

MO Report – 'Asian Youth Centre's activities in 2009'

by Mitsuo Miyake, President of AYC

at 2009 WFM NY Council Meet on 29/10/09 (IV Session)

{Summary}

Thank you Chairman!

My name is Mitsuo Miyake come from Osaka, Japan.

I, as President of Asian Youth Center (AYC) would like to make short report of the AYC 25th Anniversary Celebration which was just recently held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

On 3rd Oct. (Sat) – Opening Celebration was held at Hotel Himalaya under presence of Chief guest of Honorable Minister, Dr. Minendra Rizal and other distinguished persons from various field including Nepal NGOs and AYC outstation members coming from 12 Asian Chapters. Total participant was approx. 110 persons.

Key note speech was delivered by former Nepal Ambassador to Japan and Thematic Workshop was also had in the afternoon. Thus this historical Silver Jubilee Function was successfully resulted.

On 4th Oct. (Sun) – Two regular AYC Meetings were held at hotel Mountain. The 3rd OB (old board members) Meeting was held in the morning and urgent Motion of 'Let's Join and strengthen WFM Asian Center (WAC)' was unanimously resolved. Dr. James Aruptharajee is one of the old and key OB member. of AYC.

The 10th Annual EC Meeting was held in the afternoon and agenda of New Chapter in Indonesia was ratified and warmly welcomed as the 13th Chapter of AYC.

Re WAC (WFM Asian Center)

WAC was founded in January 1976 just after WAWF 16th World Congress held in New Delhi as the regional World Federalist Movement Organization in Asian countries.

My grandfather Late Toshio Miyake become President in July 1980 and supported spiritually and financially and WAC made remarkable progress during 20 years. In 1982 INOWF (Indian National Organization of World Federalist) was founded in

Calcutta and in 1983 AIB (All Indian Body) was established in New Delhi. And other movement bodies also started in other Asian countries.

BTW, Asian Youth Centre (AYC) was founded in March 1984 as the sister organization of WAC in Madras in order to spread the movement widely toward Asian youth.

WAC is the registered AO to WFM, however, regrettably most of the key members had passed way and its function had been sharply slow down. President is now vacant. Thus, upon request of S.G Toshio Kozai, I took the office of President of WAC too.

Trusting WAC will recover its function and activities gradually not in distant date, we are hoping WAC could be registered as MO in the next world congress. And designated delegates stipulated by bylaws can join and some of the new active members will stand as the co-elected council at the coming congress.

Such being the situation, I would like to ask Ms Elisabeth Garrett to send us at least each 100 copies of next issue of WFM Newsletter & International Democracy Depth to be used to the recruitment campaign of new WAC members.

Thank you very much!

Rev. Mitsuo Miyake

Dear World Federalists,

WFM's 25th Congress was held 27-31 August 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland on the occasion of our 60th anniversary. Nearly 200 delegates and observers participated in five days of meetings at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy inside the World Meteorological Organisation, at the Palais des Nations, and in Montreux. With delegates from Asia, Africa, Latin America, North America and Europe, the Congress reflected our truly global aspirations.

Most will agree that the Congress was an important success. WFM is stronger in many ways than ever before and many expressed their belief that our recent achievements in promoting the International Criminal Court and UN reform have been the most important successes of WFM ever. Messages from current world leaders, colleagues and past WFM leaders flowed in from around the world. It is no small achievement to have kept alive a controversial world peace movement for these last six tumultuous decades. We have included excerpts from these messages throughout this issue; just look for the boxes "On WFM-IGP...". I hope you will also visit www.wfm.org to read the full texts from the Congress.



WFM Executive Director, William Pace, speaking at the Montreux Commemorative Ceremony

The Public Symposium, held at the Palais des Nations, was one of WFM's best symposiums ever on the status of the UN and the quest for democratic global governance. The impact of human rights law—and especially the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court—on the evolution of international law into world law was eloquently presented. The continuing division between the 'development' and 'peace and security' sectors of the UN, also present in WFM since its founding, were poignantly raised at the Symposium. A full report is available on pages 4-5.

Prior to the Congress, the outgoing WFM Council welcomed a new Associated Organization, Democracia Global of Argentina and the UK based Federal Union as a new Member Organization. Further information on these two organizations can be found on page 3.

