

ANNUAL REPORT 2006







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THE CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DIALOGUE

The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue is an independent and impartial organisation whose purpose is to reduce human suffering in war by preventing and resolving armed conflicts.

The HD Centre is active in a number of conflict resolution projects around the world, promoting and facilitating dialogue among belligerents. In support of these projects it also conducts research, analysis and facilitates dialogue in order to bring forward practical policy recommendations to improve international efforts to secure and sustain peace.

The HD Centre facilitates dialogue on challenging issues and between warring parties in order to resolve conflict. High-level, low-key dialogue among the principal actors, and stakeholders through operational projects improves opportunities for peaceful conflict resolution as well as enhancing our policy work on current and future peacemaking.

Mission statement

The HD Centre is an independent, Geneva–based foundation whose purpose is to prevent human suffering in war. Our humanitarian approach starts from the premise that preventing and resolving armed conflict is the surest means of doing so, and to this end we promote and facilitate dialogue between belligerents.

We are neutral and impartial, supporting only those solutions that offer the best prospect for a just and lasting peace, in line with international law.

Through our work, we aim to contribute to efforts to improve the global response to armed conflict. We believe that dialogue based on humanitarian principles can assist in achieving political settlements, and that the informal initiatives of a private foundation can usefully complement formal diplomacy.

We pursue our objectives with a commitment to new approaches, to learning, and to collaboration, working with others across borders, beliefs and professions.



Programme objectives

- 1) To undertake and promote action to prevent and resolve armed conflicts, in particular through tailor-made support to peace processes where our involvement adds value, including:
- facilitating discussions, including acting as a mediator where appropriate;
- ensuring that the parties are able to participate effectively in negotiations;
- mobilising humanitarian, diplomatic and/or political responses;
- contributing policy input on relevant substantive issues; and
- providing other specifically-adapted services, such as financing mechanisms and other logistical support, where the assistance of a private foundation is required.
- 2) To learn from and contribute to policy research to strengthen peace-making expertise, including through:
- sharing what we learn from our own operational engagement under (1) above through policy development and dissemination
- staying abreast of and commenting on best practice in relevant fields.

THE CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DIALOGUE

Letter from the Chairman of the Board

People sometimes ask me why we call ourselves the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. They point out that HD Centre is a conflict resolution organization and not a humanitarian agency that actively protects and assists people in war. How, they ask, does "humanitarian dialogue" differ from other attempts to resolve conflict?

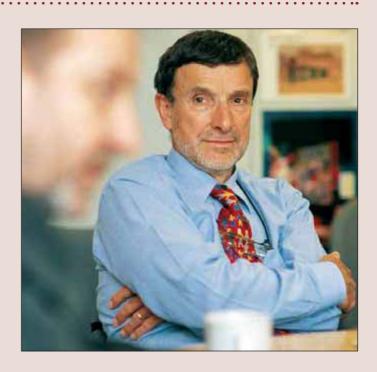
The answer is simple and important to us all at the HD Centre. We regard ourselves, our purpose, and the way we work as humanitarian for three main reasons.

First, our values as a conflict resolution organization have strong humanitarian roots. Our concern in any war is a humanitarian one – to prevent human suffering. We wish violence and suffering in any conflict to be as limited as possible and to see due respect for international humanitarian law and its concern for proportionality, restraint, and the protection of civilians.

A humanitarian dialogue is one which encourages a conversation between warring parties with this humanitarian purpose in mind and which seeks to find a way to replace violence with words in the search for peace.

Secondly, in all our mediation and conflict resolution work we hold fast to certain important humanitarian principles. We are impartial. We are only interested in the needs of a conflict and not influenced by whose conflict it is. We will meet and talk with anyone who shares a genuine desire for dialogue. Because we are neutral and take no active part in the war in which we offer our services we can advocate a dialogue which may have the power to stop that war. We are also independent and make our own choices and decisions.

Finally, many of us at HD Centre were originally humanitarian field workers. We have seen the suffering of war at first hand. In humanitarian agencies we wanted to relieve this suffering. Through a humanitarian dialogue, with the warring parties themselves, we want to stop the vio-



lence which causes this suffering and to transform it first into talks, and then into peace.

Throughout 2006, we have continued to pursue humanitarian dialogues of this kind with governments and armed groups in several long-term conflicts. From how we are received and from what have been able to achieve, we feel confident that our approach has something to offer.

Pope John Paul II said that war is "a defeat for humanity". It is in that spirit that we pursue our work. Thank you to those who have supported our efforts in 2006. I hope you will take satisfaction from the more detailed description of them in the following pages.

Sir Michael Aaronson

THE CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DIALOGUE

The Board of the HD Centre

The members of the Board of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue meet regularly in order to:

- supervise the general operations and administration of the organisation, in close cooperation with the Executive Director
- ensure that the general policy of the organisation, laid down by the Board, is implemented and, in particular, work with the Executive Director to develop projects and define the programmes of activity
- seek, in cooperation with the Executive Director, public and private support for the activities of the foundation
- prepare elections, and, in particular, to select and propose candidates.

Sir Michael Aaronson

Chairman of the Board of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue since 2001. Director General, Save the Children UK, 1995–2005. Overseas Director, Save the Children UK, 1988–1995. HM Diplomatic Service, 1972–1988. Visiting Fellow, Nuffield College, Oxford, since 2004; Governor, Westminster Foundation for Democracy, since 2001; President, EC/NGO Liaison Committee, 1996–1998.

Ernst A Brugger

President, Brugger und Partner Ltd (BHP); Member of the Executive Committee of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); Professor, University of Zurich.

Narcisa Escaler

Vice Chair of the Board of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. President, Asian Cultural Council. Deputy Director General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Geneva, 1994–1999. Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philip-



pines to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in New York, 1992–1994. Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva, 1989–1992.

