

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

Annual Report 2007



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



It is my pleasure to have taken over the position of Chair of the ECCP Board from Jan Hoekema. Currently, ECCP has completed a fairly extensive makeover of its Board membership. To Jan Hoekema and all other outgoing Board members, many thanks for your contributions to ECCP. At the management level too, we have seen a change in leadership with the retirement of Paul van Tongeren and the appointment of Peter van Tuijl as new ECCP Executive Director. I also would like to thank Paul, whose contribution to ECCP as a founder of the organisation is immeasurable.

Peace and violent conflict are high on the agenda of governments and international organisations. It is an indication of the seriousness of the problem, but also of the political will to do something about it. The language used is not always consistent and sometimes contested. Some would say that the term 'fragile states' is colonial condescending language, others would say that 'conflict management' is better than 'conflict prevention', because how can we ever establish that an instance of violent conflict has been prevented?

Regardless of the differences in language used, two issues are outstanding in these debates: there is a dire need for solid information and good analysis of conflict-prone situations and everyone is looking for institutional innovations that would support a more effective response. On both accounts, civil society organisations have a vital role to play. They are often closer to potential conflicts and possess a wealth of information that has, as yet, to reach the broader community of decision makers. In a watchdog role, they can help to keep governments, international organisations and other actors sharply focused on what needs to be done to prevent or mitigate conflict or armed violence. Moreover, as a participant in designing and implementing peacebuilding efforts, they can be part of the necessary institutional innovation.

ECCP is well positioned to promote the role of civil society in peacebuilding, notably by fulfilling the function of global secretariat for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC).

I am pleased to report to you that the basic conditions of ECCP have improved during 2007. We were able to reduce the deficit from previous years by a third and now have a better basis of secured funding for 2008. ECCP also successfully concluded the development and introduction of a new system of monitoring and evaluation based on the outcome mapping methodology. I am happy to invite you to read through our annual report for 2007. Based on these strong foundations, we are looking forward to the future development of ECCP.

*Joris Voorhoeve
Chairman of the Board*

A new role for Paul van Tongeren

In August 2007, Paul van Tongeren retired as ECCP Executive Director. However, Paul will continue his engagement with ECCP part-time in the position of Secretary General for GPPAC, a new role in which he will focus on lobby and advocacy and the strengthening of GPPAC's network.

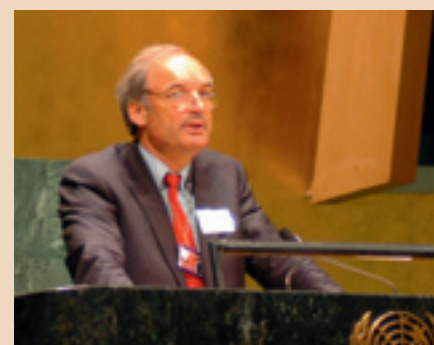


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Consolidating and moving forward



On August 1, 2007, I took over the position of ECCP Executive Director from Paul van Tongeren. First of all, I would like to thank Paul for his cooperation and efforts to support me getting into the job. I am equally grateful for the warm welcome by both the ECCP Board and staff. Stepping into the shoes of a founder and pioneer provides a real challenge to further strengthen and develop ECCP and its key role in the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC).

The manifestation of civil society organisations around issues of peace and violent conflict has changed significantly in recent years. There is a decreasing emphasis on overarching concepts, such as opposing the use of violence as a legitimate way of resolving conflicts. Instead, there has been a growing focus on concrete actions and weaving webs of civil society organisations with a crucial role as sources of knowledge and expertise and conduits of political participation in processes of peacebuilding. In that regard, the establishment of GPPAC has unlocked a huge potential of opportunities that we have only begun to explore.

The conference "From Reaction to Prevention" in New York, which launched GPPAC onto the map of global networks, took place in July 2005 and is now almost three years behind us. Meanwhile, a lot of work has been done to further build the network between different organisations

and people across the globe, as well as in its interactions with governments and international organisations. The early years are over, and I see it as a main task of ECCP to continue our endeavours in bringing the promise of GPPAC to fruition. This leads to a number of things to be done.

The ECCP organisation must continue its process of consolidation. The creation of a global network is a high-energy, all consuming, task and not surprisingly some aspects of the internal organisation suffered. Starting with the finances and creating a balanced budget for 2008, a number of steps have been taken that are intended to strengthen ECCP as a professional, flexible organisation: a pleasant place to work and interact with. This will include an ISO standard certification of our internal business process before end 2008.