The proposal to amend the Statutes to have Co-Presidents was agreed. Meanwhile Lois Wilson was elected to continue as WFM President until candidates for the Co-Presidency may be proposed, reviewed and elected by the Council. This was only one of several Statutes amendments passed. CNSC Chair Tony Fleming provides further details on page 11.

The Congress policy commissions were very well organized. There were four Commission sessions as well as an ad-hoc commission on the proposal for an Individual Members Organization. Complete reports on each commission and their resolutions and outcomes are available on pages 6-8.

Our thanks to our Swiss members Welföederalisten der Schweiz, for their attention and assistance with the Congress. Principally Rolf Haegler, secretary of Welföederalisten der Schweiz, who oversaw many Congress details—especially the planning of our Montreux anniversary celebration on Thursday, 30 August.

As with any event of this nature, many contributed to the logistics of this Congress. Please join me in thanking the CNSC (chaired by Tony Fleming and including: Gautam Dey, Karen Hamilton, and Bente Nielsen) for their efforts to ensure all members were in good standing, the councilors and delegates accounted for, and elections during Congress were carried out fairly. The Ballot Committee (Bente Nielsen, Vijayam Ragnathan, Akira Takagi, and later assisted by Ed Chobanian) must be thanked for ensuring that all votes cast were properly counted and recorded. Volunteers from the University of Berne, as well as the International Conference Volunteers assisted our staff with preparing the Congress packets and literally thousands of copies as well as registration and logistics during the meetings. Of course, our International Secretariat staff worked tirelessly to plan, prepare, and execute the logistics leading up to and during the meetings: the efforts of Lene Schumacher, Staci Alziebler, and Elisabeth Garrett were indispensable.

We look forward to implementing the renewed policies with our new Council, Executive Committee and our members around the world.

William R Pace

Bill Pace
Executive Director WFM

CHECK OUT MORE ON THE
CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS INSIDE

Building a Civil Society Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect R2PCS holds global consultative roundtables with NGOs

The Responsibility to Protect populations from genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity is an international commitment by governments to prevent and react to grave crises. At the UN World Summit in 2005, world leaders agreed, for the first time, that states have a primary responsibility to protect their own populations and that the international community has a responsibility to act when these governments fail to protect the most vulnerable.

Since the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, there have been several normative advances at the UN and regional levels. Two Security Council resolutions have referred to the emerging norm (Res. 1674 on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict and Res. 1706 authorizing UN peacekeeping troops in Darfur). In addition, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Edward Luck in February 2008 as his Special Advisor with a focus on the Responsibility to Protect, to provide conceptual clarity and build consensus for R2P. At the regional

level, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights passed a resolution in support of R2P in November 2007. While these advances display a commitment to act when confronted with mass atrocities, much remains to be done to ensure that institutions and governments will be able and willing to act when necessary.

Building a global coalition for R2P

Since 2003, WFM-IGP's Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society project (R2PCS) has worked to advance the norm to better enable governments, regional organizations and the UN to protect vulnerable populations in situations of mass atrocities. An important part of this work has been to increase activity and collaboration between civil society organizations working to promote the R2P agenda.



Ms. Thelma Ekiyor, Executive Director of the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) and Bill Pace, Executive Director WFM-IGP, address participants of the Roundtable in Ghana. Credit: Courtesy of WACSI and FFP

Beginning in September 2007, we embarked on a new initiative: to build a global civil society coalition for R2P. NGOs from both the global North and South have a fundamental role to play in advancing the norm. They have detailed knowledge of internal developments in countries facing potential or current atrocities, the ability to raise awareness of the potential impact of this new norm, and a unique ability to mobilize key actors within governments and regional organizations.

This initiative—supported by Oxfam International, Human Rights Watch, International Crisis Group, and Refugees International—complements the newly established Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, launched at the Ralph Bunche Institute at the City University of New York in February 2008.

In order to gauge whether NGOs are interested in building a global coalition, the R2PCS project organized a

Continued on page 3



31 March - 1 April: "Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect: Latin American Perspectives" Buenos Aires, Argentina. Credit: Marion Arnaud