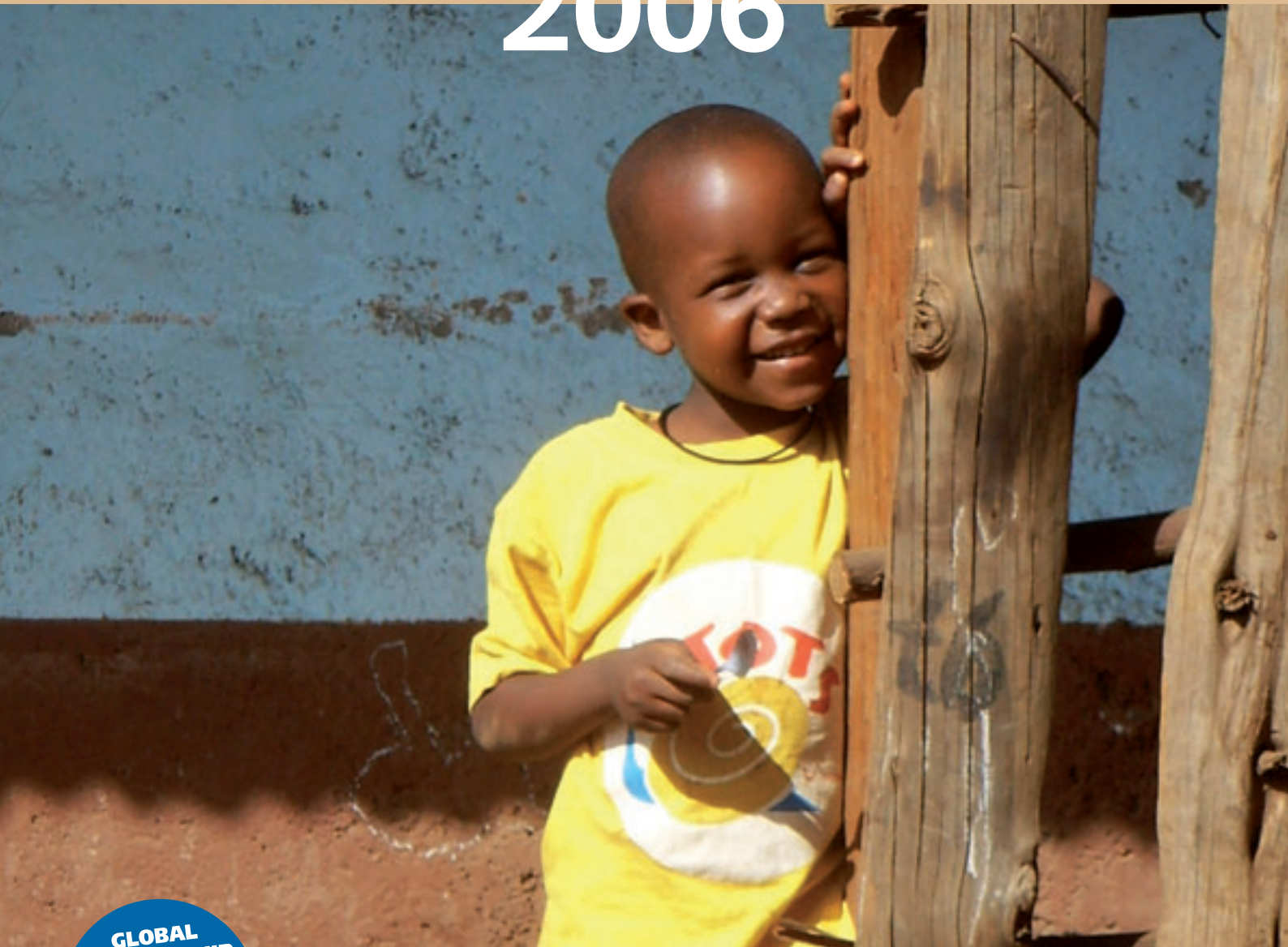


The European Centre for Conflict Prevention /
Stichting Europees Centrum voor Conflictpreventie

Annual Report 2006



**GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP
FOR THE
PREVENTION
OF ARMED
CONFLICT**

**Including an overview of the activities of the
Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict**



Foreword

Writing an annual report presents an opportunity to reflect, not only on an organisation and its work, but on the broader context it operates in. The world around us in 2006 brought hope in some areas, but also the certainty that a great deal of work remains to be done. We saw situations deteriorate in Sudan, Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon, Basque Country and Somalia, and remain unchanged in many other war-torn regions. However, positive news also came to us, from Nepal, Northern Ireland, Aceh and Uganda, to name a few examples. For the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP), 2006 was a year of consolidation and continuity, but also one of change and transition.

Financially, the year was a difficult one, ending in a deficit. However, this was caused by a number of factors which were either unique or limited in their duration, among them a move to a new office, the temporary payment of double rent for both the new office space and for the old to fulfil our obligations under the previous contract, and unforeseen additional staff costs due to a long-term illness. The perspectives for 2007 and future years are a great deal better, with the issues that caused the deficit resolved and additional funding secured, notably through a sizeable grant of the Dutch Government as of January 1, 2008.

Consolidation took place in the further strengthening and formalizing the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), which the ECCP initiated and holds the Global Secretariat for. The network is a young one, having

been launched in 2003, but its formation was a continuation of the groundwork laid by the ECCP since its inception in 1997 in building relationships with civil society organisations worldwide through the *Searching for Peace* programme.

Changes were also made, not the least of which was a change of location from Utrecht to offices in The Hague, at the invitation of the municipality. The ECCP is now finding its place in a unique Hague based network of Dutch and international organisations dealing with issues of peace and justice.

For GPPAC, it has been a year of transition: In our efforts to bring about a shift from reaction to prevention in the way violent conflict is dealt with, we have started to make our own shift from a 'talking network' to an action network. Where the first phase of the network's existence was dedicated to the development of the Regional and Global Action Agendas, and holding the Global Conference in New York in 2005, the past year saw the beginning of the implementation phase with the launch of five programmes, namely: Awareness Raising; Interaction and Advocacy; Network Building; Knowledge generation and Sharing; and Early Warning and Early Response.

