

# World Federalist NEWS

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## UN Reform Summit is Test of Global Governance

By William R. Pace

The World Federalist News is going to print as the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) negotiations descend into the final two weeks before the opening of the 60th GA and the 14 – 16 September UN reform High-level Plenary meeting. 170 heads of states and governments are scheduled to attend. If the summit succeeds, the leaders will adopt a declaration that institutes human rights as one of the ‘pillars’ of the UN and will establish a Human Rights Council in the General Assembly. Other major proposals are strong agreements on poverty reduction and development funding, the creation of a Peace-building Commission, affirmation of the Responsibility to Protect, decisions on defining and eradicating terrorism, commitments on disarmament and non-proliferation, and UN management reforms.

This ‘summit’ cannot truly be referred to as a ‘summit,’ because the General Assembly did not hold open, transparent preparatory meetings, a complaint WFM-IGP registered at the two day Civil Society hearings in June, at which WFM-IGP Program Advisor Nicole Deller and I spoke. Instead, the Secretary-General decided on a rushed, mostly closed negotiation process. He issued a major report, *In Larger Freedom*, in March 2005 calling for numerous reforms to be approved in September. GA President Jean Ping and UN member states agreed, and to Mr. Ping’s credit he kept the negotiations on a high level until the last two weeks.

Recently, Security Council reform negotiations crashed when African nations refused to cooperate with Germany, Japan,



On August 31, 2005, WFM-IGP Executive Director William R. Pace (center), Amnesty International UN Representative Yvonne Terlingen (right), and Head of Oxfam International New York Nicola Reindorp held a Press Briefing on the Status of UN Reform ‘Summit’ Negotiations and NGO Concerns. Credit: UN

Brasil and India, who sought election as new permanent members. WFM-IGP opposes adding new permanent members to the Council. Shortly after this breakdown, US President George Bush appointed John Bolton, a long-time UN opponent, as US Ambassador to the UN. Bolton took less than a week to begin undermining the months of delicate negotiations on peace, security, development and human rights UN reforms.

While the process has been flawed, Mr. Ping and UN Ambassadors negotiated a 39 page declaration that, if approved, would make the ‘summit’ a major success. On most of the six issues mentioned above and 30 others there is overwhelming support – between 100-150 governments expressing support and between 10-20 opposing. Unfortunately, the Bush administration proposed a reported 400 deletions. On eviscerating the declaration, the US is joined by China, Cuba, Venezuela, Pakistan, Russia and a few other

governments. Will the great majority allow a few powerful opponents to wreck the summit? This will be a test of global governance. If it fails, the UN should go back to the proper summit process with transparent and open preparatory meetings.

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

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“If they insist on fighting in their respective corners and refuse to meet halfway, the United States and the Non-Aligned Movement, led by Malaysia, will head the World Summit towards failure. But trading off poverty reduction measures against endorsing the responsibility to protect civilians is a lose-lose deal for the world’s poorest people.”

- Nicola Reindorp, Head of New York Office of Oxfam International; Oxfam International Press Release, August 31, 2005

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World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy  
708 Third Avenue, 24th Floor  
New York, NY 10017 USA  
Phone: 1-212-599-1320 Fax: 1-212-599-1332  
Email: info@wfm.org http://www.wfm.org

The World Federalist News is edited by Angela Edman and Peter Deitz. WFM-IGP is an international non-profit and educational organization with UN Consultative Status.

**William R. Pace**  
WFM-IGP Executive Director

**Staci Alziebler**  
Financial Officer

**Désiré Assogbavi**  
Outreach Liaison, Africa

**Joanna Barrett**  
Programme and Communication Associate

**Amal Basha**  
Middle East and North Africa Coordinator

**Caroline Baudot**  
Legal Officer

**Fátima da Camara**  
Lusophone Campaign Adviser

**Gloria Ester Catibayan**  
Office Assistant

**Maria Cavarretta**  
Consultant for South-East Europe

**Francis Dako**  
Francophone Africa Coordinator

**Peter Deitz**  
IT Consultant

**Nicole Deller**  
Program Advisor

**Katrina Dorn**  
Human Resources & Accounting Consultant

**Sally Eberhardt**  
Media Liaison

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Program Associate

**Stephanie Getson**  
Membership Outreach and Executive Office Associate

**Linda Gueye**  
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Outreach Liaison, MENA

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Program Associate

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Legal Advisor

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IT Consultant

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Consultant

**Luisa Mascia**  
CICC Consultant

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Anglophone Africa Coordinator

**Mariana Rodriguez Pareja**  
Spanish Resources Coordinator

**Leila Rachidi**  
Development Officer

**Shantha Rau**  
Head of Communications

**Lene Schumacher**  
WFM-IGP Director of Programs

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Asia Coordinator

**Heather Sonner**  
WFM-IGP Consultant

**Alice Suh**  
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**Brigitte Suhr**  
Regional Program Director

**Esti Tambay**  
Program Assistant

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**Sofia Wennerstrand**  
Consultant

