tony Fleming
Luigi Giussani, MFE Italy
Rolf Paul Haegler, Weltföderalisten der Schweiz
Martin Hagvall, Sveriges Varldsfederalister
Karen Hamilton, WFM Canada
Yoshiharu Imamura, WFM of Japan*
Shunsaku Kato, WFM of Japan
Aaron Knight, Citizens for Global Solutions
Adam Knowles, Federal Union*
Don Kraus, Citizens for Global Solutions
Arnaud Kurze, Democratic World Federalists*
Lucio Levi, Union of European Federalists
Peter Luff, One World Trust
Antonín (Ton) Máčel, WF Beweging Nederland

Rev. Mitsuo Miyake, WFM-Japan, WFM Asian Center
Bente Nielsen, FN-Forbundet
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Michael Toft Schmidt, FN-Forbundet
Mahmoud Shariar Sharei, Democratic World Federalists*
John Sutter, Democratic World Federalists
Akira Takagi, WFM of Japan
Dambar Bir Thapa, World Federalist Association of Nepal*
Satomi Tsukioka, WFM Japan*
Nicola Vallinoto, Movimiento Federalista Europeo
Barbara Walker, WFM/CGS
Lucy Law Webster, WFM/CGS
Erich Wettstein, Weltföderalisten der Schweiz
Lois Wilson, WFM Canada

*observers

[†] elected as Councilor by co-option on 27 October

Email and contact information for all council participants is available at the IS. Please contact the IS if you need any such information.