Under these programmes, the ECCP and GPPAC seized some wonderful opportunities that presented themselves in during the year. For instance, 2006 saw the inauguration of the UN Peacebuilding Commission. GPPAC successfully lobbied for the involvement of civil society organisations from the two



countries selected for the Peacebuilding Commission's attention, Sierra Leone and Burundi. Thanks to GPPAC's efforts, civil society representatives from these countries were able to present their recommendations for peacebuilding in their country during the formal sessions of the Commission in New York, as well as during informal briefings which were well-attended.

The above and more are exiting developments for the organisation, which we hope will keep us abreast of developments in an ever changing global context. We invite you to peruse this annual report for 2006, and also to look ahead with us to the years to come.

Jan Hoekema
Chairman of the Board
June 2007

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Activities of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention in 2006

A New Home: ECCP Moves to the City of Peace and Justice

On 4 September 2006, the ECCP celebrated the opening of its new office in The Hague. The office relocated from Utrecht to The Hague in April 2006 upon the invitation of the municipality, as it wishes to further distinguish itself as the international city of peace and justice.

To mark the occasion a symposium was organized, focused on two processes then taking place at the United Nations, and the role that civil society could play in them, namely the then newly established Peacebuilding Commission, and the selection of the new Secretary-General. The meeting was opened by Jan Hoekema, Chairman of the Board of the ECCP, followed by a word of welcome by Deputy

Florence Mpaayei speaks at the office opening



Mayor Frits Huffnagel. Executive Director Paul van Tongeren presented ECCP's work, with an emphasis on its role of international secretariat for GPPAC. These presentations were followed by speeches of the two key-note speakers. Florence Mpaayei, Acting Director of Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa, shared with us the added value of being part of a global network, and talked about the recent activities in Burundi among civil society organisations to deliver input for the UN Peacebuilding Commission. The symposium concluded with a speech by William Pace, Executive Director of World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy and Convenor of the NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court. Mr. Pace presented the developments of civil society engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission at headquarter level in New York and the activities of the civil society campaign around the selection of the UN Secretary-General.

After the symposium participants walked to the new office on the Laan van Meerdervoort in The Hague, and enjoyed the beautiful views of the Peace Palace and the city of The Hague with a drink. It was a successful start to continue ECCP's work from its new office!

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

INTRODUCTION

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) is the world-wide civil society-led network to build a new international consensus on peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict. GPPAC works on strengthening civil society networks for peace and security by linking local, national, regional, and global levels of action and effective engagement with governments, the UN system and regional organisations. In 2003, the ECCP took the initiative that was to result in the formation of GPPAC in response to the call of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his 2001 report *Prevention of Armed Conflict*, by organising a meeting for civil society organisations from around the world who were interested in establishing a global network on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Working group at the International Steering Group Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya



Mission

The European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP) is a non-governmental organisation that promotes effective conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategies, and actively supports and connects people working for peace worldwide.

Vision and Guiding Principles

We envisage a world in which people are able and willing to prevent and transform violent conflicts peacefully.

We believe in:

- a multi-track approach;
- the importance of local capacities for peace;
- partnerships with local organisations;
- long-term engagement;
- impartiality.

The ECCP as a Secretariat

The European Centre for Conflict Prevention holds the secretariat for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC): these days, the majority of the ECCP's work is focused on this task, coordinating the network and the various programmes it runs at the global level.

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The Global Partnership is structured through fifteen regional networks, each of which has developed an action agenda to reflect regional principles and priorities. The Regional Action Agendas fed into *People Building Peace: A Global Action Agenda for the Prevention of Violent Conflict* which outlines key priorities for change and involved more than 1000 organisations worldwide in its drafting. The final document was presented to the UN in July 2005, during the Global Conference *From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace*, organised by GPPAC in partnership with the UNDPA at UN Headquarters.

Following the Global Conference, the International Steering Group of GPPAC, which comprises representatives from each of the network's fifteen regions as well as some non-regional representatives (see page 15 for an overview), met in The Netherlands in October 2005, and in March 2006 in Nairobi to discuss how to

translate the Regional and Global Action Agendas into Work Plans. In between these two meetings, the regional steering groups of each of the regions came together and developed regional Work Plans 2006-2010. During the Nairobi meeting, the International Steering Group decided on five programmes to be run at the global level between 2006 and 2010, coordinated by the ECCP. They are:

- *Awareness Raising: Promoting acceptance of conflict prevention:* Gaining public support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding to achieve a sea change in both policymaking and in fostering a genuine culture of prevention in communities. Activities will focus initially on celebrating the UN International Day of Peace around the world each year on 21 September
- *Interaction and Advocacy: Promoting policies and structures for conflict prevention:* Strengthening civil society cooperation with the UN, regional intergovernmental organisations and

governments

- *Network Building: Building national and regional capacity for prevention:* Enhancing the capacity of regional networks and global mechanisms to undertake collective action to prevent violent conflict
- *Knowledge Generation and Sharing:* First pilot on peace education and conflict resolution in schools. Connecting the theory and the practice of civil society activities on this topic by documenting, analyzing, developing and disseminating essential knowledge on approaches, good practices, lessons learned and evaluations.
- *Early Warning/Early response: Mobilising civil society early response actions to prevent:* Enhancing the capacity and professionalism of civil society organisations to engage in early warning and especially early response efforts, and to advance interaction with governments, regional intergovernmental organisations and UN agencies.

AWARENESS RAISING

Gaining Public Support

Though a broad range of actors is doing a great deal of work in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, there is relatively little knowledge of these activities among the general public. Therefore, awareness raising was seized upon as an issue of key importance in many of GPPAC's regions, with the long term goal of gaining public support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding to achieve a sea change in both policymaking and in fostering a genuine culture of prevention in communities. Like other social policy shifts – on issues such as HIV/AIDS, the environment, and development – civil society recognises that it must be heavily invested in exposing the public to conflict prevention themes and messages in accessible, compelling ways.