**Kristele Younes**  
Legal Officer

## The Road to United Nations Reform

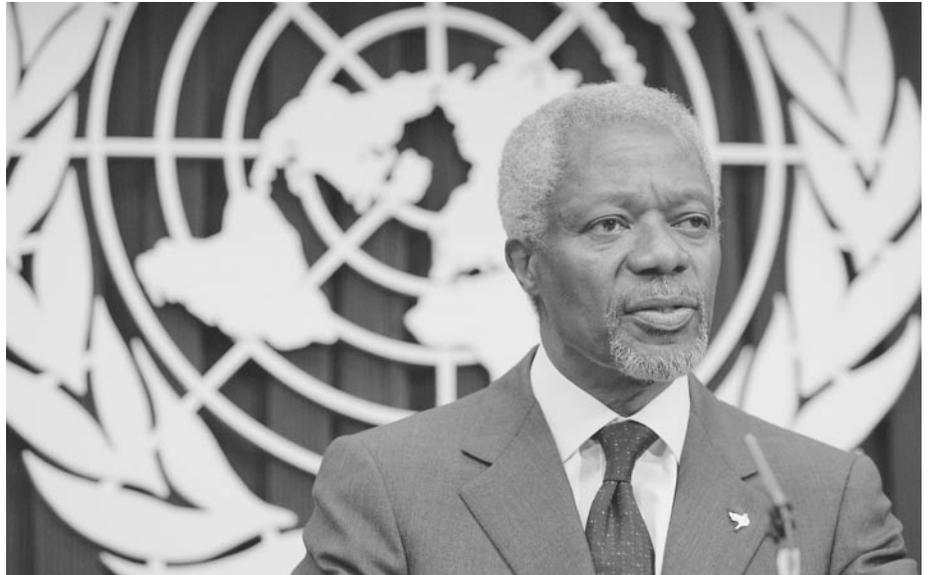
By Seher Khawaja

As the September high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly (GA) approaches, Member State representatives continue to engage in an ongoing process of negotiations and consultations on the language and substance in the GA President's draft outcome document aimed at UN reform. The third draft of the document, which supplements the two preceding reports on UN reform by the Secretary General and his High-level Panel, is the latest version of the document likely to form the basis of the reform resolution at the September summit. This process, if not undermined by recalcitrant states, has the potential to drastically improve the UN's response in the areas of development, security and human rights.

The process has since split along two tracks, the first of which is focused more broadly on improving the language and content of the draft outcome document, and the second of which deals specifically with the enlargement process and working methods of the Security Council.

Regarding the first track negotiations, the President of the General Assembly, Jean Ping of Gabon, has thus far worked with his facilitators, who have been assigned for each cluster issue (development, peace and collective security, human rights and rule of law, strengthening the UN), to hold a series of consultations with Member States as well as informal GA sessions, which provide the opportunity for states to respond to the document at hand. The document, which still faces various challenges from regional groups and individual states such as the U.S., proposes a number of significant additions such as the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission and the replacement of the Commission on Human Rights with a more effective Human Rights Council.

Following the last informal interactive plenary sessions, which took place on a cluster-by-cluster basis, the GA President released his most recent draft. The



*UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan delivers an end of year speech in 2004.*

*Credit: UN Photo/Ky Chung*

President then convened a core group of 20 to 30 nations, including the Security Council's five permanent members, to resolve differences on the reform plan. The group focuses on some of the most contested issues in the report. We cannot yet report on the outcome of these negotiations.

President Ping held interactive hearings with civil society, NGOs and the private sector on June 23-24, which drew over 200 representatives and 1000 observers from a variety of organizations as well as a large number of Member State representatives. The hearings provided the only formal opportunity for civil society to provide input on the drafting and content of the outcome document. While the hearings did reveal to Member States the instrumental role that is played by civil society in the reform process, they fell short of providing a sufficient and standardized mechanism for NGO participation. The statement of WFM-IGP's Executive Director, William R. Pace, from the hearings can be downloaded at our web site, [www.reformtheun.org](http://www.reformtheun.org).

On Security Council reform, Member States remain largely divided, as the African Union rejected a compromise resolution with the G4 states (Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan), and the Uniting for Consensus group, spear-

headed by Italy, has maintained its campaign to prevent the addition of new permanent members to the Council. Thus far, no group appears to have the 128 votes needed for a resolution to pass in the General Assembly, essentially creating a stalemate.

The following pages of this section focusing on UN Reform provide a more in-depth look at some of the most contentious issues on the reform agenda, and offer some information on WFM-IGP's work and positions on these issues.

*Seher Khawaja is a Program Associate at WFM-IGP.*

“As civil society organizations, you have a vital role to play. You are uniquely placed to facilitate local conflict resolution; to mobilize public support for peace settlements; to support disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants; to champion human rights; and to build trust to encourage healing and reconciliation.”

*- UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. July 19, 2005*

## The Responsibility to Protect

By Angela Edman and Nicole Deller

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) has emerged as one of the key issues of the UN Reform agenda. We believe it is a critical component of the Secretary-General's goal to make human security a priority, and to realize the inter-connected nature of security, development and human rights. During recent government debates and the NGO hearings at the General Assembly, many governments and NGOs expressed strong support for R2P. Many stated that endorsing R2P will lead to greater realization of human security.

Indeed, the support among civil society for adoption of these principles is growing:

- The Global Call for the Action Against Poverty, The world's largest anti-poverty campaign, has listed as one of its message for the UN summit: that governments "accept their shared responsibility to protect civilians from genocide and crimes against humanity, and, when necessary, take action through the United Nations to protect them."