Given the focus on the global level in recent years, there is also a need to assert a clear position of ECCP within its home base in the Netherlands and Europe. Global networking is in principle a complex act of articulating a common agenda at different levels at the same time, locally, regionally and globally. In the long run, ECCP would not be able to fulfil the function of secretariat of GPPAC in a credible way, if it is not also firmly rooted in its own local and regional arena.

In cooperation with the City of The Hague and several other internationally orientated organisations in the Netherlands, ECCP has started the groundwork for the establishment of a Peace Portal. This interactive website will have the purpose to serve primarily as a conduit for civil society organisations in conflict regions and to connect practitioner knowledge with policy making and academia. It is a next step in a line of work that has earned ECCP its reputation; the promotion of the role of civil society in peacebuilding by collecting and publishing relevant stories, most notably in the series of "People Building Peace" books.

Bridging the gap between early warning and early response is still elusive. Finding new ways of connecting the high-level lobby and advocacy opportunities opened-up by GPPAC with field experiences remains a colossal challenge in itself. GPPAC continues to explore ways to strengthen effective communication about peacebuilding efforts to support an effective response to threats of violent conflict.

I am confident that ECCP will be able to make a significant contribution in the

coming years to networking and knowledge generation and other specific programme issues. We will continue to engage with many other organisations in a collaborative spirit, always with an eye on our ultimate objective, to make a meaningful contribution towards peace.

*Peter van Tuijl,
Executive Director*

About the ECCP

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 in cooperation with 15 regional secretariats worldwide.

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Activities of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention in 2007

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

INTRODUCTION

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) is a 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.

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:** Gaining public support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding to achieve a sea change in both policy-making 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:** Strengthening civil society cooperation with the UN, regional intergovernmental organisations and governments
- **Network and Capacity Building:** Enhancing the capacity of regional networks and global mechanisms to undertake collective action to prevent violent conflict
- **Knowledge Generation and Sharing:** Pilot on peace education and conflict resolution in schools. Connecting the theory and the practice of civil society activities on this topic by documenting, analysing, developing and disseminating essential knowledge on approaches, good practices, lessons learned and evaluations.
- **Early Warning/Early Response:** 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.

Each of these programmes has activities in upwards of five regions, and each of the regions has its own set of activities outside of these five programmes relating to the regional context, issues and priorities.

Some activities were carried out in 2006 when the plans were developed, but implementation began in all seriousness in 2007, as did the introduction of Outcome Mapping, ECCP's new monitoring and evaluation system.

Participants at the 2007 GPPAC International Steering Group Meeting



GPPAC Vision and Mission

Vision

GPPAC calls for a fundamental change in dealing with violent conflict: *a shift from reaction to prevention*, as an approach that will save lives, and prove more effective and less destructive. We seek a world in which people and governments elect non-violent means, rather than armed conflict, to achieve greater justice, sustainable development, and human security.

The participants in the GPPAC process are committed to the following principles (presented more fully in the Guiding Principles and Values in *People Building Peace: A Global Action Agenda for the Prevention of Violent Conflict*):

- Prevention of violent conflicts is possible and should be pursued to the fullest extent by all peaceful means.
- We commit to transforming the conditions that give rise to violent conflict.
- As civil society actors, we believe that preventing violent conflicts requires the forging of effective partnerships and networking among civil society organisations, governments and multilateral organisations, among others.

Mission

GPPAC is building a new international consensus and joint action to prevent violent conflict and promote peacebuilding, based on regional and global action agendas. GPPAC maintains a global multi-stakeholder network of organisations committed to act to prevent the escalation of conflict into destructive violence, at national, regional and global levels. This multi-stakeholder network includes civil society organisations, governments, Regional Organisations and the United Nations.

AWARENESS RAISING

GPPAC began to develop and implement its awareness raising program in 2006. The overall goals for the coming years are:

- To coordinate public awareness raising campaigns on issues related to conflict prevention and peacebuilding and host dynamic centers of creative and inspiring activities on the UN International Day of Peace and ceasefire on 21 September.
- To stimulate an increasing number of its members, as well as interested individuals, organisations and international campaigns to celebrate 21 September with the help of the GPPAC campaigning toolkit and messages, and support them in sharing their experiences with the rest of the GPPAC network.
- To work towards a media and a general public that are better informed about conflict prevention, peacebuilding and GPPAC.
- To develop good relations with the local and regional media on a reciprocal basis, and for GPPAC members to be valued as experts and a source of alternative opinions when it comes to armed conflicts.