The UN International day of Peace and Ceasefire

The UN international Day of Peace and Ceasefire, 21 September, presents a key opportunity to do so: GPPAC would like to see this day celebrated around the world. In 2006, a pilot project was started in three regions with 'Media Focal Points'. On the basis of their project proposals three organisations were selected to fulfil the Media Focal Point tasks in their region: raising awareness on the UN International Day of Peace among regional media, policymakers and the public; raising awareness on GPPAC key messages and regional priority themes

Turkana women during International Day of Peace celebration held in Kainuk Turkana District in Kenya

among these audiences; and stimulating the organisation of activities throughout the region and spreading the word about them.

The regions selected were Northeast Asia, Southern Africa and the Middle East and North Africa. Sadly, due to the outbreak of the 2006 Lebanon war the project in the Middle East could not go ahead as the implementing organisation, Permanent Peace Movement, was based in Beirut. In stead, a Media Focal Point was set up in the Pacific. To the great credit of Permanent Peace Movement however, the organisation still held a festival for the International Day of peace, a mere two weeks after hostilities formally ended. At the ECCP, reports of events in the GPPAC network worldwide were collected for a special edition of the GPPAC Newsletter.

Media Focal point Southern Africa

In order to sensitise people and create awareness about the International Day of Peace in the Southern African region in 2006, a number of events were held, such as rallies, festivals, interfaith celebrations, debates, and peace text messages on mobile phones. The events were held in conjunction with the media through the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) in Zambia, the GPPAC Media Focal Point for the region. Through the institute, journalists disseminated the information in the region and in other parts of the world. A large number of articles came out in the print media on the activities that were carried out on the International Day of Peace, and there were also a number of radio broadcasts about the International Day of Peace and GPPAC.



In addition to these activities, the website www.peoplebuildingpeace.org was re-launched in time for 21 September: its purpose is to highlight the work of civil society in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding and make it accessible to a broad audience. All the case studies from ECCP publication *People Building Peace II* can be found there, as well as new cases that have been collected since. Additionally, past and future peace day

celebrations are also highlighted on the website.

Finally, ECCP took a coordinating role in organising a public event for the International Day of Peace in the Netherlands, held by the Dutch national GPPAC network, People Building Peace – Netherlands. (see page 9).

Peace day celebration in Beirut



Celebrating Peace in Lebanon

In Beirut the celebrations of the International Day of Peace were particularly poignant given the war that had formally ended only two weeks before the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2006. The Arab Partnership for Conflict Prevention and Human Security, under the coordination of the Permanent Peace Movement, organized a day full of music, theatre, dance, candle lighting, singing, painting, exhibitions, peace promises, peace prizes, flyers, pamphlets, t-shirts, caps, posters, peace check-points and plenty of media attention at the Achrafieh Jaitawi Jesuit Public Garden. A press conference on the 13th September and a special TV-commercial which had been broadcast regularly in the run-up to the day had already sensitized the people of Lebanon about the day.

INTERACTION AND ADVOCACY

In the run-up to the GPPAC Global conference in July 2005, relationships with governments and UN were built. Following the conference, the network entered a phase of consolidating these efforts, and strengthening relationships to work together towards reaching achievable goals and options for change. In 2006, the sub-programme interaction and advocacy carried out activities at regional, global and national level.

Strategy Meeting

In October 2006, GPPAC organised Strategy Meeting, focused on strengthening relationships between governments and civil society in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding was organized in The Hague. Several governmental officials participated, and a background paper for the meeting was produced. The GPPAC regional initiators presented their regional work plans, and the meeting brought forth new relationships and cooperation between several governments and regional networks.

Regional Lobby

To increase regional lobbying and accessibility to inter-governmental regional organisations, a paper was produced with an overview of 32 inter-governmental regional organisations and their structures in relation to conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts, and civil society entry points. Another paper was developed for internal GPPAC use describing strategic entry points within



Inaugural Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission

Regional Interaction and Advocacy in Southeast Asia

GPPAC Southeast Asia together with World Forum for Democratisation in Asia, and the Asia-Pacific Solidarity Coalition undertook a Solidarity and Democracy Mission to Timor-Leste between 27 August and 1 September 2006. Disturbed by the violence in the previous months, they felt compelled to visit and view the real conditions on the ground. The representatives met the President, the then current and former Prime Ministers, national leaders from various political persuasions, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations, leading civil society organisations, and groups of ordinary citizens, including internally displaced persons.

The Mission sensed a great deal of frustration and anger. Although there are longstanding problems that exacerbated the tensions and violence, the immediate causes were fundamentally political. The crisis was not inevitable; on the contrary, it could have been prevented, and thus can also be resolved. There was a strong desire from the people of Timor-Leste for constructive dialogue among national leaders, in order to create the atmosphere and conditions for the resolution of the crisis and restoration of peace. Resulting from the Mission, several recommendations were formulated, which were promoted in the following months, especially in the time leading up to the April 2007 elections.

these 32 inter-governmental regional organisations, which will help the GPPAC regions in developing their lobbying strategies.

Peacebuilding Commission

At the level of the UN, the most important focus of GPPAC has been, and continues to be, the new UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), the first intergovernmental body focused on peacebuilding within the UN system. GPPAC was invited on behalf of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to attend the inaugural meeting of the PBC in June 2006. The PBC held several meetings in 2006, including two rounds of country-specific meetings focused on the selected focal countries, namely Burundi and Sierra Leone. The ECCP, as GPPAC international secretariat, played an active liaison role in ensuring input from civil society organisations in Burundi and Sierra Leone. Local civil society organisations in

both countries held consultation meetings which resulted in recommendations for the PBC. Successful GPPAC lobby efforts, in close cooperation with World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy, ensured that representatives of the in-country processes could present their recommendations in the two sets of country-specific meetings so far.

Also, the ECCP as GPPAC's Global Secretariat co-organized a seminar on the PBC and civil society with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in September in New York, and has met with members of the PBC and staff of the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) on a regular basis. Additionally, the international secretariat is involved in discussions in Geneva among 'International Geneva', and the added value of the Geneva-based institutions and organisations for the work of the PBC. Several meetings have been

organized, and a link to the processes in New York and in-country in Burundi and Sierra Leone is being made, in order to most effectively work together with all actors.