- Major human rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch and humanitarian organizations such as Oxfam International and Refugees International have called for the adoption of an international responsibility to protect.

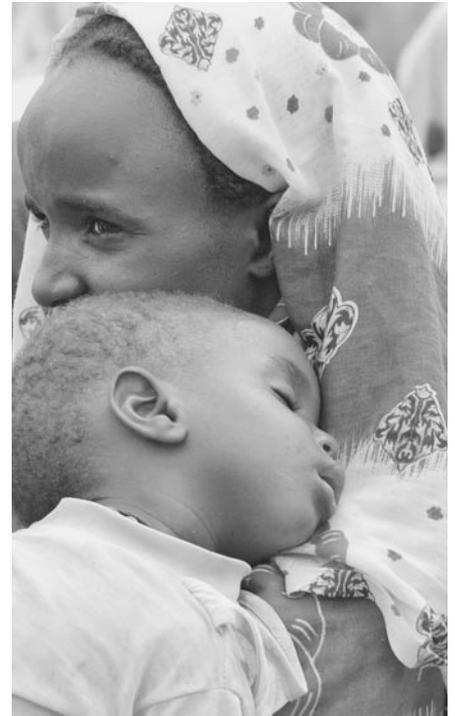
- The responsibility to protect and prevent was a key issue identified at the July 2005 Global Conference on the role of civil society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

- Recommendations for stronger language on the responsibility to protect were included in the June 2005 General Assembly Informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs.

Yet these important principles and initiatives are facing opposition from a few vocal governments. These opponents will not accept that

sovereignty includes responsibilities as well as rights. They fear that R2P codifies a right of powerful states to intervene militarily even though the proposed language emphasizes that the primary responsibility to protect rests with the state, as well as the need to apply peaceful measures, considering the use of force a last resort. Conversely, United States does not fully support R2P because it fears the R2P principles would constrain its ability to conduct unilateral foreign policy initiatives. WFM-IGP believes that R2P both demands an international response to grave crises when states are unable or unwilling to protect their civilians and empowers the international community with the tools to demand that any such response be a collective response of the international community.

In light of these developments, WFM-IGP's project Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society (R2P-CS) has initiated an NGO campaign calling for strong endorsements of the responsibility to protect principles at the High-level meeting. The principles maintain that the international community has a "responsibility to protect" when individual states are unable or unwilling to protect their population. R2P-CS has sent several letters to UN Ambassadors calling for action on R2P. These letters were endorsed by over 85 international networks and NGOs from nearly 50



*A mother with her child at the Zam Zam camp for internally displaced people in Darfur, Sudan. Credit: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe*

countries in five regions. Many of these organizations have also sent similar letters to their networks and governments. The letter can be accessed at [www.responsibilitytoprotect.org](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org) along with the list of NGO endorsements.

*Nicole Deller is Program Advisor at WFM-IGP. Angela Edman is Program Associate at WFM-IGP and Editor of the WF News.*

## General Assembly

By Lene Schumacher

Whereas one could have hoped for more substantial General Assembly reform proposals in the current process of UN reform, WFM-IGP applauds UN Member States for affirming 'the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations' (par. 128, draft outcome document (DOD), August 5). As the most democratic and representative body in the international legal order, the policy and decision-making role of the General Assembly (GA) should be strengthened

through a corresponding authority and centrality.

The August 5 DOD calls for 'the strengthening of the relationship between the GA and other principal organs of the UN' (paragraph 130). WFM-IGP would have liked greater detail on the implementation of this recommendation as well as stronger and more specific language on the relationship between the GA and the Security Council. If the UN Member States are serious about strengthening the effectiveness of the organizations to address the multifaceted and interconnected challenges and threats of the 21st century, greater cooperation between the Security Council and the

GA needs to be established. This would not only ensure greater coherence but also involvement of the broader UN membership in matters of peace and security.

Accordingly, Member States should call for expansion of the role of the GA in oversight of peace and security; a mandate which the GA already holds from Articles 10-14 of the UN Charter. Similarly, WFM-IGP advocates for principled Member States to argue for the restatement of Resolution 377 (V) of 3 November 1950 (also known as 'Uniting for Peace') which empowers the GA to act when the Security Council is unwilling or blocked from addressing humanitarian or security crises. Unfortunately, all Member States have been caught up in the question of Security Council expansion, and have paid little attention to the relation between the two bodies.

However, recognizing that the GA section in the final outcome document for the 60th anniversary will, at best, be an affirmation of overall principles, WFM-IGP is encouraged that a parallel process for substantial GA reform is taking place. Mandated to achieve progress towards the revitalization of the GA, the 59th General Assembly's President Mr. Ping has circulated a draft resolution (in addition to the draft outcome document) to Member States on strengthening and revitalizing the GA. This draft resolution is a result of extensive consultations with UN members and presents specific and innovative proposals for reform of the GA. WFM-IGP especially welcomes the call for the GA to discuss issues pertaining to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the relevant Articles of the UN Charter as well as the suggestion to strengthen the role and authority of the President of the GA. WFM-IGP will continue to monitor the developments of these reform proposals and call for improvements in the authority and accountability of the GA, as well as greater transparency in its decision-making processes.

