

World Federalist NEWS

SPRING 2004 - ISSUE 47

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Credit: www.giani.org



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Credit: Rik Panganiban

Loss of a Great Federalist

By *William R. Pace*



Sir Peter Ustinov

Credit: UN Radio

On March 28, 2004, the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy lost one of its most charismatic leaders and greatest proponents. Sir Peter Ustinov joined WFM in the United Kingdom in the 1950s and became its President in 1991. His humanitarian convictions paired with his larger than life personality and extraordinary sense of humor made an unforgettable imprint on all who met him. One could not be in the same room as Sir Peter and not be struck by his wisdom or his humor, and usually both.

It is hard to do justice to the breadth and magnitude of Sir Peter's accomplishments. He wrote and directed numerous plays and film scripts, authored books, recorded best selling records and starred in over 40 films, 14 plays, his own radio show, and appeared in dozens of top television shows worldwide. His awards and honors are too numerous to list, but include two Academy Awards for his acting. Some would argue that his greatest accomplishments came in his capacity as a humanitarian. Deeply sensitive to the injustices of the world, Sir Peter was a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) since 1971.

He considered himself an international citizen and his leadership in WFM was immeasurable. Sir Peter was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in recognition of his artistic and humanitarian achievements in June 1990.

His tenure as WFM's President came at a time when the movement saw a resurgence of activity and gained greater support and recognition for many of its initiatives. With the end of the Cold War, he believed it was only a matter of time before the institutions of law and justice would replace anarchy, war and brute power. As such, he was deeply committed to the leadership role WFM has played in the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court, a project he believed to be the greatest achievement of the peace movement. He also strongly supported WFM's work in convening the Hague Appeal for Peace Conference in 1999 and its programs to democratize and strengthen the United Nations. He advocated for the fulfillment of the international community's responsibilities to all humanity, states' responsibilities to their people and individuals' responsibilities to one another.

As a philosophical and a pragmatic world federalist, he believed democratic political and economic international institutions are needed to address the imbalances of the world, to reduce war and misery, and to promote freedom and justice. He supported the European Union as a regional federation and wrote numerous articles and columns for European newspapers on public and political matters. He spoke with compassion about the plight of Africa and saw the African Union as an opportunity for a federative system to address some of its gravest issues.

Sir Peter attended the last WFM Council meetings in Copenhagen in October of 2003 and spoke at the Danish Parliament. He was, as his agent said, "a phenomenally busy man with enough careers for a dozen other men." Yet, his conviction to help humanity was always conveyed with humility and a great sense of humor. He once said "comedy is simply a funny way of being serious." Sadness and laughter fill our hearts when we think of him. He will be deeply missed for his vision, tenacity and infallible sense of humor.

William R. Pace is Executive Director of the World Federalist Movement - Institute of Global Policy and Convenor of the NGO Coalition of the International Criminal Court.

The Very Rev. The Hon. Lois M Wilson, CC, WFM's Vice President, will serve as WFM's Acting President. Dr. Lois Wilson was a Canadian Senator from 1998 – 2002. She is an author of five books and numerous articles on human rights issues, an ordained minister of the Church of Canada and its first female minister. She was the first female President of the Canadian Council of Churches and the first Canadian President of the World Council of Churches. Her expertise on human rights has seen her chosen to serve as a board member with Amnesty International (1978-88); with the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security (1984-88); and as chair of the board of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (1997-98). In 1984, Dr. Wilson was made an Officer of the Order of Canada and in 1985, she was awarded the Pearson Peace Prize by the United Nations Association in Canada. That same year she was awarded the World Federalists Peace Award. She has worked extensively in the voluntary sector in many cities. In 1991 Dr. Wilson received the Order of Ontario and was President of the World Federalists of Canada from 1996-2000. WFM is honored to have Dr. Lois Wilson as its Acting President until a nomination process is carried out for a new President.

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WFM Announcements

New Hague office

In addition to an office in New York, USA, a new office in The Hague, the Netherlands, will now co-host the WFM International Secretariat (IS). Located near the Peace Palace, this office will focus on the CICC project and provide a solid base for the IS to work on other related issues.

Anna Paulownastraat 103
2518 BC, The Hague, the Netherlands
Phone: +31-70-363-4484

WFM Council Meeting

The next WFM Council hosted by WFM IS and member organization Wereld Federalisten Beweging Nederland (WFBN) will be held in The Hague, the Netherlands on October 22-24, 2004. As more information on this meeting becomes available, it will be posted on WFM's website at <http://www.wfm.org>.

Citizens for Global Solutions

On January 1, 2004, WFM's US member organization, the World Federalist Association, and affiliate organization, the Campaign for United Nations Reform, merged to become Citizens for Global Solutions (CGS). This decision was the result of hundreds of hours of work by volunteers, staff, and professional consultants who conducted member surveys, focus groups, board retreats, meetings and interviews with policy makers. The final decision was an overwhelming vote of support by WFA members at their annual meeting, which took place in Boston on November 8, 2003.

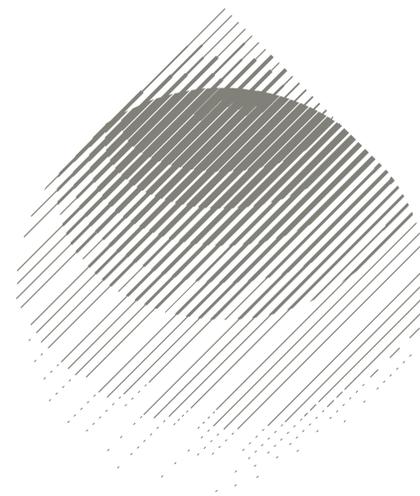
CGS envisions a future in which nations work together to abolish war, protect the rights and freedoms of people, and solve the problems facing humanity that no nation can solve alone. This vision requires effective democratic global institutions that will apply the rule of law while respecting the diversity and autonomy of national and local communities. CGS works to build political will in the US by educating Americans about global interdependence, communicating global concerns to public officials and developing proposals to reform and strengthen international institutions.

Asian Youth Centre

March 2004 marked the 20th anniversary of WFM member organization Asian Youth Centre, created in Chennai, India. Over the years, AYC has worked relentlessly on issues relating to marginalized and deprived sections of society in India, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Nepal. AYC has focused its work on developing the full potential of children, youth

We need multilateral institutions that work. Not as ideological ends in themselves, but as indispensable instruments of national well-being. No one nation can manage the consequences of interdependence on its own. We can work with our neighbors, with our friends and allies, with our regional and global partners. But work together we must.

- Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin at the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January 2004



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International Secretariat
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Phone: 1-212-599-1320
Fax: 1-212-599-1332
email: wfm@igc.org
www.wfm.org

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Staff and consultants

William R. Pace
WFM Executive Director

Irune Aguirrezabal-Quijera
Staci Alziebler
Desire Assogbavi
Benjamin Anderson Bashein
Caroline Baudot
Jose Antonio Guevara Bermudez
Sandra Bjegovic
Gloria (Girlie) Ester Catibayan
Niza Concepcion
Francis Dako
Nicole Deller
Astrid de Vries
Angela Edman
Stephanie Getson
Monica Guzman
Rafael Justiniano
Carl Kalonzo
Tanya Karanasios
Cecilia Nilsson Kleffner
Spencer Lanning
Marjolijn Luchtmeijer
Luisa Mascia
Benson Chinedu Olugbuo
Mariana Rodriguez Pareja
Rita Patricio
Shantha Rau
Hugo Adrian Relva
Jennifer Schense
Lene Schumacher
Joydeep Sengupta
Evelyn Balais Serrano
Ramin Shahzamani
Brigitte Suhr
Colette Tamko
Adele Waugaman
Sonia Wright

WFM-IGP joins the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) and NGO-UN Conflict Prevention Working Group

By Nicole Deller

Armed conflict destroys communities, cripples economies, destabilises democratic institutions, and denies human rights. Every year world leaders make promises to end violence and conflict without any apparent success. What is needed is the political will to get past rhetorical affirmations on prevention and move to substantive actions that contribute to a culture of prevention.

Only a fundamental conceptual and cultural shift towards a "prevention posture" can overcome the persistent culture of reaction. This requires emphasis both on operational prevention, which refers to the measures available to respond to a crisis and structural prevention, which refers to measures to ensure that crises do not arise in the first instance or recur.

As part of WFM's Preventing Conflicts-Protecting Civilians program, we have

joined in the formation of an international network of civil society organizations dedicated to achieving this shift to a culture of prevention. The network is the GPPAC and it is open to all members of civil society involved in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

In the same way that advocates for human rights, the environment, disarmament, gender and development rely on sophisticated and substantive international coordination networks, the GPPAC has organised national- and regional-level consultations around the world. Under the GPPAC umbrella, civil society actors will be more integrated with each other (nationally, regionally and globally) and with other prevention actors, particularly states and multilateral organisations.

The backbone of GPPAC is the organization of 15 regional processes representing each major region of the world. Each

regional process will develop action agendas to feed into an international agenda for civil society roles in conflict prevention. These regional meetings will lead up to an international conference, held in July 2005, which will serve as a launching point for conflict

prevention principles and practices proposed by civil society for the UN, its constituent governments and civil society. This conference is in large part a response to the recommendation of the Secretary-General, in the Report on the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

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Rwandan children in Kigali

Credit: Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict

Building Civil Society Partnerships for Democracy

By Fergus Watt

Is the world becoming more democratic? The 1980s and 1990s witnessed a dramatic increase in the number of democracies around the world. Following the end of the Cold War, there was a much wider acceptance of the desirability and legitimacy of democratic governance. Democracy took root in countries of the former Soviet Union, Latin America and parts of Africa.

In almost every instance, the efforts of civil society organizations were critically important, first in spearheading the creation of a political consensus in favor of democratic governance, and subsequently in consolidating the practice of democracy and abating the drift back toward authoritarian tendencies in these so-called "new democracies."

As democracy took root in a growing number of states, the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies (ICNRD), an intergovernmental process built around periodic international meetings, was established to give governments an opportunity to share experiences and to identify means by which to promote democracy and good governance. Since the first Conference held in 1988 in Manila, the Philippines, with the participation of 13 countries, the ICNRD has grown into a global event bringing together more than 100 countries from around the world. With support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), previous ICNRD's have been organized in Manila, Philippines, in 1988; Managua, Nicaragua, in 1994; Bucharest, Romania, in 1997; and Cotonou, Benin, in 2000.

This September, 120 governments were represented at the fifth ICNRD, held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from September 10 to 12. The

conference theme was "Democracy, Good Governance and Civil Society." This ICNRD was augmented by a formal gathering of civil society representatives, the International Civil Society Forum (ICSF), on September 8 & 9 in Ulaanbaatar.

WFM was represented at both of these meetings. Significantly for world federalists, the ICSF endorsed (1) a stronger programmatic role for the UN in promoting democracy at the national level; and (2) the need to democratize the world's institutions of global governance. More recently, in February, 2004, Ramin Shahzamani, WFM Director of

Programs, and I represented WFM at a meeting of civil society organizations from around the world. We met in New York to follow up the Plan of Action endorsed by the Mongolia civil society forum, exploring prospects for an international, UN-based civil society network, an "International Civil Society Forum for Democracy." Such a body would network a wide range of organizations promoting democratization, as well as encourage the development of the intergovernmental ICNRD process beyond a periodic, once every three years "talk shop."

We need to overcome several challenges in order to achieve these goals. On the governmental side, there is very little UN administrative support for the

ICNRD process. A committee of UN Ambassadors keeps the process alive during the interim period between ICNRD sessions. Furthermore, governments at the UN are divided over whether to support the ICNRD, or a U.S. led "Community of Democracies" approach. The ICNRD is open to participation by all UN members; the Community of Democracies is a controlled, "by invitation" process. Beyond these differences, govern-

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First Meeting of the Board of Directors of the ICC Victims Trust Fund

20-22 April 2004

By Carla Ferstman



Inaugural Ceremony of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims

First row: Members of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims: Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah (centre); His Excellency Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki (left); and Madame Minister Simone Veil (right).

Second row from left to right: H.R.H. Prince Zeid Raad Zeid Al-Hussein, President of the Assembly of States Parties; Mr. Bruno Cathala, Registrar; Judge Philippe Kirsch, President; and Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

Credit: ICC-CPI/Wim Van Cappellen

One of the key achievements of the Statute of the International Criminal Court is its acknowledgement that justice for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes cannot be satisfied by retribution alone. Indeed, in addition to the criminal sanctions that may be imposed on perpetrators, the Statute provides victims with a series of participatory rights and enables the Court to make individual or collective awards against perpetrators for reparations to or in respect of victims.

The Statute also provides for the establishment of a Trust Fund for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims. This Trust Fund will have a crucial role to play in the realisation of the Court's reparative mandate towards victims of the worst crimes. It will work in tandem with the Court's reparations orders to assist in the restitution, compensation and rehabilitation of these victims and to help them and their families to move forward with their lives in full dignity. The creation of this Trust Fund is premised on the fact that the Court's reparations orders against perpetrators may not alone be

capable of satisfying the multiple and diverse needs of victims. Not only will this Trust Fund provide further means to meet the needs of victims, but also, it will provide individuals, collectivities, governments and others with a unique opportunity to show their solidarity with those that have suffered abominable crimes.

In September of 2003, the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court elected Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan; His Excellency, Mr. Oscar Arias Sánchez, former President of Costa Rica; His Excellency, Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, former Prime Minister of Poland; Mme. Simone Veil, former Minister of Health of France and former President of the European Parliament; and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa to serve as the first Board of Directors of this Trust Fund. The integrity and stature of this Board lends further credibility to the monumental task of the Trust Fund and to the groundbreaking work of the Court as a whole.

The Board of Directors held its first meeting at the Court in The Hague on 20-22 April 2004.

This was the first opportunity for them to begin to grapple with the range of issues that will need to be decided, for the establishment of fair, efficient and transparent operating procedures to guide their response to the needs of victims, needs which will depend not only on the nature of the crimes and the context in which they were perpetrated but also on other factors such as the age, gender and particular injuries and disabilities of victims. These operating procedures will also need to reflect the fact that the Trust Fund will be working simultaneously on a multitude of cases involving victims in different parts of the world, whose needs will not always coincide with the timeframes or emphases of prosecutions.