International Day of Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean

For the International Day of Peace, GPPAC Regional Secretariat CRIES held the first annual *Latidos de Paz* ('Heartbeats of Peace') contest for five to eighteen-year-olds from all across Latin America and the Caribbean. Youngsters were encouraged to send in artwork expressing their ideas on peace and nonviolence. The winning entry was on the front cover of the following edition of CRIES' publication *Pensamiento Propio*. Both the contest and the International Day of Peace got a lot of media coverage throughout the region.



One of the winning entries in the competition, by Nicolás Sanguinetti and Javier Chiriello



International Day of Peace in Japan

With these goals in mind, different projects have been developed over the past years:

The *Media Focal Points* are a mechanism for GPPAC to assist regions in generating awareness, while ensuring that local messages are in tune with global messages about GPPAC, our mandate, and our goals. It essentially appoints a person for a specific period of time to work solely on raising awareness. In 2007 six regions participated in the project, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and Northern Africa, Northeast Asia, Pacific, Southeast Asia, Southern Africa.

The celebration of the International Day of Peace was stimulated through the circulation of e-bulletins reporting on planned activities and afterwards on actual celebrations, the promotion of these through websites and printed newsletters and cooperation with several international campaigns doing the same. Emphasis was also placed on the development of tools and resources to increase the capacity of people to celebrate the 21 September.

An Awareness Raising Toolkit was developed, which has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French, Spanish, and Russian. Another activity saw the formulation of elements that could be incorporated into press releases and articles, which were circulated to be adjusted to regional context and facilitated the publishing of such articles. A GPPAC newsletter was produced with a primary focus on 21 September celebrations. As in 2006, it included updates on activities that took place around the world.

Acknowledging the importance of coming together and learning from each other as civil society organisations working on awareness raising around conflict prevention and peacebuilding, an international taskforce was created, which is tasked with steering the awareness raising programme. It held a two-day meeting in Soesterberg, The Netherlands, on 7-8 October, at which the taskforce was joined by awareness raising experts from around the world. Input from the meeting helped finalise the GPPAC awareness



raising toolkit, as well as providing valuable contributions to the GPPAC Awareness Raising Programme as a whole.

One of the main findings of the awareness raising meeting, was the realisation that even though GPPAC has much to tell the media, we might not always be able to put our message across in an effective manner. The issue-paper 'Why and When to Use the Media for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding', developed at the end of 2007 and written by Lisa Schirch and Vladimir Bratic, was a first step in dealing with this dilemma.

International Day of Peace in Georgia

INTERACTION AND ADVOCACY

The GPPAC Interaction and Advocacy programme is aimed at strengthening interaction between civil society and UN, governments and regional organisations. The programme undertakes activities at the global and regional levels.

One of the focus areas is the monitoring of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), which was established at the end of 2005. GPPAC has successfully lobbied for civil society inclusion in the mandate of the Commission, as well as participation of civil society representatives during official meetings. Through GPPAC's regional partners, civil society processes in the focal countries (Burundi and Sierra Leone) have been set up. They have organized meetings in-country bringing together civil society representatives, and setting up working groups. Representatives of these working groups have participated in official meetings in New York, as well as in-country. The next step is to create local PBC focal points.



Civil Society and the Peacebuilding Commission in Burundi

The PBC process in Burundi led to the development of a Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding which was adopted at the end of June. Initially, only the United Nations Operation in Burundi (BINUB) and the government contributed to it. Before presenting the document in a meeting in New York, a steering committee was organized in Bujumbura to discuss the content. A representative of the civil society process, Emmanuel Nshimiremma from Biraturaba/GPPAC Burundi, participated in this meeting. He raised the issue that peacebuilding is a concern of all stakeholders and that civil society should be involved. Thus, the Strategic Framework should also contain engagements and responsibilities of other partners, including civil society, donors, and others. This idea was strongly supported by the donors, and a task force was set up to organize consultations with all partners. The task force was made up of two people from the government, two from BINUB, two from donors and a person from civil society. This team organized consultations with civil society, international NGOs, private sector, religious groups, political parties, representatives of UN agencies and members of the government. On the basis of these meetings a peacebuilding strategy document was prepared and adopted by the Council of Ministers and the joint steering committee. This process was a great success in collaboration between the representatives of BINUB, the government and civil society.