*Lene Schumacher is Director of Programs for WFM-IGP*



*General Assembly debates equitable representation on increased Security Council membership, July 2005.  
Credit: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe*

## Human Rights Council

*By Heather Sonner*

As one of the two most dynamic proposals from the Secretary-General's report, *In Larger Freedom*, the establishment of a new Human Rights Council is likely to draw a lot of attention at the meeting of world leaders in September. Secretary-General Kofi Annan sought to realize his vision of the three pillars of the UN: development, security and human rights, by elevating the human rights machinery to a principal body of the UN. The concept of the creation of a Human Rights Council, on par with the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, took hold as states began their discussions of the Secretary-General's report and their own outcome documents for the September High-level Plenary Meeting.

This type of institutional restructuring will eventually require a change to the UN Charter. However, states are seeking to establish a new human rights body to become operational prior to a Charter change that will address some of the major concerns about the existing Commission on Human Rights, such as legitimacy, efficiency and effectiveness.

WFM-IGP supports the effort to elevate the role of human rights in the UN system and to improve the functioning of

the human rights machinery, including increasing resources for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. WFM-IGP joins many human rights organizations in welcoming the establishment of a new Human Rights Council. However, we also join many of our colleagues in civil society in calling for the preservation of the special procedures and good working relationship with NGOs maintained by the Commission on Human Rights. States continue to debate issues such as the appropriate size of the Council, criteria for membership on the Council and the peer review mechanism. Many states are seeking to strike a balance between effectiveness and representation in the number of members on the Council, while the efforts of some states to implement strict criteria for membership on the Council have been responded to with great criticism. WFM-IGP supports an outcome document that is as specific as possible about the structure and function of the new Human Rights Council and urges governments to support a post-September process to establish the Council that will include the voices of civil society.

*Heather Sonner is a project consultant at WFM-IGP, currently assisting Responsibility to Protect - Engaging Civil Society.*

## Peacebuilding Commission

By Heather Sonner

The establishment of a Peacebuilding Commission to bridge the structural gap within the UN system that exists with respect to rebuilding and maintaining peace in post-conflict societies is likely to be the great success story of the September meeting of world leaders. The proposed Commission will likely serve as an advisory body in the coordination of all aspects involved in the peacebuilding process, from sustaining peace agreements to DDRR (disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation) to development assistance.

A non-paper issued jointly by the governments of Tanzania and Denmark served as a basis for the negotiations on the mandate, structure and reporting mechanisms of the proposed Commission. This paper outlined the creation of a small, effective Commission that would advise on the coordination of UN funds, programmes and activities in a given country. This Commission could also serve to sustain international attention for the long peacebuilding process and assist in securing regular funding from donors for rebuilding. The membership and structure of the Commission will be flexible to reflect the particular needs of the country of concern. In addition to a regular Commission, composed of members of the Security Council, ECOSOC and representatives of the UN Secretariat, there will likely be a country-specific grouping that will include relevant regional actors, countries that participated in the establishment of peace, regional banks and financial institutions, as well as the affected country itself. States continue to debate the precise reporting mechanism of the Commission, whether it will report to the Security Council and then ECOSOC simultaneously or sequentially. Many of these unresolved issues relate directly to how well the Commission will be able to coordinate the various aspects of peacebuilding and implement a truly integrated approach to sustaining long-



*Peacekeeper at the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB).*

*Credit: UN Photo/Martine Perret*

term peace in a post-conflict society.

WFM-IGP remains optimistic about the promise of the Peacebuilding Commission and hopes that states will be able to find solutions to the coordination and integration of activities as they happen on the ground in countries. WFM-IGP recognizes that a successful peacebuilding process must involve, to the greatest extent possible, the people of affected societies, taking into account their voices in determining the needs of a community. Civil society makes it possible for these collective voices to be heard and must be incorporated in a regular way into the work of the Commission. Furthermore, a critical aspect of the peacebuilding process is the establishment of the rule of law and the exercise of justice. WFM-IGP welcomes the proposed Rule of Law Assistance Unit in the Secretariat and urges governments to consider the role of justice in peacebuilding by consulting the international treaty bodies such as the International Criminal Court on the role they can play in peacebuilding. WFM-IGP hopes that justice and human rights for all will be a priority for the Commission and that members will take advantage of the resources of the human rights machinery within the UN.

*Heather Sonner is a Project Consultant at WFM-IGP.*

## UN steps up role promoting democracy

By Fergus Watt

On July 4, 2005 Secretary-General Kofi Annan announced in a speech to members of the African Union the creation of a UN Democracy Fund.

While the announcement signaled an "early win," intended to build momentum for the wider package of reforms to be endorsed at the Millennium Summit, the Democracy Fund nevertheless represents in its own right an important advance in the still-controversial role of the UN in promoting democratic governance worldwide.

The new Democracy Fund will be housed in the UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), allowing for administrative and governance arrangements where those states that pay the piper will largely call the tune. UNFIP is the arms-length body established by the Secretary-General in 1998 to help implement Ted Turner's \$1 billion contribution in support of UN causes.

The impetus for the Fund's creation stems from U.S. President George Bush's speech to the General Assembly in September 2004. "Because I believe the advance of liberty is the path to a safer

and better world,” said Bush, “today I propose establishing a Democracy Fund within the United Nations.” The U.S. has pledged an initial \$10 million. India and Germany have also made financial commitments to the new body.