The Board of Directors was due to consider a range of issues at their first meeting. In particular, the modalities for the receipt of voluntary contributions, and how to ensure that voluntary contributions are consistent with the goals and the activities of the Trust Fund and do not result in a manifestly inequitable distribution of available funds and property among the different groups of victims. The Board will also need to continue to reflect upon how their mandate relates to that of the Court and in particular, the modalities for cooperation and coordination with the Court and the scope of beneficiaries that may be subject to an award of the Trust Fund. It will also need to determine how to implement its obligations on reporting and financial accountability.

On the basis of its continuing discussions, the Board of Directors will submit suggestions to the Assembly of States Parties for the adoption of further criteria on the operation of the Trust Fund for their consideration.

The Court is currently soliciting contributions to the Trust Fund. Contributions in USD may be made to: ICC Victims Trust Fund, JP Morgan Chase Bank, New York, USA, Account Number: 400932776, ABA Routing Number: 0002, Swift Code: CHASUS33, Fed Wire Number: 021000021. Contributions in Euro may be made to: ICC Victims Trust Fund, Fortis Bank, The Hague, The Netherlands, Account Number: 240005201, IBAN Number: NL39FTSB0240005201, Swift Code: FTBNL2R.

Carla Ferstman is Legal Director of REDRESS.



WFM Hague Office

From left to right: Cecilia Nilson Kleffner, Jennifer Schense, Astrid de Vries, Marjolijn Luchtmeijer, Tanya Karanasios, William R. Pace

Credit: Shantha Rau

CICC Calendar of events

1-18 June 2004	Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, an intensive three-week program of courses on a range of topics (taught in English and Spanish), hosted by the American University Washington College of Law. Washington, DC, United States For more information, telephone +1-202-274-4070 email: hracademy@wcl.american.edu or visit: http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/hracademy/
16 June 2004	"Prevention of Atrocity Crimes: Are the International Criminal Courts and Tribunals Doing the Right Thing?"; a panel discussion as part of a two-week program on Global Issues Facing the United Nations organized by UNITAR and Columbia Law School. To include Professor David Scheffer (formerly, US Ambassador on War Crimes Issues), Professor Jose Alvarez (Columbia Law School), Dr. Payam Akhavan (Yale Law School, formerly an ICTY prosecutor), Mr. Larry Johnson (Chef de cabinet, ICTY) Dr. Roy S. Lee (formerly, Executive Secretary, 1998 Rome Conference and NGO representatives.) New York, United States For more information, visit: http://www.law.columbia.edu/center_program/cle/Summer_Institut
28 June - 2 July 2004	Seminar on International Courts and Tribunals for Practitioners from South-East Asia and the South Pacific Regions; jointly organized by the Project on International Courts and Tribunals (PICT), the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). Wellington, New Zealand For more information, visit: www.unitar.org/diplomacy/nz.htm or contact Martin Bohnstedt at: martin.bohnstedt@unitar.org
28 June - 2 July 2004	Third Edition of International Moot Court Competition "Victor Carlos García Moreno, Procedure before the International Criminal Court," organized by the Consejo Latinoamericano de Estudiosos del Derecho Internacional y Comparado - COLADIC. Mexico City, Mexico For more information, contact Patricia Sánchez Réyes at: patricia@coladicmx.org
2-6 August 2004	Meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance of the Assembly of States Parties The Hague, The Netherlands For more information, email cicc@iccnw.org or visit http://icc-cpi.int
6-10 September 2004	Third Session of the Assembly of States Parties The Hague, the Netherlands For more information, email cicc@iccnw.org or visit http://icc-cpi.int

Globalizing Justice: The Coalition for the International Criminal Court at the 2004 World Social Forum

By Joydeep Sengupta and Adele Waugaman

At the 2004 World Social Forum, in Mumbai, India this January, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) was honored by the presence of Shirin Ebadi, the 2003 Nobel Peace Laureate from Iran. Ms. Ebadi joined activists, academics and experts from around the world in the panel entitled "Globalizing Justice: The International Criminal Court," which was co-organized by Coalition members.

The World Social Forum (WSF) has met for the past four years in Porto Alegre, Brazil to provide an open forum for civil society to challenge dominant neo-liberal orthodoxy on development and globalization while re-conceptualizing strategies for justice and equality. An estimated 200,000 participants explored alternative visions of development and social justice by critiquing existing structures of power relations and the inequality and oppression which they enable, in the spirit of the frequently repeated WSF refrain: "Another world is possible."

In partnership with the Federation Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH), Amnesty International, the Women's Initiative for Gender Justice and the Indian Campaign for the ICC (ICC-India), the CICC benefited from the opportunity to educate civil society activists about the world's first permanent court capable of trying individuals accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes when national courts are unwilling or unable to do so. In addition to disseminating background documents and recruiting new member organizations, the CICC worked with its partners in producing two advocacy panels which promoted the ICC as an example of "constructive globalization", whereby uniform global standards are raised to protect and promote fundamental human rights.

Joydeep Sengupta,
Outreach Liaison for the CICC,



Nobel Peace Laureate Shirin Ebadi (right)
Credit: Adele Waugaman

presented the global work of the Coalition, including the historic efforts leading up to the entry into force of the ICC Statute, and highlighted the relevance of the ICC to each of the broad thematic foci of the 2004 WSF. An afternoon panel highlighted the relevance of the ICC to the Global South, including a specific focus on India and the Arab region. The experiences of panelist Amal Basha, leader of the newly created Yemeni Coalition for the ICC, were of special interest to Indian NGOs, who also face a challenging political environment for their work.

The panel resulted in questions and statements of interest from audience members in other parts of the world where a pro-international justice movement is in its early stages. Civil society groups, law students, journalists and academics contributed to numerous questions regarding the U.S. opposition to the Court, and the potential for international justice mechanisms to address issues such as the 2002 massacres in Gujarat, India and related communal violence. Finally, activists in the audience gained tips for strategy on consensus-building and advocacy. Adele Waugaman, the CICC Media Liaison, took advantage of the convergence of a self-selected group of progressive media to raise journalists' understanding of the ICC. The CICC, in cooperation with FIDH, was also able to meet with partners in the Indian ICC Campaign, to evaluate strengths and weaknesses, and identify strategic actions for the future.

Globalizing Justice continued on Page 11

South Asian Federalists at the World Social Forum

By James Arputharaj and Vijayam Raghunathan

Around 100,000 people representing different countries of the world made the journey to Mumbai this past January, to take part in the World Social Forum and press for a more peaceful way of life for the global community. Community activists, NGO's, human rights activists, trade unions, political parties and women's groups voiced their concerns through seminars, street theatre, music and workshops.

South Asian Federalists (SAF), the Mumbai organization of the South Asia Small Arms Network (SASANet) and a member of WFM coordinated the effort for the Control Arms Campaign at the WSF. The mission of the Control Arms Campaign was to create awareness about a Global Arms Trade treaty and to build the Million Faces Petition by gathering support from delegates and the public at large. During the six days of the Forum, they collected more than 8,500 photos and supporters and spoke to many NGO's and campaign groups to help take the campaign forward.

Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, opened the Forum. Looking on, one campaigner remarked how powerful the sense of optimism was among the people in the audience. The highlight of the events organized by Control Arms Campaign was the presence of an elephant at the

WSF entrance. Curious men and women gathered to find out more about the Campaign. The temple elephant, known for its tolerance of large crowds, was adorned with banners to promote the Control Arms campaign.

At a press conference, Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and Honorary President of Oxfam International, made an appeal "for progress toward a world in which people are safe from armed violence." She called on governments to recognize the urgency for universal arms control legislation, and to implement an international arms trade treaty. Another panel called, "Wars against Women, Women against Wars," featured Irene Khan, Secretary General of Amnesty International, and writer Arundhati Roy, who spoke passionately on behalf of women across the world.

The well-attended seminars organized by the South Asian Federalists, SASA Net and Oxfam focused on small arms proliferation, gun control and human security in South Asia. In a region like South Asia, arms control is a major concern – there are more than 75 million illegal small arms in circulation. Mumbai is also home to the largest mafia in the world, and is battling with problems of easily available guns and a spate of contract killings. Despite these obstacles, the forum proved to be an effective

SAF continued on Page 8



James Arputharaj (right) with Control Arms Campaigners
Credit: Vijayam Raghunathan

A Decade after Rwanda: The Responsibility to Protect and Annan's Special Adviser on Genocide

By Angela Edman



Gisozi photograph memorial at Kigali, Rwanda
Credit: Rwanda Information Exchange

On April 7, 2004, the world commemorated the 10th Anniversary of the Rwandan genocide. WFM joined other civil society groups, governments, individuals and survivors in what the General Assembly (GA) designated as the International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of people, honored a minute of silence at noon local time in each time zone, to honor the victims of the hundred-day genocide, in which 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were slaughtered while the world watched.

As part of the Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society (R2P-CS) project of WFM's Preventing Conflicts, Protecting Civilians program, we researched and compiled information on civil society organizations, governments and international institutions that planned commemoration events around the world and addressed issues of genocide and conflict prevention. The R2P-CS project aims to deepen the debate within the international community about the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS) report, called "The Responsibility to Protect." The report aims to redefine sovereignty as the responsibility to protect civilians, and places this primary responsibility on the state. However, when the state is unwilling or unable to perform these duties, protection of civilians becomes the responsibility of the international community, particularly the UN, and civil society organizations. The report outlines steps for governments, the international community and civil society to take when presented with a potential crisis, in terms of prevention and reaction, and leaves military intervention as a last resort. It also outlines steps to rebuild post-conflict societies. Our R2P-CS project aims to promote international norms on these responsibilities of states and the UN, to respond earlier and more effectively to potential genocides and other large scale losses of life, and to deepen civil society's effectiveness in ensuring government accountability.

We saw the Rwanda commemoration events as an opportunity to bring together members of civil society who are also working on issues involving genocide, conflict prevention and protection of civilians, and introduce R2P principles as a new framework to apply when approaching these issues. We attended many of the events and discussed R2P with civil society, UN and government actors. The events ranged from survivor testimonies, to academic conferences, to civil society or UN forums, to candlelight vigils, to art exhibits and music, dance and film festivals. They covered a range of topics, including the failure of the international community, conflict prevention, international justice, post-conflict reconstruction, the continuing plight of the survivors and R2P.

The failure of the international community, in particular the UN, was reiterated throughout the conferences, and speakers challenged the audience to consider if the world would react any differently to a genocide

today. WFM was pleased that speakers discussed the guidelines of the ICISS report as providing a much-needed new framework for global responses to humanitarian disasters. Speakers discussed embracing the principles of R2P as a first step in the global commitment to prevent large-scale killings, as governments and the international community recognize their responsibility to prevent future genocides, protect the world's citizens and rebuild war-torn societies.

As a permanent memorial from the UN to the victims in Rwanda, and in response to the 1999 Independent Inquiry into Actions of the UN during the Genocide in Rwanda, Secretary General Kofi Annan launched the Action Plan to Prevent Genocide, in a speech to the Commission on Human Rights on April 7. Annan outlined five steps which match the goals of WFM's R2P efforts: the prevention of armed conflict, protection of civilians in armed conflict, ending impunity, achieving an early and clear warning system and achieving swift and decisive action by the Security Council. Annan's first point under the fourth step (achieving an early and clear warning system) is that the work of civil society must be heard and integrated into the conflict prevention work of the UN, as NGO's are often the first to report on information relating to impending conflicts.



Gisozi Memorial in Kigali
Credit: Rwanda Information Exchange

The Action Plan officially calls for a Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. This Adviser will work independently of the Security Council and will receive assistance from the High Commissioner on Human Rights, with a mandate to collect information on possible genocides or other crimes against humanity, report to the Security Council through the Secretariat and make recommendations on Security Council action. Annan's speech calls for a Special Adviser and identifies the R2P report as providing guidelines for prevention and protection, as well as guidelines for the work of the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Changes, effectively establishing a link between R2P and the Special Adviser.

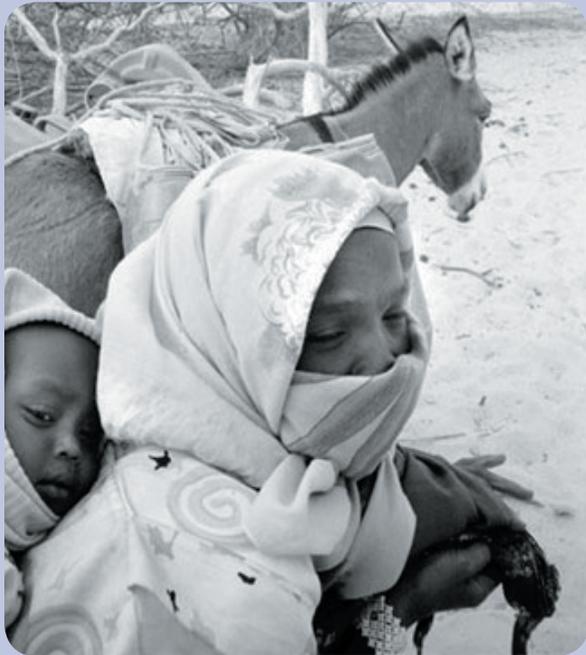
Of the three obligations of R2P; prevention, protection and rebuilding; prevention is of the most immediate importance. It goes without saying that a Special Adviser could be a valuable tool for genocide prevention, particularly in efforts to take non-military preventative measures. Perhaps civil society groups should monitor the development of the Special Adviser to make it a functional and effective mechanism for conflict prevention, and to ensure that the Special Adviser adopts the norms of the R2P report.

WFM extends its condolences to the families and friends of the victims of the genocide. We believe that governments, international institutions and civil society must come together to ensure that such horrors do not occur again, and must fully embrace their responsibility to protect the world's citizens.

Angela Edman is WFM Program Associate and WFM News Editor

Has the International Community Learned from Rwanda?