Lobby efforts also included calling for guidelines for civil society participation in the work of the PBC, as the invitations of civil society representatives to the meetings were organised on an ad-hoc basis. The PBC hopes to formally approve guidelines for civil society participation at an Organisational Committee meeting planned for June 2007. Civil society organisations have sent a letter of concern to the PBC on the draft guidelines, including one of the main concerns which was raised concerning the lack of discussion with civil society on these particular guidelines before adopting them.

Creating National Platforms in West Africa

To have a direct link to grassroots reality, GPPAC seeks to stimulate the creation of national civil society structures in priority countries to entrench the conflict prevention and peacebuilding agenda. There are for instance established national platforms in The Netherlands (People Building Peace - Netherlands), Germany and Croatia. During 2006 the GPPAC West Africa Regional Secretariat, West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) facilitated the formation of national conflict prevention forums in 9 West African countries: Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, and Togo.

The national platforms in these nine countries were established through broad national consultations with civil society organisations. Thematic consultations resulted in the development of National Action Agendas and strategies to implement them and culminated in the launch of national conflict prevention forums/platforms which will facilitate the implementation of national action agendas. The National Action Agendas and corresponding strategies captured in Action Plans are by no means uniform and reflect the unique realities and needs of the different countries. The next step in the process will be implementing the National Action Plans.

NETWORK BUILDING

Network Building focuses on strengthening the GPPAC network as a whole to undertake collective action to prevent violent conflict and build peace. GPPAC seeks to strengthen the Global Secretariat and International Steering Group to support the global and regional networks, and to capacitate Regional Secretariats and Regional Steering Groups to lead regional processes competently.

Key Network Building activities in 2006 included an International Steering Group meeting in Kenya in March and another in The Netherlands in October, assisting in the process of launching national platforms for conflict prevention in certain countries, improving the GPPAC governance structure, fundraising to strengthen the regional networks capacity and activities, developing network policy and procedures, conducting a network strengthening review and organising a network strengthening expert meeting to discuss the findings of the review, and introducing and adapting a monitoring and evaluation system.

Networking for peace: a review of the GPPAC Network

In order to further strengthen the capacities of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) to function as an international network, researcher Willemijn Verkoren of the University of Amsterdam was commissioned to carry out a network review. Her final report, entitled *Networking for Peace: Opportunities for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict*, was completed in late 2006.



"Central Asian NGOs didn't have a culture of cooperating with government and each other. Now, thanks to GPPAC, they are thinking more in terms of partnership. People begin to see more possibilities for complementarity and cooperation.

The Regional Initiator (Secretariat), The Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI), has begun to use the idea of partnership also in other programmes."
(Networking for Peace, 2006, p.51)

"Being part of the network has increased organisations' visibility and legitimacy. For example, for grassroots organisations like the Rural Women Peace Link in Eldoret, Kenya, GPPAC represented an important opportunity to gain visibility for the insights and results gained in their work. It is considered crucial that the voices of local stakeholders be heard more widely, and GPPAC has made this possible"
(Networking for Peace, 2006, p.66)

Ms. Verkoren conducted her research through a combination of surveys, interviews and a literature study. Also included in the final report are the main outcomes of an expert seminar on networking, which was organized by GPPAC last October.

The review found that despite criticism, nearly all stakeholders who participated in the study felt they had benefited from their participation in the network. The main advantages of membership mentioned included access to knowledge and expertise in the field; the opportunity to exchange experiences with others; gaining contacts and partnerships; raising the visibility and legitimacy of the participating organisations through their membership of GPPAC. Other positive aspects of GPPAC include the sense of solidarity and moral support the network provides, its global coverage, and the openness to differing points of view

within GPPAC. At the global level, there was a great deal of appreciation for the global conference that was held in 2005, and the International Secretariat's lobby activities, particularly with the UN.

However, there is also room for improvement: members felt there had been a loss of momentum since the global conference, they would like to see a clear shift from a "talking network" to an action network. Furthermore, they would like to see greater continuity in the process, with greater follow-up and interaction between meetings and better linkages between the various levels of the network. Two strong recommendations were that GPPAC should ensure that its priorities and objectives are shared by all involved, and that these should be sufficiently focused and attainable. Recommendations were also made to improve democracy, transparency and the structure of the network, among other things.

Some of these issues are already addressed in the Work Plans for the coming four years, and others will be taken up by the Global Secretariat and the International Steering Group, in consultation with the broader network.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):

After extensive research, ECCP as the GPPAC Global Secretariat, decided to use Outcome Mapping for planning, monitoring and evaluation. Implementation of Outcome Mapping started at the global secretariat, and an outline for the GPPAC network wide M&E system is being developed to broaden the application through out the GPPAC network. A training session was held during the International Steering Group meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, to help familiarise participants with Outcome Mapping. The method will begin to be phased in over the course of 2007.

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND SHARING

Peace Education and Conflict Resolution in Schools

The academic theory and the civil society practice of conflict prevention and peacebuilding are not always well synchronised: A more inclusive approach to gathering theoretical models, lessons learned and best practices from the field, and to building on these is needed in order to improve the professionalism of the entire field and to bridge the gap between theory and practice. GPPAC has engaged in a collaborative learning process: a process of identifying, collecting and disseminating essential knowledge – and when needed, further developing it – drawing theory from practice to develop more generally applicable lessons accessible to others. This process started with a pilot project within and across various regions, focusing on examining the impacts and value of peace education (for children and adults) and conflict resolution in schools programmes.

The collaborative learning process was started in 2006 and included a mapping of the field of peace education and conflict resolution in schools and the setting up of a reference group comprising of people from the GPPAC International Steering Group, the GPPAC regional networks with peace education activities, experts on the topic outside GPPAC, the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Peace Education Campaign and the International Network for Conflict Resolution in Schools and Peace Education (INCREPE), which was born out of the working group on peace education during the GPPAC Global Conference in 2005. A regional conference on peace education planned in Belgrade in the autumn of 2006 unfortunately had to be postponed until the beginning of 2007 due to funding difficulties. This conference is set to be the beginning of a chain of regional learning conferences, the aim of which is to build on one another, to accumulate experiences and to encourage cross-fertilisation over the

conferences. As such, the conferences can become a genuine structured exercise of common learning over time, rather than stand-alone gatherings with uncertain follow-up.