Many inside and outside of the UN are uneasy at the prospect of a democracy initiative led by the U.S. Extending the blessings of liberty and democracy has served as rhetorical cover for a great many of America’s international adventures. Many of these have less to do with promoting democracy per se than extending U.S. strategic influence.

There are certainly valid concerns over undue U.S. influence over a new UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF). But the dye is not yet cast. Much will depend on how other governments and agencies respond to the new Fund. Existing UN bodies that have a democracy-promoting role (e.g. DPA, UNDP, OHCHR), have crucial roles to play in the operation of the Fund. Individuals from these agencies will sit on a “Programme Consultative Group” to provide day-to-day advice on program proposals to the UNDEF Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is to meet quarterly and is expected to consist of the UNDEF’s largest donors, a number of representatives from states representing the UN’s regional groupings, as well as the UNDEF Executive Director and two representatives of non-governmental organizations.

For a number of years now the international community’s multilateral framework supporting political deliberations on democracy has been a house divided. On the one hand, there is the Community of Democracies (CoD) launched at a conference in Warsaw in 2000 as a priority of former U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright. The CoD functions as a club of states practicing democratic governance. The forum has been criticized for its self-selecting membership and less-than-transparent practices at recent meetings (South Korea in 2002 and Santiago, Chile this past May). On the other hand, the CoD has recently organized

a “Democracy Caucus” at the UN, a limited effort, supported by the “NGO Coalition for a Democracy Caucus” to seek shared understandings (and occasionally voting behavior) on a few human rights and democracy-related issues.

Paralleling the Community of Democracies is the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies (ICNRD). The ICNRD, whose first meeting was held in Manila in 1988, is a process that is more deeply rooted at the UN. Participation is open to all states. The last ICNRD, in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia, featured a robust parallel civil society forum, as well as a forum for parliamentarians. This successful tripartite format will be replicated at the next ICNRD, October 2006 in Doha, Qatar.

The Mongolia Civil Society Forum led to a nascent NGO network, the International Civil Society Forum for Democracy (ICSFD). The ICSFD has met regularly since the Mongolia inter-governmental meeting. WFM’s Lene Schumacher joined a delegation that went to Doha to begin preparations

for the 2006 ICNRD/ICSFD meetings – see article elsewhere in this volume.

Many governments and NGOs participate in discussions framed around both the ICNRD and CoD processes. The idea of a UN Democracy Fund, has to date been pushed more persistently by governments and NGOs affiliated with the CoD. But that need not remain the case.

The purpose of the Fund will be to “promote democracy throughout the world by providing assistance for projects that build and strengthen democratic institutions and facilitate democratic governance in new, emerging and consolidated democracies.”

The Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies taking place October 2006 in Doha offers a timely and welcome opportunity for mobilizing broad international support for an effective UN Democracy Fund, and a deepening United Nations involvement in democratization worldwide.

*Fergus Watt is Executive Director of World Federalist Movement – Canada.*



*WFM participated in an NGO workshop on UN Reform with NGOs from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, during a conference hosted by UNA Denmark.*

From June 8-10 2005, a WFM-IGP member organization, the Danish United Nations Association, held an NGO conference in Copenhagen in preparation for the Millennium+5 Summit. The conference debated the main UN reform reports. WFM-IGP’s Executive Director William R. Pace was invited to speak on the Cardoso Report on UN-Civil Society

Relations. The conference was highly attended by NGOs from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, and mobilized many discussions on how to reform the UN in order to serve ‘we the people.’ Participants split into workshops to discuss specific recommendations on UN reform. A Copenhagen Paper can be found at: [www.una.dk](http://www.una.dk)

## International Civil Society Forum for Democracy Meets in Qatar

By Lene Schumacher

As a member of the International Steering Committee for the International Civil Society Forum for Democracy (ICSFD), WFM-IGP's Lene Schumacher participated in a delegation to Doha to begin preparations for a civil society forum in October 2006. The forum will be held parallel to the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in Qatar and will form one of the pillars of the tripartite format of the Conference.

In an attempt to identify local partners and initiate dialogue with the Qatari government, the NGO delegation met with a range of local Qatari; professors, human rights advocates, Red Crescent employees, media and government representatives.

Many Qatari representatives showed interest in moving the process forward, including the Qatari government. However, one significant challenge is the fact that Qatar does not have an organized civil society. Political parties



*The ICSFD meets in Qatar in June 2005.*

are prohibited, and the law only allows a maximum of five people to assemble in public places. An official procedure for applying for authorization to establish a civil society organization exists, but

includes documentation requirements that are very difficult to meet. At the same time, the Qatari government is known to drag out the application process, which often eventually results in rejection. Many groups have given up attempts to establish civil society organizations because of the complicated and lingering application process.

In light of such hurdles, the ICSFD is pleased to have identified several individuals as local partners for the civil society forum. In collaboration with the Arab NGO Network for Development based in Lebanon, the ICSFD will work with Qatari individual partners to arrange an inclusive and interactive forum for civil society debates on democracy. Expecting that the international conference as well as the parallel civil society forum will attract attention to the issue of democracy, the ICSFD hopes that the event will mobilize not only national but also regional interest in promoting democratic structures.