Another area the interaction and advocacy program is working on is strengthening relationships with regional organisations. At the beginning of 2007 a paper with an overview of 32 regional organisations and their capacities and entry points in this field was published. Another paper, for internal use only, described the trends within these 32 organisations and their possible openness for engaging with civil society. These papers are used to create knowledge and understanding of what regional organisations can offer, and how best GPPAC members can engage with them. Several GPPAC regions have undertaken efforts to engage with their respective regional organisations. Activities in this respect were carried out in South East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Southern Africa and the Pacific.

Thirdly, at the end of the year, the issue paper *Joint Action for Prevention: Civil Society and Government Cooperation on Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding* was published.

The paper concentrates on examining some of the issues in forging appropriate and effective partnerships between governments and civil society to work with conflicts at home and internationally. The paper, which includes success stories of government - civil society cooperation, has been widely disseminated, and is currently being re-printed.

Lastly, GPPAC has been involved in lobbying for civil society engagement with the Geneva Declaration for Armed Violence and Development process. The Declaration was adopted in June 2006 by 40 governments. The Declaration provides a good opportunity to continue stressing the need to acknowledge the interdependence of development and peace and security issues. The GPPAC regional initiator for East and Central Africa participated in the regional meeting on the Declaration in October 2007.

NETWORK AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The network and capacity building programme aims to set and steer the GPPAC's strategic direction, build the capacities within the organs of the network and promote self-regulating mechanisms for governing the network on the international and regional level. It works to achieve these goals through:

- developing network policies and generating options for further work;
- supporting the Executive Committee and International Steering Group to reach informed decisions about the structures and processes within the network, and;
- bringing the International Steering Group together to discuss current challenges both in the field and within the international arena. This further provides the opportunities to share concerns and experiences across regions;
- Strengthening regional and cross-regional networking



GPPAC International Steering Group, Regional Liaison Officers and ECCP staff

Cross-regional networking: Asia Pacific Inter-Regional Forum

On the 15th June 2007 twenty members of GPPAC Asia Pacific, representing all four of the GPPAC regions in the area, met on the Peace Boat in Da Nang, Vietnam to participate in the first ever GPPAC Asia Pacific Inter-Regional Forum to strategise on regional priorities and cross-cutting issues, and develop concrete plans to optimise inter-regional cooperation.

In Da Nang the GPPAC Asia Pacific (GPPAC AP) delegates met with over 2000 young people in a night of colour, music and a celebration of mutual commitment to peace. The following day the representatives met with civil society groups to hear about the continuing suffering caused by Agent Orange used during the Vietnam War and held a press conference. Boarding the Peace Boat, GPPAC AP set out on a journey to

map the similarities, differences and possibilities of cooperation amongst the four regions.

Some specific activities were planned including supporting a solidarity and monitoring mission to the Timor Leste elections; joining the global initiative to protect Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution; writing a joint article on the security situation in the South Pacific; developing an inter-regional historical text book to accurately reflect facts pertaining to various issues and challenges facing the region; and exploring possibilities for organizing a fact finding mission on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka.

After discussing the situation in Burma, a petition was prepared calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Aung Sun Suu Kyi. The petition was signed by 650 Peace Boat passengers, including Asia Pacific Forum members and was presented at the GPPAC Asia Pacific Multi-Stakeholder Roundtable, ASEAN at 40 years: Building Partnerships for Peace in the Asia Pacific Region, held in Singapore on the 19th June 2007. On the same day, upon arrival in the Singapore harbour a 30 meter banner was unfurled on the side of the Peace Boat, wishing Aung Sun Suu Kyi a Happy Birthday.

With the establishment of GPPAC Asia Pacific, the existing web of connections between national, regional and international parts of GPPAC's work has now been formally recognized and consolidated in Asia Pacific.