By Angela Edman



Sudan: Has the international community learned from Rwanda

Credit: Human Rights Watch

A crisis is escalating in Sudan that is dreadfully similar to the genocide in Rwanda 10 years ago, and the governments and international bodies with the power to stop such atrocities are again failing to do so. The international community is again witness to appalling crimes against humanity, this time organized by the government of Sudan against the people of Darfur. Only unlike the crisis of 10 years ago,

June between the government and the two rebel groups (the Sudan Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/M) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)). While meetings aimed toward fostering dialogue are essential to solving the political problems underlying human rights crises, this disaster has reached proportions that necessitate immediate humanitarian action.

As the body invested with primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security, the Security Council must take action now. The Council must pass a resolution condemning in the strongest terms the atrocities of the government and the Janjaweed. It should call upon all parties to the conflict to end the campaign of ethnic cleansing and fully respect the humanitarian ceasefire signed by the Sudanese government, the SLA/M and the JEM, on April 8, 2004. It must insist that the Sudanese government immediately cease all forms of support to the Janjaweed, and disarm and disband all militias. Recognizing that a famine is likely, the Council must insist on unhindered access of humanitarian aid groups and their supplies to the victims, and ensure that aid reaches the intended recipients through the use of Sudan's major rail line, or alternate routes through southern Sudan, Libya or Chad. It also must demand safe return for refugees and internally displaced persons wishing to return to their homes.

If the government fails to meet these demands, the Security Council must decide that states shall impose diplomatic, economic and political measures. This could include, inter alia, the following measures: freezing of assets, suspension of organization membership (such as in the African Union Peace and Security Council, or the Commission on Human Rights), diplomatic isolation, trade and financial sanctions, withdrawal of investments and arms embargos. Such measures must be targeted to decrease the impact on civilians and increase the impact on decision-makers. The Council should work with governments to increase the number of international monitors and provide additional resources to support the virtually insignificant number of 60 currently deployed AU monitors.

If the situation continues to deteriorate despite the passage and full implementation of this resolution, the Security Council must consider military intervention as a last resort. If aerial bombing of the civilian population continues, the Security Council must establish and enforce no-fly zones, with proper exception made for flights in support of humanitarian operations.

The Secretary General must call for the Commission on Human Rights to send a team of investigators to Darfur and report back as soon as possible. He should also authorize a panel to investigate all violations of international law, for possible future prosecution by national courts or the International Criminal Court. The SG must appoint a Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, in accordance with the Plan of Action to Prevent Genocide he announced on April 7, 2004. He must ensure that this individual has full power to investigate, report back and make recommendations to the Security Council, so a system is in place to avert such disasters.

If all of these diplomatic preventative measures outlined in the ICISS Report are tried and fail, Khartoum must be warned that the international community will not stand for another Rwanda, and a military intervention will take place. The international community must recognize its responsibility to protect the citizens of Darfur, lest we all

we now have a set of guiding principles to prevent such atrocities, outlined in the "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) report, produced by the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS). Thanks to this report, we now understand that with sovereignty comes a responsibility to protect the world's citizens from large scale loss of life. While the state holds primary responsibility to protect its citizens, when the state is unwilling or unable, the responsibility falls on the international community, particularly the United Nations. These past months of events commemorating the Rwandan genocide have seen many calls - in the abstract - for the application of R2P principles. Yet events are unfolding in Darfur where the R2P principles, if applied now, could put an end to ethnic cleansing and prevent a genocide.

The government of Sudan has flagrantly disregarded its responsibilities to its own citizens. Evidence collected by Human Rights Watch (HRW) and other international watchdog groups indicates a campaign of ethnic cleansing executed by the Muslim Arab government against the non-Arab Muslim population of Darfur. After aerial bombing campaigns by government forces, Janjaweed militias, supported by the government, conduct scorched earth campaigns throughout western Sudanese villages. This involves the destruction of crops; targeted destruction of water reserves, food, and livestock; looting and pillaging; mass rape and indiscriminate killing of civilians.

At an optimistic minimum, 30,000 Darfurians from the Fur, Masaalit

"This is taking place before our very eyes. No one can say they didn't know."

-Acting UN Human Rights Chief Bernard Ramcharan, in a testimony before the Security Council on May 12 on the crisis in Darfur.

and Zaghawa communities have been killed, and refugee numbers are estimated to be near 200,000. The conflict has created over one million internally displaced people (IDP's), and the numbers are continuing to rise. International aid groups predict that if the violence does not end soon, one million people may die during the rain season, which starts at the end of June.

To date, the international community has grossly failed in its responsibilities. The Secretary General has issued weak blanket statements, and the Security Council has effectively excluded Darfur from every decision on Sudan. Preparations have also been undertaken to monitor the April 8th ceasefire, but the number of officials on the ground is negligible compared to what is needed to enforce a real ceasefire and ensure that aid gets to the victims.

The international community has several options for R2P-based action, which would call for targeted diplomatic moves directed at Khartoum. Several meetings, mediated by international actors, are taking place in

"Why was I left? I asked myself. I never really got an answer to that, but now I'm thankful that I was left because maybe I can make a difference in this world if I try, and maybe I can do my part in making sure that no other human being goes through the same experience as I did."

- Jacqueline Murekatete, Miracle Corners of the World, and Rwandan Genocide Survivor

Angela Edman is WFM Program Associate and WFM News Editor



A Case of Successful NGO Advocacy at the UN: Universal access to the UN's Official Documents System (ODS)

By Victoria Clarke

A victory for NGO information access was won with UN Member States' agreement to designate funds for making the UN's Official Documents System (ODS - formerly known as the Optical Disk System) available on the Internet. This database contains all UN documents in the UN's six official languages. Universal access will facilitate the ability of NGO's to monitor and contribute to the work of the UN. This success is due in no small part to concerted efforts by NGO's to identify government allies and work with key member states.

Although NGO's have been able to subscribe to the

ODS system since 1997, the large annual fee was beyond the means of most NGO's, especially those from developing countries. Over the years, the UN Secretariat repeatedly promised universal access. Yet in early 2003, NGO's learned that difficult budget negotiations in the General Assembly's (GA) Fifth Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters caused a last minute deletion in the 2003 budget of the ODS line item for \$1.5 million. In order to ensure that political wrangling did not again block access to the ODS, WFM commenced a mini-campaign with other NGO's to urge that funding be secured in the UN's

2004 budget.

We wrote letters to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and other high-level Secretariat officials and met with government delegates. We redoubled our advocacy efforts during the GA's autumn session by writing letters to Ambassadors and following up with Fifth Committee member state representatives. Correspondence with delegates helped identify like-minded governments, who were able to provide information on which member states were blocking affirmative positions on funding. Many NGO's, including Global Policy Forum, International Service for Human Rights, Amnesty International, CONGO, Third World Network and others, joined WFM. We also utilized NGO networks to mobilize NGO's in national capitals to call for their government's support.

Reportedly, NGO letters made the difference. According to some Fifth Committee government representatives, a noticeable turn around was evident in resistant governments' positions. As one delegate explained, NGO letters and phone calls demonstrated to member states that NGO's - and their own citizens - cared about

the ODS issue and that its funding should not be further delayed.