Karin Jestin

Director, Foundation Strategy Group. Former Senior Adviser, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Thierry Lombard

Audit & Finance Committee Member of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. Senior Partner, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie. Former Chairman, Geneva Financial Centre Foundation. Chairman and member of several humanitarian, charitable and business boards and foundations.

Ienö Staehelin

Member of the Board of the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva; former Swiss Ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

Gerald Walzer

Audit & Finance Committee Member of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. Former Deputy High Commissioner, United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

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THE CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DIALOGUE

HD Centre expands in Singapore

Following the appointment of a representative for Asia at the end of 2004, the HD Centre has now opened an office in Singapore, moving in to the Mosque Street premises in September 2006. In the heart of the city's old Chinatown, the Centre's new Asia office has additional staff, and space, in order to expand the reach and scope of operations.

In May this year, the HD Centre organised a briefing on developments in the Palestinian territories for government officials and parliamentarians in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. The objective was to encourage closer engagement in the hope that the region's tradition of religious tolerance and peaceful conflict management will bring fresh ideas and approaches to the protracted Israeli–Palestinian conflict. Also in May, Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi attended a high-level conference on Middle East Affairs in Egypt. With Indonesia now on the UN Security Council, that government has made involvement in the Middle East peace process a high priority in foreign policy.

Apart from other ongoing confidential operational projects, the main focus of growth this year in Asia has been in the policy area. The second Asia Mediator's Retreat was held in Singapore in November 2006, and was attended by more than 30 senior policy makers and mediators from Asian governments. Former US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Richard Armitage gave a keynote speech. Substantial media coverage also highlighted the opening of the new office.

Building on the success of the Asia Mediator's Retreat, the HD Centre's Regional Representative organised missions to Beijing and Seoul to present the Centre and its work. In Beijing a proposal to hold a workshop on conflict resolution and third-party mediation was accepted, and the workshop is planned for March 2007 in cooperation with the Chinese Institute of International Studies, affili-

In addition to planning for workshops and the mediator's retreat, the [office] was able to apply more resources to existing operational projects while also keeping the HD Centre in Geneva informed of potential new areas of work.

ated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Interest is also developing in South Korea for joint policy work.

In addition to planning for workshops and the mediator's retreat, the Regional Representative, now assisted by an office manager and locally hired researcher, was able to apply more resources to existing operational projects while also keeping the HD Centre in Geneva informed of potential new areas of work.

The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre) facilitates dialogue to resolve armed conflict. Highlevel, low-key dialogue among the principal actors and stakeholders through operational projects improves opportunities for peaceful conflict resolution, as well as enhancing our range of policy work on current and future peacemaking. For example, our work includes the sharing and dissemination of learning from mediation projects.

Operational projects in 2006

The HD Centre facilitates dialogue between parties to reach agreements that reduce the humanitarian consequences of the underlying conflict, increase humanitarian security and ultimately contribute to the conflict's peaceful resolution. The Centre undertakes:

- direct mediation between the leadership of the main parties and stakeholders
- provision of expertise to facilitate all parties' effective participation in dialogue
- support for the efforts of other third-party facilitators in existing peace processes.

The HD Centre was involved in eight conflict situations around the world in 2006, but only five are outlined in this report. The remaining three must still remain confidential at the behest of the parties involved.

Nepal: supporting transition to democracy

Nepal: Key activities in 2006

Since 1996, Nepal has been badly damaged by a Maoist rebellion and a government counter-insurgency campaign. More than 13,000 people have died in hostilities between the Communist Party of Nepal – Maoist (CPN–M) and the Royal Nepal Army (RNA), with both sides accused of committing widespread human-rights abuses. Having developed into civil war, the conflict has become a three-way fight between His Majesty's Government (HMG), the seven main political parties, and the CPN–M. More recently, the Seven Political Party Alliance (SPA) and the CPN–M, under a tacit alliance, have worked together to design and promote a joint democratic strategy to restore a multi-party democracy.

Since mid-2000, the HD Centre has worked closely with HMG, CPN-M and Nepal's main political parties to facilitate



▲ Maoist spokesman Mahara shakes hands with Nepali Home Minister Sitaula before talks in Kathmandu. REUTERS/Gopal Chitrakar

talks to seek an end to the conflict. The HD Centre's focus has been to use the confidential channels of communication it has established with the leadership of CPN–M and five successive governments to create an environment conducive to negotiations, including providing the necessary logistical support and appropriate venues to enable such talks.

In April 2006, following massive pro-democracy rallies sponsored by the SPA and CPN–M in Kathmandu, King Gyanendra was stripped of all power and an interim parliament was installed. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala, the SPA and CPN–M worked diligently to craft a peace agreement. They did this through a ceasefire agreement of 26 April 2006, and in June 2006 agreed to a 25-point Code of Conduct and an 8-point understanding plotting the way forward.

After numerous meetings, the SPA and CPN–M on 21 November 2006 signed the landmark Comprehensive

www.hdcentre.org

MEDIATION IN ARMED CONFLICT

Personal View: Nepal's conflict and the HD Centre

Rajendra Dahal, Chairman, Press Council Nepal

epal's government and Maoist rebels signed a comprehensive peace agreement in November 2006, ending a ten-year civil war. This agreement paved the way for the inclusion of the rebels in mainstream politics, preparing for elections in June 2007. The success of the 2006 peace movement allowed democratic politics to re-emerge in Nepal, and there is increasing public confidence that the Maoists will not raise arms again. The Maoists, like other politicians, are aware that the public will judge them on past actions, as well as future plans. The current debate in Nepal revolves around the idea of 'future Nepal', 'new Nepal' and 'non-violent Nepal'. While it is important to think about the future of Nepal, it is equally important to understand how the violence ended instead in compromise and negotiation.