Youth Festival in Vietnam co-organised by Peace Boat

The appointment of Regional Liaison Officers (RLO's) in nine of GPPAC's regional secretariats was an important step forwards in strengthening regional networking: Organisational capacity at Regional Secretariats have in the past sometimes prevented regions from being as fully involved as they could be. The RLO's now support the regional secretariats by, among others: acting as a liaison with the Global Secretariat; solving the communication problems that sometimes occur; Participating in the GPPAC Task Forces; Acting as the liaison between the

Regional Secretariat and regional GPPAC members (primarily Regional Steering Group members); Organising meetings of the Regional Steering Group; Assisting in proposal writing and fundraising; Taking part in the GPPAC Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning programme; and assisting in reaching out to the media, politicians and representatives of governments, Regional Organisations and other international organisations.

Though the work of the International Steering Group and Executive Committee

continues throughout the year, in October 2007, they had the opportunity to meet face-to-face in Soesterberg, The Netherlands, to discuss GPPAC strategy, structure and governance, and to consolidate the plans at both the regional and global levels for 2008. The meeting also brought together all the Regional Liaison Officers who started work in their respective regions in the course of the year, to exchange experiences, and to deliberate on the various challenges and successes they had experienced.

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND SHARING

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. In these efforts, the Global Partnership has an important role to play.

The GPPAC network has engaged in a collaborative learning process to identify, collect and disseminate essential knowledge already existing with our grassroots

organisations, drawing theory from practice to develop more generally applicable lessons and sharing via the GPPAC website other key documents that organisations wish to circulate.

The Knowledge Generation and Sharing programme has focused its first pilot project on Peace Education and Conflict Resolution in Schools, and works closely in this respect with INCREPE (International Network for Conflict Resolution in Schools and Peace Education) which was conceived during Peace Education working groups at the GPPAC Global Conference in 2005.

INCREPE organised an Inter-American Summit on Conflict resolution Education and an International Policy Meeting on Conflict Resolution Education in March 2007. ECCP as GPPAC Global Secretariat was a member of the organising committee and developed several workshops for the conference.

In April, the first of a series of regional conferences on Peace Education was held in Belgrade, Serbia. The conference was a great success with close to 60 participants from NGO practitioners working on peace and conflict resolution education in the Balkans and world-wide, including other GPPAC Regional Initiations and members of INCREPE, and the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign on Peace Education, to several government representatives from the Macedonian and Serbian Ministries of and representatives from GTZ, the OAS and UNICEF.

A GPPAC Peace Education Reference Group meeting was also held in Belgrade at the time of the regional conference, where participants worked on further developing the programme. One of the decisions taken there was the undertaking of a research project focusing on documenting the evaluations done on peace education around the world, which started in the latter part of the year and will continue in 2008.

Working Group during the Belgrade Peace Education Conference



EARLY WARNING AND EARLY RESPONSE

Civil society organisations are often ideally placed to sense the subtle shifts and tremors in communities that portend the outbreak of violence. However, to date, civil society early warning and early response systems have not been successfully devised and implemented across regions. Within the Early Warning Early Response Programme, GPPAC is working on raising the level of professionalism in the field of early

warning and early response by gathering and applying lessons learned and best practices.

One of the key benefits of being part of a network such as GPPAC is obtaining access to the knowledge and experience of colleague-practitioners and other experts as well as to the results of action-oriented research. The early warning and response

programme opened with an expert meeting in spring 2006, where it was concluded that the added value of GPPAC is in mobilising and building local capacity, engaging local and international governmental and non-governmental actors in dialogue on preventive response, and extracting lessons learned and best practices, which can help to move the field forward. An issue paper "Early warning and early response: conceptual

and empirical dilemmas” was published later that year and included many of the issues that came up during conversations between participants from civil society and international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

These activities marked the start of an ongoing process of capacity-building through experience sharing between practitioners. In order to make the issue paper available it was printed and distributed widely among GPPAC contacts worldwide and translated into French in 2007.

To further support the discussion on possible roles of civil society in early warning and response the GPPAC Secretariat produced two overview articles in 2007: *“Mobilising early response to prevent violent conflict: an overview of obstacles to early response”* and *“Options for civil society engagement in regional conflict early warning and response”*.

As part of the Mobilizing Civil Society for Early Response programme of GPPAC, two cases, Togo and Venezuela, where growing tensions did not lead to open violent conflict, were further researched. In both countries elections took place that were marred by tensions. In West Africa the GPPAC regional secretariat (WANEP) took the lead in researching the capacity of civil society organisations working on conflict prevention in Togo. The key questions that are addressed in this research are: does civil society in Togo have the capacity to neutralize growing tensions; how does civil society collaborate with governmental

actors, what are the comparative advantages, challenges and constraints? In Latin America the regional secretariat (CRIES) took the lead in the research to the challenges civil society organisations working to prevent violent conflict are facing in Venezuela. One of the

key question in this research was whether civil society played a major role in preventing the conflict from becoming more violent or whether they were overwhelmed by domestic political actors and by multilateral organisations and NGOs.