Collecting Case Studies

Next to this collaborative learning process focusing on peace education and conflict resolution in schools the knowledge generation and sharing programme has also followed up on the well-received publication *People Building Peace II: Successful Stories of Civil Society* (Lynne Rienner, 2005) by promoting the publication in a number of journals and magazines, include the full publication in a database on our www.peoplebuildingpeace.org website and by continuing to collect more inspiring stories of how civil society can and is making a difference in conflict areas. These inspiring stories will also be used in the awareness-raising material that ECCP/ GPPAC will develop.

EARLY WARNING AND EARLY RESPONSE

Early warning and early response are considered to be among the key pillars of conflict prevention. In recent years, a greater awareness has emerged on the need to connect early warning with response strategies to prevent and address violent conflicts at an early stage. Also, practitioner organisations have become more interested in using early warning information and analysis as a basis for their programming.

A majority of GPPAC Regional Networks

identified early warning and early response as one of their key priorities. In response to their needs, in 2006 GPPAC initiated a sub-programme on Early Warning and Early Response which seeks to enhance the capacity and professionalism of civil society organisations to engage in early warning and early response work, and to institutionalize interaction with governments, regional organisations and UN agencies on early warning and early response. In comparison with other programmes on early warning and

response, GPPAC focuses on the role and capacity of local civil society organisations and on the ownership and involvement of local key stakeholders.

In April an expert meeting on early warning and response was held with participation of interested GPPAC Regional Secretariats, a number of representatives of UN agencies and international NGOs, and experts from civil society organisations already active in the field. Key issues and dilemmas relevant for practitioner organisations

were explored and discussed, as well as the role of the Global Partnership. A Task Force was set up to develop practical steps to move the programme forward, and is currently working to seek solutions for the issues that came up at the expert meeting.

Published in September, the issue paper "Early Warning & Early Response: Conceptual and Empirical Dilemmas" highlights practical dilemmas involved in early warning and response initiatives and extracts general lessons and points for reflection. Further, the issue paper lists a number of strengths of civil society-based

early warning and early response, as well as challenges for civil society organisations. The issues identified will be a basis for the work during the coming years.

As a first step in the development of a clearing house on early warning and early response, the International Secretariat has started with the collection of relevant publications and information on existing civil society-based early warning and response mechanisms. The clearing house will have a special focus on civil society initiatives in early warning and response and incorporate good practices and new developments in the field.

Early Warning/Early Response expert meeting, 2006



Initiatives of GPPAC network members on early warning and early response

The WANEP network in west Africa has signed a memorandum of understanding with regional organisation ECOWAS, resulting in the West African ECOWARN mechanism for early warning which is a collaborative effort of civil society, governments and ECOWAS. The organisation FTI in Central Asia runs an early warning and response mechanism on the territory of Kyrgyzstan. Other network members participate in existing efforts or take the initiative to research the possibilities for setting-up mechanisms and building networks for early warning and response. GPPAC Latin American Secretariat CRIES recently published its methodological considerations for early warning and response in the region, and options for civil society engagement were discussed at a regional consultation in the Pacific organised by Regional Secretariat CCF, the UNDP and GPPAC Pacific. The various levels and kinds of engagement within the GPPAC network allow for passing on lessons learned and good practice, while GPPAC strives to activate the links from local to regional and global for enhancing early response action.

Flowers and Guns in Utrecht

Bloemen en Blaffers – which translates from Dutch as "Flowers and Guns" – was part of the opening days of the cultural program of *Vrede van Utrecht* (Peace of Utrecht) for the year 2006. In 1713 many of the major European states of the time came to Utrecht to negotiate the end of more than a hundred years of war and signed the Treaty of Utrecht. This agreement can be seen as the first ever negotiated peace treaty in history, reason enough for the city of Utrecht to commemorate its upcoming 300-year anniversary by hosting a multi-year cultural program on war, peace and dialogue amongst peoples.

Bloemen en Blaffers was the first cooperative project between the organisations *Vrede van Utrecht*, *Partizan Publik* and the ECCP. The evening was held in pop and culture 'temple' *Tivoli* in Utrecht, and had a diverse programme including debate, film, presentations, music and poetry. It was designed to appeal to a wide selection of the public, especially young people, through its varied, interactive and sometimes confrontational nature. The audience was particularly impressed by



the very personal story of California-based Aqeela Sherrills, former gang member and now activist and peace-broker between urban gangs. A film scenario of Utrecht at war following riots in 2015 followed by a debate of various professionals on what should be done in such a case will also long linger in the memories of the audience. A combination of print material, good media strategy and word-of-mouth advertising, brought a total of around 300

people to attend the event, comprising – as the organisers had hoped – a very diverse cross-section of young public.

One lesson learned was that it might be good to have a slightly less 'full' and long programme to provide more focus for the audience, but on the whole the evening was a success, and the ECCP hopes to co-organise more public events of this kind.

The Dutch Coalition: Celebrating the International Day of Peace

Thirteen organisations from the Netherlands endorsed the Dublin Action Agenda produced in 2004 as part of the Global Partnership regional process. The thirteen endorsing Dutch organisations also provided input in to the Global Action Agenda (GAA) process. For this reason, the coalition called itself "GAAndeweg."

Since then, the coalition has re-named itself People Building Peace Netherlands (PBP-NL), and has grown to include over forty members (for a full list see page 15).



The ECCP is on the Steering Committee (*Stuurgroep*) of the coalition, along with the organisations Euro's voor Vrede, Humanistisch Vredesberaad, Kerken Vrede, NEAG Alternatieven voor Geweld (Secretariat of PBP-NL), Oxfam Novib, UNOY

Peacebuilders, War Child Nederland, and WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom).

In 2006 the members of the People Building Peace Netherlands coalition decided to combine their efforts and co-organize an event to celebrate the International Day of Peace on 21 September. Held at Scheveningen, a seaside suburb of The Hague on a beautiful late summers day, it comprised a series of debates, theater, music, arts, interviews, dance and drinks. While artists painted the Scheveningen prison wall with artistic graffiti, a living peace sign was made on the beach by some 250 schoolchildren.