*Lene Schumacher is Director of Programs for WFM-IGP*



*Experts discuss the Responsibility to Protect and a Peacebuilding Commission at a Roundtable discussion with FRIDE in Madrid. Credit: Lene Schumacher*

On June 3rd 2005, representing WFM-IGP's Responsibility to Protect – Engaging Civil Society project, Lene Schumacher participated in a roundtable discussion on UN reform and recommendations on the Responsibility to Protect principles and a Peacebuilding Commission. The

roundtable discussion was arranged by FRIDE in Madrid and attended by a broad range of experts from the UN system, academia, NGOs and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The papers presented at the roundtable have been published at:

<http://www.fride.org/eng>

## WFM-IGP Participates in Global Conference on Preventing Violent Conflict

By Angela Edman

WFM-IGP participated in the July 2005 conference at UN Headquarters in New York, called From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace. The conference, organized by the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), involved over 900 NGO participants from 118 countries who came together to forge a global civil society movement to prevent armed conflict.

In his Report on the Prevention of Armed Conflict (2001), UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan called for NGOs to organize a conference focused on preventing conflicts, composed of local, national and international NGOs, to address their role in conflict prevention and future cooperation with the United Nations. In response, the European Centre for Conflict Prevention initiated GPPAC, which is divided into 15 regional groups and is run by an International Steering Group.

These groups have met over the past three years to discuss regional perspectives on civil society's role in conflict prevention, and have yielded regional action agendas. These action agendas formed the basis for the Global Action Agenda, which was discussed and presented to UN Assistant Secretary-General Stephen Stedman at the July 2005 Conference, and can be found at <http://www.gppac.org/index.html>.

WFM-IGP has been an active participant in the NGO-UN Conflict Prevention Working Group (CPWG), the UN-arm of GPPAC in New York. WFM's Nicole Deller, Jayne Stoyles, and Angela Edman participated in the Responsibility to Protect workshop in the July conference. WFM-IGP is very pleased to report that the Responsibility to Protect was included in the final Global Action Agenda, entitled People

Building Peace: A Global Action Agenda for the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

### The relevant excerpt stated:

#### 4.1.1. Responsibility to protect

Governments should embrace the emerging norm of a 'responsibility to protect' and adopt an integrated approach—including the responsibilities to prevent, react and rebuild—with the responsibility to prevent as the first and foremost responsibility. Protection should be pursued in accordance with international law and in a consistent manner, as articulated by the International Commission on Intervention in State Sovereignty and following the criteria advocated in the UN Secretary-General's In Larger Freedom report.

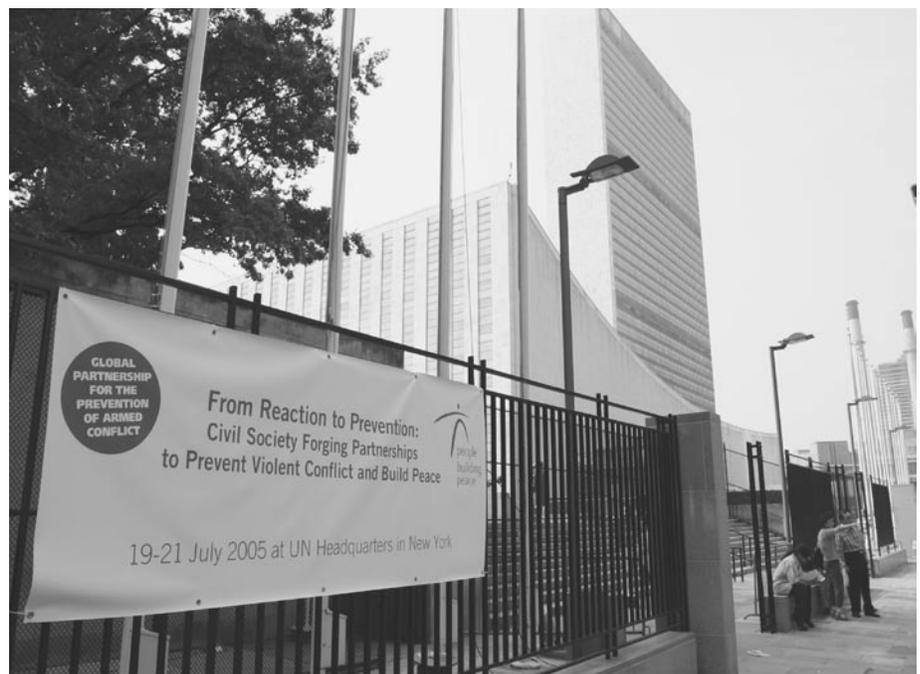
WFM-IGP is also pleased to note that the International Criminal Court (ICC) was included in the opening speech of Jody Williams, Nobel Peace Laureate (1997) & Campaign Ambassador,

International Campaign to Ban Landmines. Williams recognized the work of the ICC campaign and paused in her speech to give the campaign a round of applause.

More information on GPPAC, the Global Action Agenda and next steps after the July Conference can be found at [www.gppac.org](http://www.gppac.org) or [www.peoplebuildingpeace.org](http://www.peoplebuildingpeace.org). Angela Edman is Program Associate for WFM-IGP and editor of WF News.