In August 2007 an exchange seminar was organised by WANEP (West Africa Network for Peacebuilding) in Accra, Ghana that brought together the task force of the Early Warning and Response Programme. The aims for this meeting were to learn first hand from the experiences from WANEP with their early warning and response regional programme and to further discuss the experiences from WANEP regarding their structural cooperation with ECOWAS in this regard. Furthermore the meeting offered an unique opportunity for the GPPAC partners to share the experiences from their own regional activities with regard to early warning and response and reflect on lessons learned of civil society early warning and response activities and cooperation with governments and international organisations.



EWER exchange seminar

PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

ECCP has been investing a lot in improving its planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning system (PME&L).

Together with the GPPAC network members, it was decided that monitoring and evaluation should be done to:

- *Improve learning within the network* : M&E procedures encourage network members and the Global Secretariat to learn from each other. In addition, M&E procedures should help GPPAC members to better document their experiences so they can contribute more effectively to knowledge sharing.
- *Increase transparency and accountability*: Network members get a better idea of everybody's involvement in the achievement of GPPAC's goals and the flow of funding. Through M&E procedures, reliable information can be gathered that can be used for legitimisation of action towards all actors involved (such as target groups and donors).
- *Improve effectiveness and quality*: The outcomes of the monitoring and evaluation

process are used to improve the GPPAC programmes and track progress from activities to goals. Furthermore, it offers the possibility to integrate the experiences of the network members on the functioning of the network and track improvement over time.

- *Enhance lobby and advocacy activities*: Through making the achievements more visible it adds credibility and weight to GPPAC's lobbying and advocacy work.
- *Contribute to conflict prevention theories and mechanisms*: Through M&E procedures cases and experiences are collected through best practices, which can work towards the development of conflict prevention theories and improve the mechanisms for conflict prevention.

Based on the M&E needs of the network, the ECCP invested a considerable amount of time in searching for an M&E method that would respond to these needs, address the difficulties faced with the log frame and be applicable to a global network. After extensive research, it was decided to use outcome mapping as the basic approach for the PME&L system. Outcome mapping

is a participatory approach to planning, monitoring and evaluation developed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Canada. The ECCP adapted the method to meet the needs for GPPAC. Outcome Mapping was found useful because of its focus on learning, the use of outcomes as behavioural changes and because it is a flexible, non-linear and systemic approach.

The PME&L system is being developed in a participatory way. A Monitoring and Evaluation seminar was organised following the International Steering group Meeting in October for the GPPAC Regional Initiators and Regional Liaison Officers. During this meeting, the M&E system was further discussed and developed. Experts were invited on the first day of the seminar to present their theories on M&E within the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding and to discuss with the participants. The main focus of the seminar was on monitoring. Through participatory exercises, the participants discussed how the monitoring process could be set up within the GPPAC network.

Activities in The Netherlands

The Dutch Coalition: Celebrating the International Day of Peace



World Leaders cycle the Peace Tank around Utrecht, photo by Caroline Guldenmund

Thirteen organisations from the Netherlands endorsed the Dublin Action Agenda produced in 2004 as part of the GPPAC 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. The ECCP is on the Steering Committee of the coalition, along with the organisations Kerk en Vrede, Oxfam Novib, Platform Vredescultuur and UNOY Peacebuilders. The Secretariat is held by NEAG Alternatieven voor geweld. One of the main activities in 2007 was the second edition of the Planet Peace Festival for the International Day of Peace on 21 September. PBP-NL member IKV Pax Christi took the lead in organising the festival, supported by ECCP and others and funded by IKV Pax Christi, War Child, and Oxfam Novib.

This year's edition took place in the historical town of Utrecht. The wreckage of a car bomb from Bagdad attracted a lot of attention, as did the Peace Tank on which various "world leaders" cycled through the

centre of Utrecht. In the evening there were debates, documentaries and workshops, followed by the outdoor Planet Peace Party, which drew an audience of around five hundred mainly young people.