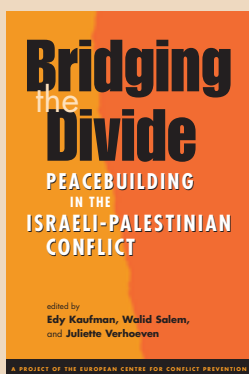
Politicians Femke Halsema and Marco Pastors in debate at Planet Peace



In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, children made their own peace sign and were able to connect with the children in the Netherlands through a live satellite link. Music was made by different national and international young hip hop and reggae artists, a beach pavilion was filled with politicians, activists, performers, visuals, and much more. Two young women in particular, one from Iraq and one from Nagorno Karabach, came to The Netherlands for the event, and made a deep impression with the stories of the impact violent conflict had had in their lives, and their own peace activism in spite of it.



Searching for Peace Programme: A new publication



BRIDGING THE DIVIDE: PEACEBUILDING IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

Published by Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Edited by Edy Kaufman, Walid Salem and Juliette Verhoeven.

"An incredibly courageous effort by Israeli and Palestinian peace scholars and practitioners to take a critical look at themselves and their activities, to expose and analyze their weaknesses, and to suggest ways to improve their efficacy and impact in the years ahead." – Naomi Chazan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

"Chronicling the valiant work of civil society in both camps in their quest toward reconciliation, this book helps us to fathom the uphill battle that the peace movement in Israel and Palestine has faced, and the hard work done in order to heal the wounds emanating from occupation and violence." – Hanna Siniora, Crossing Borders

The book *Bridging the Divide* is part of the Searching for Peace Programme of the ECCP which aims to document the main initiatives of conflict transformation efforts around the world. This project was initiated some years ago with the main goal to reflect on the past efforts for building peace between Palestinians and Israelis and to look into the opportunities for future efforts for bridge building, dialogue and cross border cooperation. *Bridging the Divide* is the fifth volume in the series.

Although initiated by the ECCP this project was designed and implemented in close cooperation with Israeli and Palestinian partners and the authors are leading peace scholars and practitioners. Most of them have been involved in Track II diplomacy, such as Menachim Klein who was involved in official and unofficial negotiation efforts and Professor Manuel Hassassian, director

of the Bethlehem University and currently serving as Ambassador for the Palestinian People in London, UK.

Many people working for peace, from the local to the national level on both sides were involved in this project by contributing chapters, reflecting on drafts or being involved in discussing the draft texts and main lessons learned. The process in itself was a peacebuilding effort: several Palestinians and Israelis jointly developed analysis and co-authored chapters for the book. Although much literature is available on peacebuilding initiatives in Israel and Palestine, this is one of the first joint efforts of Palestinian and Israeli peacemakers to take a critical look at themselves and their activities, to expose and analyze their weaknesses and to suggest ways to improve their efficacy and impact in the years ahead.

This book deals with critical issues faced by all those involved in peace work. Among others, it examines civil societies initiatives for peace, the failure of the Oslo process, lack of unity, difficulties posed by the asymmetry between Israelis and the Palestinians and problems regarding issues such as normalisation and the concept of 'just and lasting peace'. Furthermore the authors examine the effectiveness of civil society actors and the relations with governments and the future prospects for cross border cooperation, non-violence and dialogue for peace.

This book also contains a directory of organisations working in the field of peace and conflict prevention. It contains some 70 profiles of NGOs, grassroots organisations or peace movements in Israel and in Palestine.

Looking Ahead



The coming year will see the 10th birthday of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention. It will also see some changes at the Centre: I have reached the national age of retirement at 65. However, I have decided to stay on in the coming years, focusing on strengthening the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, through representing it abroad, continuing to lobby at the UN, especially the Peacebuilding Commission, fundraising for GPPAC, and broadening and deepening the network. As per an International Steering Group decision in October 2006, I will become the Secretary General of GPPAC. From August 2008, the ECCP will be in the competent hands of Peter van Tuijl, who will be taking over as Executive Director and who has more than twenty years of work experience with a focus on governance, democratic development and capacity building in both The Netherlands and Indonesia.

As for GPPAC in the years to come, in 2006 a start was made with the implementation of the Global Work Plan 2006-2010, which came out of the Regional and Global Action Agendas as well as Regional Work Plans. In 2007 and especially from 2008 onwards, there is an increasing amount of funding available for these plans to truly take wing, both at the global level and in the regions.

For instance, at the time of writing, the first of the regional conferences on Peace Education under the Knowledge Generation and Sharing programme has just taken place in Belgrade in early 2007. As expressed by the participants in an evaluation of the event, it was a great success, with civil society peace education experts from across the Balkan Region and around the world attending, along with educators and Deputy Ministers for Education. The recommendations made at the Balkan conference will be taken forward to the next regional conference on peace education as a starting point to build upon and avoid duplication.

And extremely important next step for GPPAC will be the further strengthening of the regional networks and building their capacity. Steps in that direction have already been taken with the securing of funding in late 2006 for the appointment of full-time Regional Liaison Officers for six of GPPAC's regions for all of 2007, as well as part-time positions in a number of other regions. These liaison officers will, among other things, act as a liaison between the International Secretariat and the regional network, participate in the GPPAC Task Forces, act as the liaison between the Regional Secretariat and regional GPPAC members to ensure the broadest possible participation and ownership, and assist in reaching out to the media, politicians and representatives of governments, regional

organisations and other international organisations. From 2008 onwards we hope to see Regional Liaison Officers in an increasing number of the GPPAC regions.

An interesting development in the international arena has been *The Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development*, drafted at a 2006 Ministerial Summit on Armed Violence and Development, signed by over fifty governments. The Declaration states the resolve of the signatories to promote sustainable security and a culture of peace by taking action to reduce armed violence and its negative impact on socio-economic and human development. GPPAC welcomes this declaration, as it closely mirrors our network's own aims, and in the coming years will focus efforts on cooperating with the signatories on pursuing the goals of the Declaration, participating in developing the Action Plan to realize them, and broadening the constituency for this initiative towards a follow-up conference planned in 2008.