"Peace implies not only the absence of war, but the absence of violence. It is the presence of human rights and opportunities for young people, governance and democracy. It is in a way, having a responsible government that creates opportunities for all citizens. Peace is a condition that offers people hope for the future"

- Vandy Kanyako, GPPAC Conference Coordinator. Source: People Building Peace Website



The GPPAC Conference, *From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace*, opens at UN Headquarters on July 19, 2005. Credit: GPPAC Website / [gppac.org](http://gppac.org)

# The Legacy Of Dr. John Garang De Mabior

## A Personal Account from a WFM Member Organization

By Prince Joseph Simbwa

As I was preparing to go to church on Sunday, July 31st 2005, a member of Ugandan World Federalists called me on my mobile saying “Garanga afiridde mu Nnyonyi ya Uganda” literally meaning Garanga has died in a Uganda helicopter. I switched on both CNN and the radio to hear it myself. Two minutes after receiving the phone call, the announcement came on CNN that John Garang, the First Vice president of Sudan, is dead.

John Garang died in a chopper crash on July 30th when a Ugandan presidential chopper MI - 172 crashed in the Imatong Hills just 15km from his headquarters in Southern Sudan. The chopper had just returned from a seven-months overhaul in Russia, and had been fitted with gadgets to detect bad weather, to fly at night and to detect obstacles in flight and upon landing.

### Garang: A World Peace Model

It was common to see John Garang in the streets of Uganda, especially around the Hotel Africana, where I used to find him during business trips. I had the good fortune of chatting with him, and we often discussed peace in Southern Sudan.

Dr. John Garang De Mabior was born on June 23rd in 1945 at a place called BOR near the upper Nile. He completed his secondary education in Tanzania and later went to Grinnell College in Iowa to finish his Bachelors in Economics. Garang decided that in order to fulfill his ambitions, he would need military training in order to fight for peace and the disadvantaged people of Southern Sudan, who were highly discriminated against by the Northerners. His dream came true and he traveled to Fort Benning in Georgia for military training. He then went to Iowa University to earn his Masters and Ph.D.

In 1962 he advanced the Anyanya movement before returning to school, and rejoined the Anyanya upon returning



*John Garang (left), ex-Vice President, and Omer Hassan A. Al-Bashir, President of Sudan, pictured during the inaugural ceremony of Sudan's Government of National Unity today in Khartoum..*

*Credit: N Photo/Evan Schneider*

from the U.S in 1970. He became absorbed in the Sudanese Army, and two years later in 1983, Garang was deployed in his home area to quell a rebellion by 500 rebel soldiers. Instead he joined them and founded the SPL/A to fight what he described as the marginalisation of the Southern blacks by Arab Northerners.

The struggle for the liberation of the Southern blacks continued for years. Between 1983 and the signing of the Peace Accords in January 2005, the civil war between the North and the South claimed almost 2 million lives, and left millions more displaced. Described as a professional, charismatic military leader, Garang was one of the few Southern Sudanese leaders who truly believed in and fought for a united Sudan. While the SPL/A's human rights record has been challenged, Garang has been credited as bringing about positive changes in the movement, and strengthening it during very difficult times. Although many Southern Sudanese wanted a separate state, Garang advocated for a United Federal Sudan. On January 9th, 2005 he signed a Peace Accord, which was a very important to Ugandan World Federalists, as it strongly coincides with our goals.

Six months after signing the Peace Accords, Garang became the first black in Sudan's history to hold the position of the first vice president of Sudan. Uganda sent a message of congratulations to fellow African citizens of Sudanese origin living in Uganda, and to the entire people of Sudan.

In his swearing-in speech Garang said, “I congratulate the Sudanese people, this is not my peace or peace of Bashir, (the Sudanese President) it is the peace of the Sudanese”

He died on July 30th 2005, after not even a month in office. The SPL/A quickly chose a chairman named Gen. Silva Kiir Mayardit a Dinka. The challenges ahead of him are to continue the dialogue between Southern rebel groups, and to carry on Garang's peaceful legacy.

Garang will always be remembered to us as Moses to the Israelites in the Bible, because he struggled for world peace and world law, and he abandoned the violent process in favour of justice and peace. May His soul rest in internal peace.

*Prince Joseph Simbwa is President of the Ugandan World Federalists.*

# Announcements from the International Secretariat and WFM-IGP Member and Associated Organizations

Compiled by Stephanie Getson and Angela Edman

## **WFM-IGP Launches New Website on UN Reform**

In April of 2005, WFM-IGP launched a new site, [www.reformtheun.org](http://www.reformtheun.org), which now serves as a center for up-to-date news, statements, proposals and analysis on UN reform. WFM-IGP has been closely monitoring developments in the reform process, keeping track of negotiations and collecting released reports, statements, and proposals, from UN offices, Member States, parliamentarians and civil society, all of which are posted on the site. The website, which also contains fact-sheets and charts for a more in-depth analysis on many of the issues, serves as a daily news source, providing easily accessible and brief alerts on the most recent developments in the reform process. To sign up for these news alerts please visit the website [www.reformtheun.org](http://www.reformtheun.org)

By providing an outlet for civil society proposals as well as information that is often only accessible to those who can attend closed meetings at the United Nations, the website facilitates civil society participation in the UN reform dialogue, maintains transparency and enables civil society to keep their governments accountable. As a result, the website has become an important resource for civil society and Member States alike.