Peace Boat Reception in Amsterdam

On 23 July 2007 the 58th Peace Boat Global Voyage for Peace arrived at the Passengers Terminal in the harbour of Amsterdam. Peace Boat is an international non-governmental, non-profit organisation from Japan which aims to promote peace, human rights, sustainable development and respect for the environment (www.peaceboat.org). Aside from its headquarters in Tokyo the main activities of the organisation take place on a chartered passengers ship that makes peace voyages all over the world. Peace Boat is also the GPPAC Regional Secretariat for Northeast Asia.

More than seventy people packed the onboard reception, which was jointly held by Peace Boat and the ECCP as Global Secretariat of GPPAC. International Director

Emilie McGlone introduced the activities of Peace Boat and the opportunities for collaboration. Mr. Michimisa Hirata, a survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bomb, told about the devastation he had personally witnessed. Building on the speech, Jannie Kuik from the Dutch NGO IKV Pax Christi, urged everyone present to take action and make sure the tragedy will never be repeated.

Rounding off the talks, Peace Boat dance team, SPACE – Share Peace, Arts, Culture and Energy – performed a traditional Japanese Soran routine. And another of Peace Boat's guest educators, Nevenka Fiser, performed a flamenco dance, after which there was time for networking and socialising.

Financial Report

Balance sheet as at December 31, 2007 (after appropriation of the result)

	Dec. 31, 2007 €	Dec. 31, 2006 €
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets		
Automation	3.567	948
	3.567	948
Current assets		
Books in stock	20.091	27.520
Receivables		
Grants receivable	81.802	54.392
Other receivables	15.356	8.338
	97.158	62.730
Cash at bank and in hand		
Bank	863.526	396.303
Cash	217	681
	863.743	396.984
	984.559	488.182
LIABILITIES		
Equity	-93.956	-131.224
Subordinated loans	37.743	37.743
Guaranteed equity	-56.213	-93.481
Long-term liabilities		
Loan	0	20.000
Current liabilities		
Received prepayments projects	827.207	364.557
Creditors	87.567	30.742
Wage tax	14.591	15.818
Grants to be returned	8.256	9.134
Accrued liabilities	103.151	141.412
	1.040.772	561.663
	984.559	488.182

Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2007

	2007 €	2006 €
Grants and other income		
Grants received	1.607.893	1.643.650
Changes in prepayments projects	-383.816	-348.203
Grant income	1.224.077	1.295.447
Other income	23.396	16.526
Total income	1.247.473	1.311.973
Expenditure		
Expenses ECCP office costs		
Personnel expenses	600.750	572.207
Depreciation	997	10.531
Housing costs	26.474	77.035
Office expenses	36.578	49.740
Accountancy and consultancy costs	25.746	69.399
Other general costs	6.454	16.624
Total expenses ECCP office costs	696.999	795.536
Expenses project activities	514.926	583.690
Total expenditure	1.211.925	1.379.226
	35.548	-/- 67.253
Interest income	4.665	0
Interest expense and bank charges	-/- 2.945	-/- 4.123
Result	37.268	-/- 71.376



Project summary 2007			
	Grant income €	Expenses out of pocket €	Expenses organisation €
Projects summary 2007 per program			
GPPAC programs			
Awareness Raising	214.806	61.476	153.330
Interaction and Advocacy	182.948	54.873	128.075
Network and Capacity building	640.084	338.960	301.449
Knowledge Generation and Sharing	89.388	8.188	81.200
Early Warning Early Response	74.284	30.429	43.855
Totals GPPAC programs	1.201.510	493.926	707.909
Other programs			
21 September	10.254	8.687	2.025
Networking for Peace (activities not included in other programs)	12.313	12.313	0
Totals Other programs	22.567	21.000	2.025
Total	1.224.077	514.926	709.934
Projects summary 2007 per donor			
(see next page for further contract information per donor)			
Donor contracts ended 31/12/2007			
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	424.934	206.773	218.161
Austrian Development Agency (1)	-415	-415	0
Austrian Development Agency (2)	-11.088	-10.764	0
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	42.217	18.672	23.545
Linkis/Oxfam Novib	10.254	8.688	2.025
	465.902	222.954	243.731
Donor contracts outstanding 31/12/2007			
DFID United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	314.815	64.956	249.859
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	80.000	0	80.000
Irish Aid	51.565	26.565	25.000
Meyer Swantee	60.000	0	60.000
Austrian Development Agency (4)	75.576	50.451	25.125
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	176.219	150.000	26.219
	758.175	291.972	466.203
Totals	1.224.077	514.926	709.934

Auditor's Report

FLYNTH
adviseurs • accountants

The Board of Directors of Stichting
Europees Centrum voor Conflictpreventie
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Almere, 11 June 2007

Concerns: Auditor's report

Dear Mr van Tuijl,

In accordance with your instructions we have audited the extensive financial report of European Centre of Conflict Prevention, Den Haag, for the year 2007. Part of this financial report has been added to the annual report on the pages 11 and 12 of the now presented annual report 2007.