During the confusion of the middle years of the conflict, I met HD Centre representatives, in August 2000 in Kathmandu. I felt good but not confident when I heard them discuss the possibility of peace dialogue between the government and the insurgents, being influenced by the prevailing view of the only possible outcome being a 'win' for one side. Andrew shared with me the HD Centre's successful experience of bringing insurgents and the state together for dialogue in many countries. A second HD Centre mission visited Nepal in October 2000, presenting its 'Framework for Dialogue' for possible future Government–Maoist talks. When I was involved in translating that document into Nepali, I was able to see the various stages of the dialogue process and began to understand the alternative to violence.

Between August 2000 and December 2005, through its various missions to Nepal, the HD Centre worked hard to bring the government and insurgents into a dialogue framework. This effort reached the stage where face-to-face contact between the government and the Maoists seemed imminent. However, drastic changes in Nepalese power politics brought the opposition parties and the Maoists into direct contact instead. Many are unaware of the HD Centre's contribution during this period, and I strongly feel that the HD Centre played an important role in initiating a discourse of dialogue in Nepal.

When HD Centre representatives first arrived, there was no talk of meaningful dialogue and no process to follow. HD Centre representatives met almost all political actors in Nepal – from political parties, government, the Kathmandubased international community, civil-society groups and academia. Their effort was to convince stakeholders about the possibility of a peaceful solution and to discuss possible solutions to the conflict in Nepal. Many of these groups were exposed to comparative peace literature and case studies. The HD Centre highlighted the need for engagement with various conflicting parties.

Over four years, the HD Centre single-mindedly pursed the possibility of a peaceful solution to armed conflict in Nepal, using every opportunity. The Centre's involvement in Nepal generated a pool of knowledge, information and understanding on conflict here, helping many to shift from peace rhetoric into peace initiatives. This knowledge might also have immense use for post-conflict management in Nepal.

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Peace Accord to end the insurgency and hold elections to a constituent assembly, which will re-write the constitution and determine the fate of the monarchy. On 28 November 2006, the Government of Nepal signed another landmark agreement with the CPN–M and United Nations on the issue of Monitoring the Management of Arms and Armies. Both Nepalese parties declared that the politics of violence and terror in Nepal were at an end.

Throughout 2006, the HD Centre, at the request of the parties, including King Gyanendra, engaged in efforts to set up face-to-face meetings in a third country. These meetings were not achieved, because of the lack of trust between the parties coupled with extreme political instability. Nevertheless, the steady engagement of the HD Centre built high levels of trust and confidence towards the HD Centre, which became a focal point for advice and support during periods of deep concern and uncertainty. In May 2006, this relationship led to the CPN–M asking the HD Centre to act as an official observer in all subsequent official talks.



MNLF, Philippines

Joint working for peace

Following the 2005 resurgence of fighting in Sulu, Southern Philippines, between Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the HD Centre was asked by the Govern-

ment of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) to help arrange talks between the MNLF group involved in the fighting and representatives of the government to ascertain the causes of the violence and identify means of addressing it. The HD Centre convened several rounds of informal talks between representatives of the two parties.

As a result of these talks, the two parties agreed to attend tripartite talks with the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), and to establish a Peace Working Group (PWG) in Sulu to address and resolve the ongoing violence in Sulu

During 2006, the HD Centre continued to shuttle between the GRP, MNLF and OIC leadership to help convene a tripartite meeting, and has been overseeing the efforts of the Peace Working Group, which has since become a focal point of the HD Centre's work in Mindanao.

The PWG consists of 12 representatives appointed by the two parties, and includes members of the military, police, local and national government and civil society. The Group's main focus is addressing existing and potential security problems. In pursuit of their efforts, the PWG members regularly liaise with the military, police, MNLF commanders, civil society and local and national leaders. In 2006, the HD Centre and PWG members have:

- helped to negotiate an agreement between the MNLF and AFP to reduce violence
- brought in senior international dignitaries to meet with officials from both parties
- facilitated a workshop on conflict resolution
- ensured the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance by local officials in conflict-affected areas, and
- launched a new initiative to support local mediation efforts.

Although, progress has been made and more individuals and groups are now involved in trying to secure a sustainable end to the conflict in Sulu and Mindanao, much more work needs to be done. In 2007, the HD Centre will continue to encourage the two parties to discuss and finalise the implementation of the 1996 Agreement and ensure a lasting peace in Sulu.

Views from the Peace Working Group - Sulu

he Peace Working Group – Sulu (PWG) is a joint endeavour between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), facilitated by the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. It was formally established in August 2005 in the Municipality of Jolo, Province of Sulu, in the southwest of the Philippines. The PWG's objective is to get the GRP and MNLF – through respective representatives to the PWG – to work together in observing, identifying, and monitoring possible irritants to the relationship between the two sides. The overall aim is to mitigate the causes and effects of violent conflict in Sulu, and to recommend programmes for building sustainable peace.

In 2006, the Peace Working Group helped to increase stability and security in Sulu Province, as opposing sides have cooperated and worked together. In a PWG meeting of 18 November 2006, at the PWG office in Jolo, members shared what the Group has meant to them, their communities and organisations.

'The PWG has become an important venue for the GRP, MNLF, and civil society to discuss issues and to look for solutions.'

Cocoy Tulawie, Jolo Municipal Councillor, MNLF

'Government is insincere. [Sulu State Revolutionary Committee Chairman] Khaid [Ajibun] always asks about the progress of the PWG.'

Abdurahim Aradais, information officer to State Chairman Khaid Ajibun's, MNLF

'National Government can get the correct and proper information on the ground, because of the PWG.'