Although on a small scale, this 2003 ODS campaign typifies the "New Diplomacy." Alliances between governments and NGO's - also illustrated by the Coalition for the ICC and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines - are an emerging force in global policy-making. Another noteworthy aspect of this effort was the cross-sectoral alliance of NGO's, which included groups advocating for human rights, women's issues, economic justice and the environment. This kind of coordinated effort on an issue of common concern to all NGO's is an emerging trend, and one that will hopefully become increasingly common.

Universal access to the ODS should be available on the Internet by autumn 2004 through the UN's ODS website at <http://www.ods.un.org/ods/>

Global Policy Forum provides further information, documentation and a history of NGO efforts on the ODS issue on its website at <http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/ngo-un/odsindex.htm>

Victoria Clarke was WFM Program Associate

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Recommendation 27 states: "I urge NGOs with an interest in conflict prevention to organise an international conference of local, national and international NGOs on their role in conflict prevention and future interaction with the United Nations in this field."

New York-based NGOs, due to their relationships with UN bodies and government representatives, have a valuable role to play in advancing this network. We have the ability to engage UN member States through collaboration with UN missions; to cooperate with UN Agencies and to mobilize civil society support for conflict prevention.

The NGO-UN Conflict Prevention Working Group was formed to conduct their activities in support of the Global Partnership. Members of the NGO-UN Conflict Prevention Working Group commit themselves to two key goals to be accomplished by 2005: an enhanced international network of conflict prevention

actors and an international policy agenda supporting prevention. The anticipated conference in July 2005 will serve to culminate a three-year policy dialogue and launch a new phase with an action plan.

The Working Group is already making significant contributions to advance these goals. We have engaged member states, with over a dozen visits to UN missions and through a September 2003 civil society panel organized by the 57th General Assembly President and attended by 88 member states. The Working Group is also collaborating with offices of the UN Secretariat. A full-time officer from the Department of Political Affairs has been appointed to work with the NGO-UN Conflict Prevention Working Group to consolidate UN support for the 2005 conference. UN-OCHA and UN-DESA have formally agreed, through memoranda of understanding, to cooperate with the GPPAC, and designate representatives to attend regional

meetings.

The New York conference aims to consolidate the accumulated policy ideas on prevention of over a dozen regional consultations around the world. Summary publications will document lessons learned, best practices and opportunities for improvement for civil society organisations, multilateral organisations and governments working in conflict prevention. This may also involve concrete commitments from member states and UN bodies to realign existing conflict management mechanisms toward prevention. The conference will serve as a launching point to promote structural and operational conflict prevention, monitor the effectiveness of ongoing prevention efforts, and provide a new and inclusive venue where governmental, multilateral and non-governmental prevention concerns can be debated and addressed.

Nicole Deller is R2P-CS Program Advisor

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platform for campaigning for an Arms Trade treaty. In addition to over eight thousand, five hundred individuals who signed up for the Million Faces Petition, a campaign that aims to collect a million photos to use as a visual message to persuade governments to sign on to a global arms trade treaty, the Control Arms campaign message was taken to new audiences around the world.

SAF supports initiatives that strengthen the UN. Small arms are one of the main factors that undermine global democratic processes, resulting in less regional cooperation in South Asia. SAF is working to create awareness among NGO's and governments in the region, and SAF's participation in the WSF certainly advanced these goals.

James Arputharaj is Executive Director of South Asia Partnership International and member of WFM Executive Committee. Vijayam Raghunathan is Secretary of South Asian Partnership International.

The Internet: the Next Generation of Global Governance?

By Rik Panganiban



World Summit on the Information Society Meeting
Credit: Rik Panganiban

Last December, in the hangar-like Geneva Palexpo convention center, a new frontier of global governance may have been crossed. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), held from December 10-12, 2003, brought together an estimated 40,000 participants, visitors and VIPs from around the world to Geneva,

Switzerland. The purpose of the Geneva WSIS was to bring together key international actors among governments, international agencies, private companies and civil society to discuss and collaborate on how to manage this vast new information and communication resource called the Internet.

The power center of the WSIS was a high-level summit of heads-of-state, prime ministers and top shelf diplomats meeting to discuss the key policy issues surrounding the internet and other information communications technologies (ICT). The primary challenge most every government agreed on was the growing "digital divide" between developed countries and the developing world, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, but also in rural and isolated communities around the globe. The repercussions of this divide can be seen across the board in economic growth, culture, politics and education. Speech after ponderous speech re-iterated the need for greater international cooperation, financing and

education on ICT development. But beyond the high-level summit was where the real action was. In a frenzied carnival-like atmosphere, more than 300 exhibitors and 200 side-events were organized from December 9 to 13. At any moment, there were up to 10 meetings occurring simultaneously, on such diverse subjects as HIV/AIDS education, cyber-terrorism, community radio and freedom of the press online. The choices were all tantalizing and overwhelming. I had the honor of representing WFM at the WSIS, carrying the banner of democratic global governance and UN reform wherever I wandered. I was invited to speak at eight different conferences and panels on UN reform and e-democracy. One highlight was a civil society meeting I participated in on the governance of the internet, sponsored by the Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility. This meeting brought together a range of civil society leaders for a comprehensive discussion on ICT governance. Speakers addressed a wide array of

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ments are divided over the extent to which the UN should be in the democracy-promotion business in the first place. Many feel this is a role better played by regional bodies.

Looking on the brighter side, the greatest obstacle to progress – an anti-UN administration in the United States – seems to be lowering its resistance to a stronger role for the UN in democratization efforts.

A small "Friends of the Chair" group of middle powers has been formed and aims to strengthen the ICNRD and give it some institutional capacity. This situation appears ripe for some sort of "soft power" civil society and middle power alliance. Indeed the "Friends" group is anxious to work in collaboration with civil society partners.

The next ICNRD meeting will take place in Qatar. The present ICSFD steering committee will have our work cut out identifying a Qatar-based organization to serve as the Secretariat for the November, 2006 civil society meetings.

Under these circumstances, with so little political or institutional momentum, a belief that the UN can in the near future play a larger role in promoting democratization seems to be more than just a leap of faith. However, in the course of our meetings in New York this February, there was a warm reception for many of our ideas and proposals. Senior officials at UN agencies were supportive. Representatives from the "Friends of the Chair" are keen to build working relationships.

There is a widely shared feeling that the wave of democratization of the 1990's is a product of global political forces that have not disappeared. Civil society can help drive a renewed UN-based democratization process. WFM's ability to build coalitions could be very helpful here. It may not look like it now, but perhaps the world is in the coming years about to become a more democratic place.

Fergus Watt is Executive Director of the World Federalist of Canada.

African Parliament and Peace and Security Council

By Prince Joseph Simbwa

President Joachim Chisano of Mozambique officiated the opening of a Pan-African parliament amidst cheers on March 18, 2004. In his opening remarks, President Chisano emphasized his hope that unity and cooperation among African countries will be strengthened by setting up a broad parliament, in which issues affecting the continent as a whole will be debated. The parliamentarians were elected by national parliaments of African countries.

On May 25, 2004, the African Union instituted the new Peace and Security Council. Modeled after the United Nations' Security Council, the PSC will deal with current conflicts that the international community is hesitant to address. It is hailed by many as an important step towards a more democratic African Union, and an important step towards conflict prevention.