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 2007 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 11 and 12 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.

Flynth adviseurs en accountants B.V.


Drs. R. van der Velden RA

Donor List

	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07
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					
Compton Foundation					
Conflict Prevention Trust Fund					
Cordaid					
Dutch UNESCO commission					
Ford Foundation					
Fred Foundation					
Heinrich Böhl Foundation					
Kontakt der Kontinenten					
Meyer Swanteé Foundation					
Municipality of The Hague					
NCDO					
Oxfam Novib					
Optimix Foundation					
Slifka Foundation					
Taiwan Foundation					
UNDP					
US Institute for Peace					
William & Flora Hewlett Foundation					
World Vision International					

ECCP Board



A number of the ECCP Board members concluded their engagement with ECCP in 2007. We say farewell with heartfelt thanks to all outgoing Board members:

- Mr. Jan Hoekema (chairman), *Mayor of the Municipality of Wassenaar*
- Mr. Menno Witteveen (treasurer), *Managing Director of the Dutch Infrastructure Fund BV and Treasurer of the national board of the Dutch political party D66*
- Mr. Ton Waarts, *Former Director of NCDO, linked to several international networks*
- Mr. Kees Homan, *General-Major of the Marines (retired), advisor for the Netherlands Institute for International Relations Clingendael*

Remaining and new members are:

- Mr. Joris Voorhoeve, (Chairman), *Member of the Netherlands Council of State and Professor of International Organisations and International Security Studies*
- Ms. Carlijnne Buieters (Treasurer), *Director of the Turing Foundation*
- Mr. Wouter Meijer, *Former director of the World Population Foundation*
- Mrs. Bea Stolte van Empelen, *formerly with SOH (Dutch Interchurch Aid), was actively involved in several Africa related peace building activities*

Management and Staff



- Malin Brenk, *Programme Manager Knowledge Generation and Sharing and Regional Coordinator Balkans*
- Charlotte Crockett, *Project Officer Communications and Awareness Raising*
- Guido de Graaf Bierbrauwer, *Head of Programmes and Regional Coordinator Balkans, Caucasus and Western CIS (until June 2007)*
- Christine van Empel, *Interim Programme Manager Interaction and Advocacy*
- Renske Heemskerk, *Programme Manager Interaction and Advocacy*
- Lisette Hendriks, *Office Manager (as of October 2007)*
- Marte Hellema, *Programme Manager Awareness Raising and Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific, Latin America & the Caribbean*
- Kees Kolsteeg, *Manager Finance*
- Walter Krabbenborg, *Office Manager (until October 2007)*
- Kristel Maassen, *Interim Programme Manager Early Warning and Response and Regional Coordinator Middle East & North Africa and Central Asia (until August 2007)*
- Jasmin Nordien, *Programme Manager Network and Capacity Building and Regional Coordinator Africa*
- Goele Scheers, *Programme Manager Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation & Quality*
- Paul van Tongeren, *Executive Director (until August 2007) and Secretary-General of GPPAC (as of August 2007)*
- Peter van Tuijl, *Executive Director (as of August 2007)*
- Juliette Verhoeven, *Programme Manager Early Warning and Response and Regional Coordinator Middle East & North Africa and Central Asia*

GPPAC International Steering Group

Regional Secretariats

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Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa (NPI-Africa)
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Southern Africa
The African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)
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Mr. Jone Dakuvula

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Nansen Network in the Balkans
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Northern and Western Europe
European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP)
Mr. Peter van Tuijl
Email: info@conflict-prevention.net

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

Non-regional members:

- Mr. Johann Aufderklamm, International Committee of the Red Cross
- Mr. Ekkehard Forberg, World Vision International
- Ms. Heather Sonner, World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy
- Ragnar Ångeby, Folke Bernadotte Academy



www.conflict-prevention.net

Colophon

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