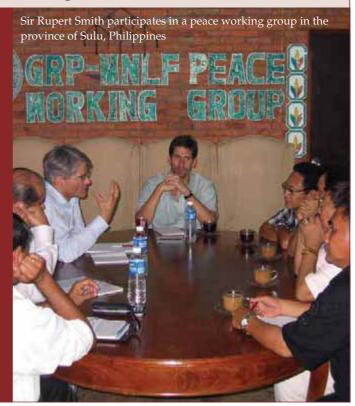
Chester Amilasan, Sulu Provincial Executive, GRP

'PWG has been working harmoniously . . . maximising, in a balanced way, a common understanding of peace, not an individual understanding of it.'

Professor Sahi Udjah, MNLF

'The PWG is a venue for continuing dialogue and documentation, [whereby] amidst the disjointed efforts [of all the various stakeholders], there are things that we, the PWG can do now for Sulu.'

Severo Catura, Government Assistant Executive Secretary, GRP



Personal View: One Sulu story

David Gorman, Mediation Advisor, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue

Then we think of Sulu, kidnapping, terrorism and rebellion often come to mind. However, as in every conflict, there is another side of Sulu that is not so well recognised. Many people here courageously work for peace and reconciliation among the warring groups. Some of these are the people we see at weekly meetings of the Peace Working Group (PWG) supported by the HD Centre, contributing ideas on how to resolve conflict in Sulu.

Their contribution does not stop at talking, however. These people also put on their boots and head out to the front lines, sometimes under fire, simply to stop the fighting. They are people from all walks of life: a military officer, a police detective, the provincial government's administrator, a doctor, a local politician, the island's only prosecuting and defence lawyers, fighters from the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and their political leaders. You won't see these people in the headlines for either terrorism or heroism, but they are the ones who are going to resolve this conflict.

In August 2006, my colleague, retired Colonel Raman Nair, and I were notified that the GRP military had sent a message to the MNLF to either evacuate their locale or allow the military to pass through, on its way to operations elsewhere. The MNLF asked us to intervene. With the PWG members in the lead, we quickly set out to the MNLF locale in the hills of Sulu to discuss the situation with MNLF Commander Khaid Ajibun. He told us that his followers would neither leave their homes nor allow the military to pass through.

With little time on our side and a military operation ready to go in less than twenty-four hours, we suggested to the MNLF, and they agreed, the proposition of an alternate route for the military that cut around the MNLF locale but would also enable the intended operation. We hustled back to Jolo to allow the MNLF members of the PWG to type up a letter for the military. On the following day, we were pleased to deliver a positive response to the MNLF that indeed the military would take the alternate route and respect the integrity of the camp.

However, the lines in the jungle are often hard to discern. While in the MNLF camp conveying the letter, we heard automatic fire from military forces closing in, soon accompanied by fire from the air. As we huddled for cover in the chaos, some in the MNLF demanded to return fire and it was here that we saw the fruits of our labour. Cooler heads prevailed and Commander Ajibun ordered his fighters not to engage. The firing ended after an hour and both parties eventually agreed that it had been due to lack of clarity on the borders. From that moment, despite operations around the MNLF locale, no military or MNLF personnel have since exchanged fire.

The members of the Peace Working Group prevented what is now labelled a 'misunderstanding' from degenerating into a full-scale battle. Those involved are rarely noticed for preventing a conflict and few get to witness what happens behind the scenes. This was just one small event in Sulu.



NDF, Philippines

One strand of cooperation within conflict

In early 2004, formal peace talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF)/Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) resumed under the auspices of the Royal Norwegian Government (RNG). Although, the talks are now at an impasse, the HD Centre, in its role as adviser to the RNG, continues to provide support to the RNG to help resume the peace process.

The HD Centre also helps to administer the GRP–NDF Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC). Established in June 2004, the JMC is responsible for receiving and processing complaints of violations of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL), signed by the two parties in 1998. Members of the public are encouraged to submit complaints to the JMC, which then passes them on to the respective leaderships of the two parties for investigation and action.

Unfortunately, during the last year, fighting between the two parties has increased significantly, as has the number

of human-rights abuses in the Philippines. In November 2006, the HD Centre conducted an assessment of the JMC and, with the RNG, the two parties agreed to step up their efforts to report on and jointly respond to the increase in human-rights abuses.

Although the wider talks have yet to resume, the JMC continues to be a rare bright spot in an otherwise discouraging situation. The GRP and the NDF continue to cooperate with each other to ensure the functioning of the JMC, and it continues to operate and regularly receive reports from the public on violations of the CARHRIHL. For its part, the HD Centre has continued to provide support to the members of the JMC in carrying out their tasks. It continues to work to ensure that the GRP and NDF representatives work together as a team, and encourages them to follow up with investigations.



Myanmar

Maintaining focus on reconciliation

This was a very challenging year for all those seeking to support Myanmar in its quest for peace and good governance. There was little movement in the political landscape, despite mounting international concern at

the deterioration in the situation. The government prioritised its own constitution-drafting process, from which the democratic opposition and many key ethnic groups are excluded. The acceleration of the armed conflict in the northern Karen state resulted in more displacement on the Thai border, when an increased number of refugees are already being resettled abroad.

During 2006 the UN renewed its efforts to re-establish contacts with representatives of the main parties in Myanmar. Following meetings with the government leadership in May and November, the UN Under-Secretary General

for Political Affairs was given permission to meet with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy opposition party. Despite an appeal from the UN Secretary-General in May, however, she remained under house arrest.



Geneva Initiative

Working for peace in the Middle East The Geneva Initiative (GI) is a detailed plan for a comprehensive peace settlement between the two parties to the long-standing conflict in the Middle East. The Swiss Government facilitated the negotiations leading to the launch

of the Initiative on 1 December 2003. Soon after, Israeli and Palestinian coalitions (the parties) began public campaigns to promote the principles and provisions of the agreement.

The Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) approached the HD Centre in order to establish the Geneva Initiative Committee (GIC). This group of five individuals nominated by the HD Centre and the DFA was entrusted with the task of supporting the parties in the promotion of the Initiative, establishing a mechanism for the raising and channelling of funds, monitoring the activities and providing programme support.

The shifting context in which the GI operated during 2006 was strongly influenced by the aftermath of the August 2005 Gaza Disengagement and by both the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli elections, resulting in two new leaderships. The victory of Hamas in the Palestinian legislative elections had major ramifications and constituted a challenge for all who supported the two-state solution and a negotiated settlement, including the GI.

On the Israeli side, the newly elected government soon put on hold the convergence plan calling for a unilateral withdrawal from the West Bank. The complications wit-

nessed in Gaza, the renewed violence and, in the summer, the war in Lebanon, further damaged relations between Israelis and Palestinians, challenging the work of the GI. The operational environment became even more demanding than in 2005, particularly on the Palestinian side with further deterioration in the humanitarian situation.

The supporting structure in Switzerland, the GIC, was reconsidered this year, in the light of the parties' achievements. The GIC and the HD Centre were instrumental in

supporting the parties with international management and accounting. The increasing direct support given by governmental donors to the parties and the successful completion of audits in 2004, 2005 and 2006 demonstrated the self-sufficiency achieved, and the international support gained by the parties over the two-and-a-half years of the GIC. While the Geneva Initiative will continue, the GIC was dissolved in 2006, and it was decided to discontinue the engagement of the HD Centre.

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Policy overview 2006

The Centre for Humanitarian dialogue (HD Centre) carries out policy research and analysis, to provide substantive advice and guidance for representatives of the HD Centre engaged in conflict resolution. An equally important objective is to identify policy recommendations for members of the wider conflict-resolution community, including both those directly engaged in peace processes and those who indirectly influence them. In doing this, we draw on our own experience in peacemaking and peacebuilding activities.

Our work is clustered around four themes:

- 1 **civilian protection,** including questions of civilian identity and monitoring, and aiming to improve the integration of humanitarian concerns in peacemaking
- 2 arms and security issues, including global small-armscontrol policy and disarmament in peace processes
- 3 **conflict mediation,** aimed at improving the skills of those who convene warring parties, and the capacity of those parties to engage effectively in peace processes
- 4 **justice and peacebuilding,** focused on improving the treatment of justice in peace processes, and in the implementation of agreements.

Highlights of policy work this year include work for the UN Review Conference on small arms, and the publication of *Proactive Presence*, the third handbook in our series on civilian protection. *Kings of Peace, Pawns of War*, on the role of mediators, was launched in Geneva and New York, and an annual Mediators' Retreat – now called the Oslo Forum – brought 70 participants together for the largest ever gathering of senior conflict mediators. The second Asia mediators' retreat took place in Singapore in November, and was distinguished by the participation of several parties to ongoing mediations and negotiations in the region.

Sharing mediation experiences

The Oslo Forum series of retreats

The strengthening of the HD Centre's network of senior conflict mediators has been a key focus this year. The fourth and most ambitious Mediators' Retreat took place in Oslo, and the second Asian Mediators' Retreat was held in Singapore, while preparations progressed for the first African Mediators' Retreat, to be held in Zanzibar in 2007. This series of Retreats is collectively called the Oslo Forum, led jointly by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, and aiming to improve practice in conflict mediation, and to enhance the reputation and status of conflict mediation as a profession.

The Oslo Forum offers a unique opportunity for practising senior mediators and other key actors in peace processes to share their experiences in an informal and confidential setting. The Retreats do not seek to generate specific recommendations or conclusions, but aim to stimulate debate and critically examine current practice. Through this exchange and debate, the Oslo Forum hopes to contribute to the professional development of current and future conflict mediators. As far as possible, materials prepared for or emerging from the gatherings is made available to a wider audience, especially through the dedicated website, www.osloforum.org, launched in 2006.

Oslo Forum meeting 2006

The annual gathering of senior conflict-mediation practitioners in Oslo at the end of June is the centrepiece of the Oslo Forum series of events. The Forum's 60 participants were divided in two groups: senior conflict mediators and key peace-process actors, who may be contributing to mediation efforts as members of mediation-support teams or through policy advice. The two groups attended sessions of various formats either jointly or in parallel. Guest speakers included:

- Gerry Adams, President of Sinn Féin, who spoke about the political transformation of armed groups
- Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, who discussed the impact indictments may or may not have on peace processes, and
- Javier Solana, High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and Secretary General of the Council of the European Union.

Each participant received a briefing pack with background papers on issues such as the role of religion in conflict, the political transformation of armed groups, and the role of civil society in peace processes. Feedback from participants suggests that informal exchanges and consultations conducted at the Retreat were extremely useful to their ongoing projects as well as to planned future activities.

Key themes from the Oslo Forum meeting 2006

Does peace require order or justice first? The Forum debated the broad model of the liberal, democratic society that is seen as the overall aim of mediation efforts. Some participants argued that peace agreements have generally become too comprehensive, aiming for a perfect 'liberal' peace, which might not be realistic.

Do criminal indictments help or hinder peace talks? The discussion on the scope and ingredients of peace agreements was closely linked to questions of justice and human-rights protection in mediation. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) consulted with mediators on the interplay of conflict mediation and the ICC's mandate and work. He resisted the argument that the ICC may harm attempts to arrive at peace, pointing out that the Prosecutor has to take account of the pace of peace negotiations. Additionally, he argued that in some cases indictments might provide an incentive to the parties to engage seriously in mediation efforts.

How can warring parties adapt for peace? While external actors and mediators often play a pivotal role in reaching an agreement, the responsibility to see it through rests largely with the parties to a conflict, and depends on their willingness or capacity to change. The greatest challenge identified in this regard was the management of internal constituencies within belligerent parties. Gerry Adams presented an analysis of the experience of Sinn Féin, for example.