## **WFM-IGP and R2P-CS project both re-vamp websites**

As WFM-IGP increases its online capabilities and technological services, we are pleased to introduce two new and improved websites. The WFM-IGP website, launched in May 2005, reflects a growing commitment by WFM-IGP to conduct more outreach and information dissemination online. The site provides up-to-date and in-depth information on WFM-IGP's programs, positions, history, mission and work. The site can be accessed from [www.wfm.org](http://www.wfm.org)

The Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society (R2P-CS) project also launched a new and improved website

in August 2005. It provides up-to-date information on the work of the R2P-CS project, including a lot of in-depth information on the development of R2P in the negotiations leading up to the September Summit at the UN. It also provides information on the R2P-CS network of NGO's, and a link to join the R2P-CS listserv. You may access the new site at [www.responsibilitytoprotect.org](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org)

## **WFM-IGP partners with EarthAction to update and utilize database of parliamentarian**

EarthAction has spent 10 years creating a database of more than 18,000 parliamentarians from around the world. They have successfully used it for parliamentary outreach on a variety of campaigns. In support of the work that WFM-IGP does, EarthAction has invited WFM-IGP to make use of the database in exchange for continuously updating it. WFM-IGP is very happy with this agreement and looks forward to increasing our advocacy and outreach to elected representatives in all parts of the world.

## **2005 WFM-IGP Council Meeting to be Held in Brussels, Belgium**

The World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy looks forward to the attendance of WFM's Councilors at the 2005 Annual Council Meeting which will take place from 4-6 November 2005 in Brussels, Belgium. The Union of European Federalists (UEF) has graciously offered to co-host this year's Council Meeting concurrently with UEF's Federal Committee Meeting. On Friday, November 4, 2005, in the European Parliament Eastman Building there will be a conference open to the public entitled: Federalism, Peace, and International Democracy: The experiences and contributions of the European Union and the African Union.

For more information on the council meeting, please consult our web site at

[www.wfm.org](http://www.wfm.org).

## **Japanese National Diet Approves WFM-IGP Japan Resolution**

2005 is by far the most uniquely memorable year for Japanese world federalists, when the Japanese National Diet adopted a resolution advocating for a world federation. The resolution reads "Japan should make maximal efforts to get on well with all citizens of the world... and by pursuing the creation of a milestone for eventually realizing a world federation for the whole globe." 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of when the late Mr. Yukio Ozaki, the first President of the United World Federalists of Japan, presented a bill called "A resolution concerning construction of a World Federation in the Globe" to the National Diet on 11 December 1945. Although the resolution was voted down, Japanese world federalists have continuously placed this resolution bill on the agenda in the National Diet. The recent adoption of this resolution is the result of many years of hard work on the part of members of both the Japanese Parliamentary Group for World Federation and WFM Japan. The full text of the resolution can be found under the "News and Events" section of the WFM website: [www.wfm.org](http://www.wfm.org).

## **CICC Honored for Contributing to a "More Just World"**

In a ceremony held on 11 June 2005, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, one of WFM-IGP's main projects, was awarded the Jesus Vicente Chamorro Prize from the Secretariat of the Union of Progressive Public Prosecutors (UPF) in La Rioja, Spain. This distinguished social justice prize – which honors the Coalition as a whole – coincides with the CICC's tenth anniversary year and serves as a tribute to the commitment and hard work of CICC member organizations in every region of the world. More can be found at [www.iccnw.org](http://www.iccnw.org).

A bequest made in support of the **World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy** is a wonderful way to make a powerful final statement about the values you held during your life. A bequest, a gift made through your will, can be for either a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. You can also create a contingency bequest, to be honored only if other beneficiaries pre-decease you, or add a bequest as an amendment to an existing will. You may make your bequest as a gift of cash, stock, bonds, or other personal property; or through your retirement funds or a life insurance policy. Through a bequest to the WFM-IGP, your estate will receive an estate tax charitable deduction for the full amount of your gift to the WFM-IGP, or the fair-market value of other assets. If you have questions, or for suggested legal language for making a bequest, please contact Leila Rachidi at 212-687-2863, ext. 15.

A gift of stock provides an opportunity for real tax savings while generously supporting the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy. A donation of stock owned for more than one year entitles you to a charitable deduction for the full market value at the time the donation is made. If the stock has appreciated, you will not pay a capital gains tax on that appreciation in value.

For example, a gift of stock bought over one year ago for \$1,000 that's now worth \$5,000, produces:

- A charitable tax deduction for the full \$5,000
- No tax due on the \$4,000 in appreciated value
- The full gift amount of \$5,000 will be put to work immediately in support of WFM-IGP's efforts to realize a more just and peaceful world

If you have questions, or would like to make a gift of stock to the WFM-IGP, please contact Leila Rachidi

#### HOW TO SUPPORT WFM

- I wish to learn more about the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy. Please send me more information.
- I wish to become a supporter.  
I wish to make a donation to WFM-IGP
- My organization would like to find out more about becoming an affiliate of WFM-IGP.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE / FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to : **WFM-IGP**, 708 3rd Avenue, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10017, USA