The Pan-African Parliament elected the Hon. MP Mrs. Getrude Mongela from the United Republic of Tanzania as President of the Pan-African Parliament.
Credit: African Union website

The African Federalist Association would like to see the growth of an effective and democratic African Union. The Constitution of the African Union must be utilized to ensure that the articles addressing human rights, poverty, good governance, democracy, electoral systems, security and the economy are heeded. The African Parliament, as well as the Peace and Security Council, will be very useful in addressing these issues.

Prince Joseph Simbwa is President of the African Federation Association-WFM Uganda

“Peace in the Middle East Projects” in Japan

By Akira Takagi



Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi (center) with Israeli and Palestinian children
Credit: Akira Takagi

For one week last summer, Palestinian and Israeli teenagers came together to overcome negative stereotypes and work towards peace and reconciliation. The Peace

in the Middle East Project, also known as the Ayabe Project, invited seven Israeli and seven Palestinian teens, with one Israeli and one Palestinian facilitator, to Japan from July 26-August 1, 2003. All the participants lost at least

one relative in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The idea was conceived by Ayabe Mayor Yasuo Shikata, with help from the Peres Center for Peace and the Parents' Circle Families Forum, two Israeli reconciliation groups. It was sponsored by three Global Citizens Steering Committees, in Ayabe, Kyoto and Tokyo Metropolis.

The project commenced in Ayabe, the first Mundialized city in Japan. The delegation then traveled to Kyoto, the hometown of Mrs. Sumi Yukawa, Honorary President WFM-Japan (WFMJ), and finally to Tokyo Metropolis, which houses the WFMJ headquarters. They were accompanied by seven Japanese teens, Ayabe City Hall staff, including Mayor Shikata, and volunteers.

Here is a summary of the project outcomes:

1) We have developed public awareness about peace in the Middle East, not only in Japan, but overseas as well, as a result of the widely televised interviews with the Prime Minister and other dignitaries.

2) The children developed an atmosphere of trust. They were cautious at first, but by the end of the program, they seemed unwilling to part at the airport, crying and reflecting on their experiences and new friendships.

3) The project contributed to the possibility of reconciliation between Israel and Palestine, by starting the process with the region's future leaders.

WFMJ is planning the second annual Project at Okayama and Hiroshima, in August, 2004.

Akira Takagi is WFM Japan Council Chair.

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governance issues, including the management of internet domain names, e-commerce, information and network security, intellectual property, and radio frequency allocation.

The main concrete products of the Geneva WSIS are the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action, which together



Rik Panganiban (left) speaks at WSIS Conference
Credit: Rik Panganiban

represent a vision, an enumeration of key issues and a “wish list” of goals for various actors to try and achieve in the coming years. These two documents outline where rough consensus lies among governments and much of civil society and the private sector.

The two issues in which there was no substantive agreement were internet governance and financing of ICT development. In typical UN-fashion, these potentially divisive

issues were shunted over to two new working groups to be established by the UN Secretary General this year.

Now that the Geneva WSIS is over, the work is just beginning. The Geneva summit was actually just the preliminary meeting in preparation for a final summit, to take place in Tunis, Tunisia in November 2005. Between now and the Tunis WSIS, there will be a series of preparatory meetings and thematic and regional conferences leading up to the summit.

A key challenge will be including the diverse range of actors and interests in the negotiations that occur in the next 19 months. It is clear that without civil society and the private sector, any kind of agreement among governments is nearly moot. But typical UN-processes have proven to be ill-matched with the multi-sectoral nature of the issues of governing the internet. In addition, questions have been raised about the location of the WSIS in Tunisia, given the current regime's often hostile relationship with their own civil society and press. Therefore, creating the ground rules that will enable more inclusive, participatory, but effective negotiations is an important goal.

The first two follow-up meetings after the Geneva Summit were encouraging in this respect. The first was an informal exchange organized by the Tunisian government which took place in Tunis from March 3-4. The second meeting was a “Global Forum on Internet Governance” convened by the UN ICT Task Force, the UN advisory body on internet-related issues. Many participants at both meetings felt that the open, interactive, multi-sectoral nature of the discussions was a marked improvement over the preparatory process for the first phase of the WSIS. Time will tell if these two meetings were aberrations or if this openness will be the norm for the Tunis Phase of the WSIS.

For World Federalists, the time period between now and November 2005 offers many opportunities for us to present our vision of democratic, just global governance. Within this process there has been much confusion over the term “global governance” and whether it means top-down, centralized, bureaucratic global control mechanisms or it implies a more nuanced, multi-level, participatory structure. A well-articulated call for an empowered

UN to play a central role in this area is needed more than ever. The question has been asked, why should the UN be involved in the management or coordination of this vast network of networks, the Internet?

The reality is that while specialized agencies may exist for the various communications technologies, from WIPO to ICANN to IANA, the UN still has an important role to play as the most universal, most representative body of all the countries of the world. Only the UN can bridge the technical coordination of the internet with the social and political considerations of human rights, sustainable development and peace. The internet – which is increasingly becoming the world's library, agora and marketplace – is too important to be left to the oversight of arcane agencies and bodies meeting behind closed doors.

World Federalists should be monitoring closely these global governance discussions as they relate to the internet for another important reason. Because if the international community is able to implement

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The EU and the UN: Opportunities for Federalist Action

By Andreas Bummel



The European Union (EU) is simultaneously becoming more diverse and more active on the international stage. Since the inception of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), EU Member States have been effectively coordinating their positions in the most important UN bodies and conferences. In the General Assembly, there is an EU common position on almost 95% of its resolutions.

However, while EC Member States account for some 55% of international official development assistance, provide around 37% of the UN regular budget, and supply around 50% of all UN Member States' contributions to UN funds and programs, including peacekeeping, the EU's influence still falls short of its economic and

combined political weight. This is partially because EU foreign policy is still in the making. Internal divisions over Iraq demonstrate that a sophisticated system of policy-making coordination has not been developed. The admission of ten new Member States on May 1st not only created an EU-25 with more than 450 million inhabitants, it also makes the CFSP a greater challenge.

However, the draft of the Constitutional Treaty provides for the establishment of an EU Minister for Foreign Affairs (MFA), which could be a catalyst for more unification. As the WFM Council resolution on cooperation with the Union of European Federalists (UEF) from October 2003 outlines, the creation of an MFA position may call for "efforts of the federalist movements to influence the alignment of Europe's emerging foreign policy." One of the main pillars of EU foreign policy is its strong commitment to multilateralism and, especially to the UN. This is reflected through instances in

which the EU has acted decisively and cohesively, such as the promotion of the Kyoto Protocol or the creation of the ICC. The Commission points out that this "provides a sound indication of what the EU could potentially achieve across a much wider range of issues," outlining that the EU should take a more "proactive stance."

The Commission and the European Parliament (EP) recently suggested the EU should act as an international "front-runner" in the effort to take new initiatives to drive the UN reform agenda forward. In a strategy paper on EU-UN relations from September 10, 2003 the Commission recommends that the EU focus "on the key decision-making bodies" of the UN, implicitly addressing the issues of composition, representation, decision-making procedures and democracy.