What makes peace talks work, or not? In order to illustrate the difficulties in reaching compromise a simulation was set up to debate the pros and cons of the May 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement. The capacity of negotiating parties, particularly the availability of military expertise and advice, was felt to be crucial in determining the outcome of peace talks. So also was the realisation that parties frequently change their goalposts and may become fragmented during negotiations. Another key factor identified was the pace of negotiations and imposed timeframes.

Does the Oslo Forum improve mediation? To date there has been no systematic approach to the preparation of mediators in any major institution, including large and small governments, NGOs, and the UN. There is little consensus on what makes a good mediator and what skills can be taught or depend on experience. Participants agreed, however, that the right environment and encouragement could cultivate the required attitudes through modelling and one-on-one contacts such as those taking place at the Oslo Forum.

Asia Mediators' Retreat 2006

The second Asia Mediators' Retreat took place in Singapore in November 2006. Organised by the HD Centre with the support of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and drawing on a strong regional partner, the



Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), the meeting attracted over 30 senior mediators and representatives of conflict parties from South and Southeast Asia, and focused on practical experiences and discussions about current peace processes and peace-building efforts, notably in Aceh, the Philippines and Myanmar.

The meeting also addressed key issues relevant across processes, such as the importance of sustained efforts to ensure the implementation of agreements, the role of the International Criminal Court (ICC), and the particular

challenges of negotiating autonomy agreements. A briefing pack containing six background papers was distributed in advance to inform and stimulate debate.

High-level guest speakers included Ambassador Richard Armitage, Former United States Deputy Secretary of State, who shared his perspective on the role of big-power politics in the region, and Ong Keng Yong, Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretary General, who provided a vision for the improvement of ASEAN as a regional conflict-resolution mechanism.

Key themes from the Asia Retreat 2006

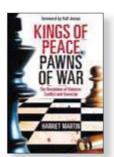
The second Asia Mediators' Retreat aimed to encourage and foster the creation, growth and sophistication of a network of people currently active in mediation efforts in Asia, as well as to facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons within this network. While a core group of previous participants returned, the variety of perspectives represented at the event was enhanced by an increased presence of those representing parties at the negotiating table.

The 2006 Asian Mediators' Retreat examined challenges and opportunities in specific mediation efforts, in particular in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Myanmar as examples of possible limits to international mediation, and Aceh as an example of the importance of attention to the implementation of agreements.

When are mediators needed? Identifying the conditions under which third-party mediators are likely to enter peace processes and to contribute positively was of great interest to the participants. They recognised that parties to a conflict are often reluctant to accept third-party mediation. Governments especially prefer to rely on their own resources, seeing the use of external facilitators or mediators as a sign of failure or lack of resources. In addition, parties to a conflict do not always recognise mediation as appropriate. In Thailand, for instance, injustice and marginalisation are seen as the root cause of violence in the country's south, and efforts to remedy past injustice and to adopt better socio-economic policies are considered more appropriate than a formal mediation effort with the rebel groups.

There are also cases in which both governments and rebel groups recognise the benefits of and seek international mediation. Participants acknowledged that the Indonesian government not only welcomed the benefits of favourable international public opinion, but it also understood the necessity of dialogue with the Free Aceh Movement (GAM)

and the advantage of international assistance in managing that process.



Kings of Peace, Pawns of War In autumn 2006, the HD Centre held a series of lectures and public debates intended to improve understanding of mediation and the practice of conflict resolution. In connection with the HD Centre's recently published book, *Kings*

of Peace, Pawns of War: the Untold Story

of Peacemaking (Continuum, June 2006),

author Harriet Martin was invited to speak across the United Kingdom to share her stories and perspectives on mediation. She gave interviews on BBC Radio, and spoke at Oxford University, Bradford University and the London School of Economics. These talks focused on the role of a mediator and highlighted the many challenges and opportunities in bringing about peace. The lectures and media events were all based on research presented in the book.

Launched in Geneva in June 2006, Kings of Peace is based on interviews with six leading conflict mediators, including Lakhdar Brahimi, Alvaro de Soto and Lazaro Sumbeiywo. A concluding chapter contributed by the HD Centre reflects on the relationship between the findings and analysis of this in-depth and personal interview process and the existing body of theory on conflict resolution. A formal launch of the book also took place in September 2006 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, with special guest Alvaro de Soto, Special Coordinator of the Middle East Peace Process. In addition to her participation in media events and academic meetings, the author has also been invited to address a number of policy think-tanks and meetings of government ambassadors and officials, to share insights and understandings of conflict mediation and peace processes gained through the research for the book.

Gender and mediation



▲ Betty Bigombe Former Ugandan Chief Mediator

ix years have passed since the signing of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women. Peace and Security. However, the situation of women in conflict, and the gender dimension of conflict mediation, remains without marked improvement. The HD Centre's expertise and networks place us in a strong position to help to reduce the exclusion of women from the management of peace processes.

We believe that a greater female presence around peace tables, both as parties and as conflict mediators, would make a positive, practical contribution to the quality and sustainability of peace agreements. Thus, we continue to track the representation of women around the peace table, and particularly as third-party mediators. Betty Bigombe, mediating between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army, remains one of the few women to have led such a mediation process.

Following up on our widely disseminated Opinion publication of 2005, *We the Women: Why Conflict Mediation is Not Just a Job for Men*, the HD Centre in 2006 consulted with a range of key UN and government actors in New York to determine practical next steps, and to influence decision-makers to increase the number of women recruited for senior positions in peacemaking.

The response of the HD Centre has been to build a resource of potential senior women mediators using peer nominations at gatherings of senior mediators, such as the Oslo Forum of June 2006, the Asian and African Mediators' Retreats, and our own research. Institutions like the UN have already asked to use this resource to help them reach beyond their usual networks for recruitment.