We very much look forward to continuing this work with all our partners around the world, and have high hopes for the years to come!

Paul van Tongeren
Executive Director
June 2007

Financial Report

Balance sheet as at December 31, 2006 (after appropriation of the result)

	Dec. 31, 2006 €	Dec. 31, 2005 €
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets		
Automation	948	11.479
Furniture	0	0
	948	11.479
Current assets		
Books in stock	27.520	27.000
Receivables		
Grants receivable	54.392	146.469
Other receivables	8.338	7.144
	62.730	153.613
Cash at bank and in hand		
Bank	396.303	255.641
Cash	681	89
	396.984	255.730
	488.182	447.822

Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2006

	2006 €	2005 €
Grants and other income	1.660.176	2.376.020
Changes in prepayments projects	-348.203	104.262
Total income	1.311.973	2.480.282
Expenditure		
Personnel expenses	572.207	632.653
Depreciation	10.531	17.881
Expenses project activities	583.690	1.555.253
Housing costs	77.035	71.404
Office expenses	49.740	62.853
Accountancy and consultancy costs	69.399	62.008
Other general costs	16.624	21.910
	1.379.226	2.423.962
	-/- 67.253	56.320
Interest income/ (expense) and bank charges	-/- 4.123	1.730
	-/- 71.376	58.050

LIABILITIES

Equity	-131.224	-59.848
Subordinated loans	37.743	63.403
Guaranteed equity	-93.481	3.555
Long-term liabilities		
Loan	20.000	40.000
Current liabilities		
Received prepayments projects	364.557	178.054
Creditors	30.742	39.738
Wage tax	15.818	14.028
Social security premiums	0	1.488
Grants to be returned	9.134	27.347
Accrued liabilities	141.412	143.612
	561.663	404.267
	488.182	447.822



Projects summary 2006			
	<i>Grant income</i> €	<i>Expenses out of pocket</i> €	<i>Expenses organisation</i> €
Projects summary 2006 per program			
GPPAC			
1A. Promote Acceptance of the ideas of Conflict Prevention	144.280	62.213	83.070
1B. Promote Policies and Structures for Conflict Prevention	177.632	54.157	123.475
2A. Build national and regional capacity for Prevention	737.259	369.958	367.685
2B. Generate & disseminate knowledge	74.516	1.766	72.750
2C. Mobilise Civil Society Early Response Actions	80.219	42.299	37.920
Totals GPPAC	1.213.906	530.393	684.900
Other programs			
People building Peace	0	-4.133	0
Searching for Peace	-680	7.819	4.000
21 September	59.049	39.129	25.020
Vrede van Utrecht	15.562	2.872	15.200
Networking for Peace (activities not included in other programs)	7.610	7.610	0
	81.541	53.297	44.220
Total	1.295.447	583.690	729.120
Projects summary 2006 per donor			
(see next page for further contract information per donor)			
Donor contracts ended 31/12/2006			
Austrian Development Agency (1)	139.969	75.799	65.000
Austrian Development Agency (2)	32.420	32.420	0
Austrian Development Agency (3)	-1.003	0	0
Development Cooperation Ireland	50.000	4.765	44.790
Cordaid	16.028	16.028	0
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	49.968	49.968	0
USIP	-679	7.819	4.000
Different donors project 21 September	42.099	35.129	12.070
Different donors project Vrede van Utrecht	15.562	2.872	15.200
Other donors	0	-4.133	0
	344.364	220.667	141.060
Donor contracts outstanding 31/12/2006			
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	391.732	118.302	273.430
DFID United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	356.534	87.904	268.630
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	171.817	141.817	30.000
Irish Aid	10.000	10.000	0
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	21.000	5.000	16.000
	951.083	363.023	588.060
	1.295.447	583.690	729.120

Auditor's Report

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accountants

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The Board of Directors of Stichting
Europees Centrum voor Conflictpreventie
Laan van Meerdervoort 70
2517 AN 's-GRAVENHAGE

Almere, 5 juni 2007

Concerns: Auditor's report

Dear Mr van Tongeren,

In accordance with your instructions we have audited the extensive financial report of European Centre of Conflict Prevention, Den Haag, for the year 2006. Part of this financial report has been added to the annual report on the pages 11 and 12 of the now presented annual report 2006.

Responsibility of the board

The management of ECCP is responsible for creating a report that complies with the law and applicable rules and regulations. This responsibility implies among others: constructing, implementing and maintaining an internal system of control that serves to compile and accurately reflect the income and expenses which are mentioned in the financial report in such a way that there are no material discrepancies as a consequence of fraud or mistakes. The system should also serve to select and apply acceptable bases for financial reporting as well as to make estimates which are fair under the given circumstances.

Responsibility of the auditor

Our responsibility is to give a true and fair view of the financial report based upon our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and relevant national auditing standards or practices. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the project statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used by management, as well as evaluating the overall position as presented by the financial report.

The choice of the work to be performed depends on the professional judgment of the auditor, which contains an opinion concerning the risks of material discrepancies as a consequence of fraud or mistakes. In the judgment the auditor will take into account the relevant system of internal control for compiling and accurately reflecting the income and expenses in the financial report in order to make a responsible choice of the elements of the audit work which are adequate under the circumstances, but which do not aim to pass a judgment on the effectiveness of the system of internal control of ECCP.

Opinion

In our opinion, the extensive financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the foundation (stichting) as at 31 December 2006 and of the result for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the Netherlands and comply with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code for as far as applicable to the foundation. The information on page 12 and 13 in the annual report has been taken unchanged from the extensive financial report. To get a complete true and fair view we refer to the separate extensive financial report.

LTB Adviseurs & Accountants B.V.