The EP resolution on EU-UN relations from January 29, 2004 is more specific. It urges the Member States to reach, "agreement on the institutional reform of the UN

system," calling for improvement of the decision-making process of the Security Council "by replacing the current veto system by a system of double veto." The EP also invited the UN to jointly launch "a network of parliamentarians, which should meet on a regular basis in a Consultative Parliamentary Assembly under the UN" – a clear reference to UN Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA), which was successfully promoted by European and World Federalists.

It is more than a remote possibility that the EP take up federalist proposals for its position on UN reform, thus influencing EU strategy. The decision of the UEF Congress to approve a UEF application for full membership within WFM is a milestone in the history of the two movements. It demonstrates the readiness to grasp at opportunities in Europe to promote the federalist cause in the world.

Andreas Bummel is Acting Chairman of the Committee for a Democratic UN.

The Stockholm International Forum: Preventing Genocide; Threats and Responsibilities

By Jennifer Schense



Secretary General at Genocide Forum
Credit: UN

The Stockholm International Forum: Preventing Genocide; Threats and Responsibilities took place in Stockholm, Sweden from 26-28 January 2004. The conference was organized by the government of Sweden as the fourth and final conference in a series addressing themes of Holocaust education, combating intolerance and the search for truth, justice and reconciliation. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, representatives from more than sixty governments, international and non-governmental organizations, and independent experts addressed the urgent need to prevent genocides,

particularly in light of the tenth anniversary of the Rwandan genocide, commemorated on April 7. This was the first conference of this format at the government level to be held on the theme of genocide since the UN adopted the Genocide Convention in 1948.

The conference aimed to address how threats of impending acts of genocide, mass murder or ethnic cleansing could be identified, and in particular how the gap between available information and political action could be bridged. Many speakers generally agreed that there was sufficient early warning, but that there was a greater barrier posed by the lack of political will by many states to risk early action in addressing possible genocide. European Union representative Javier Solana ascribed this lack of political will in part to "a failure of imagination, to look ahead to the consequences of inaction."

Most government representatives who addressed the subject were in agreement on the primary responsibility of States

to protect people with the hope of preventing crimes or where they have occurred to prosecute the perpetrators. The strong support which most States present emphasized for the International Criminal Court underscored this institution as a crucial weapon in the fight against impunity, but still only one in a broader arsenal that States must compose if they hope to prevail.

President Xanana Gusmao of Timor Leste summed up this responsibility succinctly in noting that "If there is peace in the world there will be no more genocides. Humanity needs peace and for this humanity needs courage from the leaders of the world to build peace." NGO's, including WFM, continue to work with States through the Responsibility to Protect - Engaging Civil Society project and through other means of dialogue to highlight this responsibility and to foster imaginative thinking about how genocide and other crimes of such tremendous gravity may be prevented.

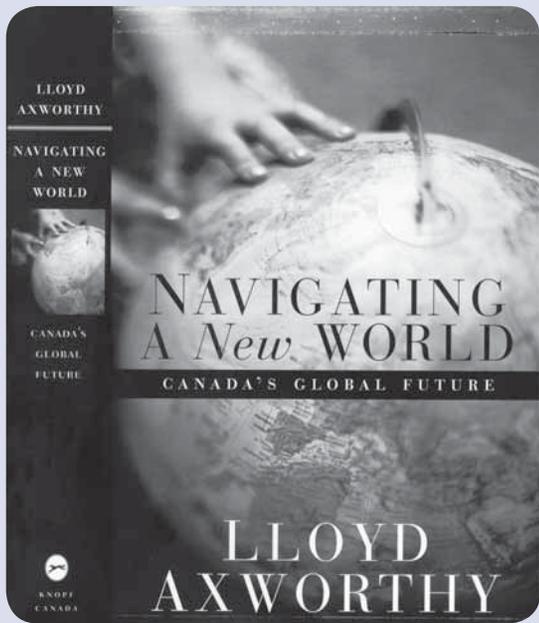
Globalizing Justice continued from Page 5

By shifting the WSF focus from the traditional purely economic debate, the "Globalizing Justice" panel offered an alternative view of globalization: one that sees the increasing communication across borders as an opportunity to uphold raised standards of accountability for the gravest human rights violations. CICC participation at the WSF offered the opportunity to present a highly successful model of grassroots organization that promotes global accountability regardless of the power or position of the perpetrator or powerlessness of the victims.

Joydeep Sengupta is CICC Outreach Communications Associate. Adele Waugaman is CICC Media Liaison.

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new structures of governance in this area that are more transparent, accountable and participatory, this will have important implications for other parts of the UN structure, from the General Assembly to the Security Council. This "next generation" of global governance may bring us closer to our overall vision of a more democratic, just world order.

Rik Panganiban is an international NGO activist and the author of a monograph on "E-democracy and the United Nations" published by the Center for UN Reform Education.



Navigating a New World: Canada's Global Future

By Lloyd Axworthy
(Knopf Canada, Toronto, 2003)
Reviewed by Karen Hamilton

Lloyd Axworthy's new book, *Navigating a New World: Canada's Global Future*, both challenged me and deepened my federalist convictions. I was inspired by the Honorary President of WFM's call to build "a humane global community relevant to our times... to rethink the international dimension from the perspective of individuals," (7). Axworthy begins what he calls a perspective of the world seen through his eyes from different vantage points over the years, by dedicating it to two Emma's - one a child soldier, the other his new granddaughter. It is also, in a sense, dedicated to the Rwandan widow who spoke recently at the Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide. Her words were different than Axworthy's, but her message and her life reverberate with the same perspective - the need to rethink the international dimension from the perspective of individuals.

Although Axworthy's book focuses on Canadians' particular skills to "...lead the world into a 21st century less nightmarish than the last," (cover) it is a book for all world federalists; for all who know that "(t)oday, with conflict raging across the planet... the need for a humane, secure international governance is more vital than ever," (cover). Axworthy does not minimize the "dark side of globalization," or the length of the road to "...effective global institutions grounded in democratic practices and following human security principles [that] are the best means of countermanding and controlling the global underworld," (422). He also does not minimize the need to navigate creatively, to explore new options, to honour different ideas and voices - all familiar concepts to world federalists.

He does challenge readers with his belief that a full understanding of the responsibilities and obligations of global citizenship have yet to come to fruition. The full connection between the need for well-resourced international initiatives and domestic interests has yet to be made. World federalists will particularly want to note Axworthy's mention of a number of our key leaders, especially on pages 30, 183 and 202, which address our impetus in terms of the International Criminal Court.

It might be wished that in bringing together all his perspectives on Canadian/American relations, the ICC, R2P, the UN, disarmament etc., Lloyd Axworthy had set forth a more detailed road. But given the piercing clarity of his approach, which uses human security as the lens through which to view the international scene, the navigational instruments lie in our hands. For the sake of the two Emma's, for the sake of the Rwandan widow, for the sake of a new world... how will we use them?

Karen Hamilton is WFM Canada Council Chair

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If you have questions, or would like to make a gift of stock to the WFM, please contact Benjamin Anderson-Bashein on 212/687-2863, ext. 15.

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