In 2007, the HD Centre will continue work on identifying women mediators, documenting positive examples of women's participation and gendered approaches in peace-making, and using this information to influence decision-makers across the spectrum of institutions involved in conflict mediation.

A snapshot of women in mediation, 2006

- 20 Special Envoys from the European Union: o women
- 95 Envoys from the United Nations: 6 women
- Envoys from the African Union: o women

Small arms and disarmament

Overview of work on small arms

The HD Centre began 2006 with preparations for first Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms. Following a UN preparatory meeting in January, we produced an Overview of Governmental Statements highlighting our focus issues, including guns in civilian hands, gender and assistance to survivors of gun violence, presented in a number of side events, and installed a photographic exhibition at the UN to coincide with the meeting in June 2006. We also participated in nu-



merous civil-society and governmental consultations.

In March, the HD Centre provided a briefing at the first ever Arria formula meeting of the UN Security Council. The focus, 'Peace agreements, DDR and weapons control: Challenges and opportunities' was drawn from our project, Negotiating Disarmament. A

briefing paper derived from that project, *Civilians, Guns and Peace Processes: Challenges and Opportunities*, was also produced and widely distributed. Other publications





released during 2006 include an analysis of the 2005 meeting of the First Committee, the UN General Assembly body dealing specifically with disarmament issues, and briefing papers for government officials on a range of themes.

We also continued work on assistance to survivors of armed violence,

which formed the theme of the March edition of the *Small Arms and Human Security Bulletin*, now available in five languages. In April we participated in the 8th World Injury Prevention Conference in South Africa, where a consultation was convened on the issue of survivors. In addition short studies were generated on the needs and rights of survivors from El Salvador and Burundi, as well as an overview of the psychological impacts of gun violence.

Men and Guns exhibition

Illustrating men's diverse relationships with armed violence, 'Men and Guns' includes 16 compelling portraits with narratives of men and boys from the Democratic Republic of Congo, southern Sudan, Guatemala, El Salvador and Colombia, as well as of diplomats from Geneva and New York. This exhibition highlights men and boys as survivors and victims of gun violence and the lack of



control of the arms trade; it shows men both as perpetrators of armed violence, and also as agents of change, activists, advocates and government officials, working in various ways to reduce gun violence.

A policy brief, *Hitting the Target: Men and Guns*, was produced in English and

Spanish to provide further information. It includes analysis, policy recommendations and issues for further research. The photographic exhibition was developed with support from the Government of the Netherlands, and first installed at the UN in New York in June 2006. It was also displayed in The Hague as part of a conference on 'Reconstruction and Misconstruction' in October 2006, and is available for future installation by external organisations.

UN Review Conference on Small Arms

In 2001 governments gathered to commit for the first time to a global Programme of Action to control aspects of the trade in small arms and light weapons, and 2006 saw the first review of this programme. The 2006 Review Conference was an attempt to identify areas where more effort is required in the years ahead to make a greater impact on the complex challenge of reducing weapons availability and misuse.

The HD Centre has been an active participant in this process. In preparation for the Review Conference, a vision for future action was outlined in our 2005 publication *Missing Pieces: Directions for Reducing Gun Violence through the UN Process on Small Arms Control.* This 'blueprint for action' provided the basis for an intense year of advocacy aimed at shifting governmental policy and priorities. Key topics included controlling weapons in nations recovering from war, and assistance to survivors of armed violence.

Regrettably, the UN Review Conference failed to agree a formal outcome document to chart clear direction in the years ahead. This presents a challenge for the international community as it tries to find ways in which to advance progress at national, regional and global levels. The HD Centre remains committed to bringing policy and research suggestions to this process.

The World Health Organisation states: 'thousands of people are killed each year by those weapons, [and] millions more survive their injuries but are left with permanent physical disabilities and mental health problems'.* The needs of survivors of armed violence are particularly acute in nations in transition from war. Much can be done to include holistic attention and references in peace processes and agreements.

*Source: World Health Organisation (2001) Statement for the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects. Delivered 13 July 2001 by Dr Etienne Krug.

Negotiating disarmament

In November 2006, the HD Centre published *Civilians*, *Guns and Peace Processes: Approaches and Possibilities*. This is the first in a series of briefing papers to be released as part of the Negotiating Disarmament project. This paper provides an overview on the issue of guns in civilian hands, to all those actively engaged in peace processes – armed groups, mediators, government officials, donors and international organisations. It looks beyond DDR programmes to provide an analysis of the links between official disarmament efforts, violence-prevention initiatives and 'second wave' weapons-control processes in nations in transition from war and violent conflict. The publication is available in English, French and Spanish.

Civilian protection: overview

The HD Centre launched its third good-practice manual on civilian protection, *Proactive Presence*, in Geneva on 27 September 2006. Following previous HD Centre manuals on humanitarian negotiation and humanitarian protection, *Proactive Presence* focuses specifically on how the physical



presence of international and national personnel in a variety of humanitarian, human-rights and peacekeeping missions can be used to deter and inhibit attacks against civilians.

The manual is based on an 18-month study of nine different international field missions. The key messages are:

- Unarmed presence, if employed thoughtfully and strategically, can deter perpetrators of violence and support local protection efforts to prevent attacks on civilians.
- Presence is not just 'being there' but is the proactive and coordinated use of well-informed and carefully chosen strategies, including conscious visibility, targeted presence, encouragement, sustained diplomacy, empowerment and public advocacy to influence anti-civilian actors on the ground.
- Presence is not a panacea. It obviously has its limits and is only one approach to providing protection.

These main messages are now being communicated and applied in a series of high-level briefings, field assessments and staff trainings for United Nations agencies, donor governments and NGOs.