Drs. R. van der Velden RA

Donor List

	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06
GOVERNMENTS									
Austrian Development Agency									
Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade									
Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
German Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland									
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
New Zealand Aid									
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency									
Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs									
UK Department for International Development									
FOUNDATIONS AND OTHERS									
Abraham Fund									
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation									
Compton Foundation									
Conflict Prevention Trust Fund									
Cordaid									
Dutch UNESCO commission									
Ford Foundation									
Fred Foundation									
Heinrich Böhl Foundation									
Karl Popper Foundation									
Kontakt der Kontinenten									
Meyer Swanteé Foundation									
Municipality The Hague									
NCDO									
Oxfam/Novib International									
Optimix Foundation									
Sasakawa Peace Foundation									
Slifka Foundation									
SVD Foundation									
Taiwan Foundation									
UNDP									
US Institute for Peace									
Van den Bergh van Heemstede Foundation									
Van Dijk Studieboeken									
William & Flora Hewlett Foundation									
World Vision International									

ECCP Team



Management and Staff 2006

Malin Brenk, *Programme Coordinator Knowledge Generation and Sharing*

Charlotte Crockett, *Project Officer Communications and Awareness Raising*

Adriana Franco, *Coordinator Africa and Latin America & the Caribbean and GPPAC ISG Liaison*

Guido de Graaf Bierbrauwer, *Head of Programmes and Regional Coordinator Balkans, Caucasus and Western CIS*

Renske Heemskerk, *Programme Coordinator Interaction and Advocacy*

Marte Hellema, *Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific, Latin America & the Caribbean and Project Officer Awareness Raising*

Kees Kolsteeg, *Manager Finance*

Walter Krabbenborg, *Office Manager*

Emile LeBrun, *Communications Coordinator*

Jasmin Nordien, *Coordinator Africa and GPPAC ISG Liaison*

Monique van Oorschot, *Manager Finance*

Goele Scheers, *Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Officer*

Paul van Tongeren, *Executive Director and Secretary-General of GPPAC*

Juliette Verhoeven, *Coordinator Early Warning and Response;*

Regional Coordinator Middle East & North Africa and Central Asia

Gregor Wolfert, *Interim Manager Finance*

Board of Directors



Mr. Jan Hoekema (chairman), *Ambassador for international cultural relations at the Dutch MFA*
 Mr. Menno Witteveen (treasurer), *Managing Director of the Dutch Infrastructure Fund BV and Treasurer of the national board of the Dutch political party D66*
 Mrs. Bea Stolte van Empelen, *formerly with SOH (Dutch Interchurch Aid), was actively involved in several Africa related peace building activities*
 Mr. Ton Waarts, *Former Director of NCDO, linked to several international networks*
 Mr. Cees Homan, *General-Major of the Marines (retired), advisor for the Netherlands Institute for International Relations Clingendael*
 Mr. Wouter Meijer, *Former director of the World Population Foundation*

GPPAC International Steering Group

Regional Secretariats

Central and East Africa

Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa (NPI-Africa)
 Ms. Florence Mpaayei
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Southern Africa

The African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)
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West Africa

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
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Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional Coordination for Economic & Social Research (CRIES)
 Mr. Andrés Serbin
 Email: sanrafaelsr@fibertel.com.ar;
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North America

Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee (CPCC)
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US Steering Committee for GPPAC

Mr. Peter Woodrow
 Email: pwoodrow@cdainc.org

South Asia

Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS)
 Mr. Syed Rifaat Hussain
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The Pacific

Citizen's Constitutional Forum (CCF)
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 Email: jdakuvula@ccf.org.fj

Southeast Asia

Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID)
 Mr. Augusto N. Mclat Jr.
 Email gus@iidnet.org

Northeast Asia

Peace Boat
 Mr. Yoshioka Tatsuya
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Central Asia

Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI)
 Ms. Raya Kadyrova
 Email: fti@infotel.kg

Middle East and North Africa

Arab Partnership for Conflict Prevention and Human Security
 Permanent Peace Movement (PPM)
 Mr. Fadi Abi Allam
 Email: ppmleb@hotmail.com

Western Commonwealth of Independent States

Nonviolence International
 Mr. Andre Kamenshikov
 Email: ninis@mail.ru

The Caucasus

International Center on Conflict & Negotiation (ICCN)
 Ms. Tina Gogueliani
 Email: iccn@iccn.ge

The Balkans

Nansen Network in the Balkans
 Ms. Tatjana Popović
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Northern and Western Europe

European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP)
 Mr. Paul van Tongeren
 Email: info@conflict-prevention.net

Global Secretariat:

European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP)
 Email: info@conflict-prevention.net

Non-regional members

Johann Aufderklamm, International Committee of the Red Cross
 Ekkehard Forberg, World Vision International
 Nicole Deller, World Federalist Movement
 Ragnar Ångeby, Folke Bernadotte Academy

People Building Peace Netherlands

COS Nederland
 ECCP
 Een Ander Joods Geluid
 Eigen Kracht – Centrum voor Herstelgericht werken
 EIRENE Nederland
 Euro's voor Vrede
 Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweging (FNV)
 Huis van Erasmus
 Humanistisch Vredesberaad (lid Humanistische Alliantie)
 ICCO
 IKV Pax Christi
 International Fellowship of Reconciliation
 Kerk en Vrede
 KVO (Katholieke Vrouwenorganisatie)
 Landelijke Stichting Tegen Zinloos Geweld
 Maluku Masa Depan
 Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network-Netherlands
 Museum voor Vrede en Geweldloosheid
 Musicians without Borders
 NEAG Alternatieven voor Geweld
 Oxfam Novib

Peace Brigades International - landengroep Nederland
 Pedagogen voor de Vrede
 Platform Vredescultuur
 Radio La Benevolencia
 Religieus Genootschap der Vrienden (Quakers)
 Bellamy Stichting
 Stichting Bemiddeling Amsterdam
 Henri Nouwen Stichting
 Stichting Interculturele Participatie en Integratie (SIPI)
 Stichting Interculturele Schakelingen
 Stichting voor Actieve Geweldloosheid (SVAG)
 Stichting VredesWetenschappen
 United Civilians for Peace
 UNOY Peacebuilders
 UNPO
 Vereniging Pais
 Vrouwen voor Vrede
 War Child
 Wereld Federalisten Beweging Nederland
 WILPF Nederland
 YWCA Nederland



www.conflict-prevention.net

Colophon

Photos:
World Vision Kenya, Tobias Oloo (Peace Day celebration in Kenya),
Permanent Peace Movement (Peace Day celebration in Beirut),
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