The HD Centre's three pioneering manuals on civilian protection (*Humanitarian Negotiation*, *Protection and Proactive Presence*) are now widely recognised throughout the humanitarian and human-rights communities. All three manuals are the core texts of the United Nation's capacity-building initiative on protection (PROCAP) and are also being widely used as UN and NGO agencies produce their own in-house training and procedures on protection. In a relatively short period, the HD Centre has produced a highly influential body of practical thinking on different aspects of civilian protection which has accelerated international discussion on the subject, and significantly informed practice in the field.

Personal View: Civilians under attack

t Peter's Lutheran Church in Monrovia, Liberia, has a full house on Sundays. Both of its morning services are crammed with people and bursting with song. Only if you look carefully at the windows would you notice the bullet holes. Only if you had been told, would you know that that there is a mass grave under the children's basketball court beside the church. Early one morning in July 1990, some 650 men, women and children were massacred in St Peter's in the Liberian civil war – ordinary people seeking refuge from the killing on the streets.

Sitting on a speeding bus between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem is an exciting taste of everyday life in Israel. But the experience has an edge to it now. Everyone on board knows that buses have been frequent targets for suicide bombers.

A school in the West Bank looks much like any school until you are shown the classroom from which Israeli soldiers returned fire into a Palestinian demonstration, killing an unarmed teenage boy.

Driving around the roads of Northern Uganda is a fast learning curve on the misery and confinement of displaced people forced from their land by a vicious civil war. Along these red dirt roads, hundreds of thousands of people live as impoverished exiles within their own country.

All these people in their churches, on their buses, in their schools and in their camps are civilians. They are meant to be protected in war. But usually they are not. In wars past and present, warring parties have routinely decided to reject the label of civilian identity and call everyone an enemy. Some may not have rejected the idea outright, but have simply decided that their urgent need to win in war requires them to kill or hurt civilians in certain situations.

Civilian identity and protection are highly valued in international political consciousness today – perhaps more so than ever before. International law on civilian protection is more developed and ratified than it has ever been. But the actual business of protecting civilians in war remains extremely difficult. International calls for civilian protection do not automatically bring about protection when warring leaders have firmly decided to reject or compromise the principle.

This is why the HD Centre has spent the last two years examining the logic behind civilian suffering in war, and the range of anti-civilian ideologies that reject the principle of civilian protection. Uncovering and understanding why people decide to kill civilians is where dialogue on the subject has to start.

'Killing Civilians: Method, Madness and Morality in War' will be published by Hurst and Co in September 2007. Funding for this research was provided by the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including field visits to Liberia, Israel, the Palestinian Territories and Northern Uganda.

Justice in peace processes: overview

The HD Centre's justice project focuses increasingly on areas identified by conflict mediators as problematic or in need of specific research. The project 'Sanctions on Armed Groups' thus explores the potential impact of international

and national terrorist designation on mediation and peace processes. An overview of different lists and their consequences was disseminated at the Oslo Forum in June 2006. We facilitated a discussion between mediators and the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC),

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POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

Mr Luis Moreno Ocampo, who made a presentation to the Oslo Forum in June. An ICC staff member also addressed the Singapore retreat in November.

To address the broader spectrum of justice issues in peace processes, the project 'Negotiating Justice' was developed in 2005 and launched in 2006. It aims to provide practical policy guidance to mediators and other peace-process actors on how to tackle justice issues during the negotiations and in the implementation of peace agreements. We

have conducted a comprehensive mapping of the inclusion of different justice elements in peace agreements between 1980 and 2006, pointing both to the prevalence of various elements and to linkages between them. On the basis of field studies, the project will also examine how issues such as impunity, human rights, and justice-sector reform were handled in specific processes. During 2006, such field studies were conducted in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Burundi. Thematic and field research will continue in 2007.

Personal View: Liberia peace talks

ccra, Ghana, 4 June 2003. The ceremony was starting over an hour late. Some in the hall didn't know why, but it was clear that others must know. After a brief opening ceremony, welcoming the opportunity to talk peace, President Charles Taylor was invited to the microphone. The rebel representatives walked out: Taylor was not on the agenda to speak, and this was unwelcome.

'Some people believe that Taylor is the problem', Taylor said. 'If President Taylor removes himself from Liberia – will that bring peace? If so, I will remove myself.' As Taylor was speaking, CNN was already announcing that he had been indicted by the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Within a few hours, Taylor was his way back home to Liberia.

With that, the nature of the talks changed. Few people had expected them to be productive, and no one expected them to last more than two weeks. With the departure of the President, the talks became a drawn-out process of 76 days, concluding in a transitional government and an agreement for significant institutional reforms, a human-rights inquiry, massive disarmament and demobilisation, and a plan for national elections in two years. And an early agreement that Charles Taylor would leave the presidency almost immediately.

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he Liberia talks also stand out for the great number of women who were on the perimeter of the talks, including women's organisations from Monrovia and many women who came from a Liberian refugee camp nearby. After working to reach out to engage women in the refugee camp, women's groups organised daily transport for women from the camp. On each day there were between 150 and 200 refugee women at the M Plaza hotel where the talks were being held. Women activists also sought out family members of the rebel leaders, including the mother of one, to attend the talks to make a personal plea to stop the shelling of Monrovia. The civil-society and refugee women pushed hard for a rapid end to the war. They were in regular touch with Monrovia. 'We would make calls to frantic relatives and friends, which would make us even more alarmed', one recounted. 'You phoned someone and could hear shooting, missiles, screams: "They're shooting, we're on the floor, they're all around us!" they would say.'

Source: From the HD Centre's case study of justice issues in the Liberia Peace Process prepared by Priscilla Hayner of International Center for Transitional Justice.

DIALOGUE AND EVENTS

A forum for dialogue

Since 1999, the HD Centre has provided a forum for dialogue, organising events on pressing humanitarian issues and conflict resolution, while also hosting meetings and conferences for other organisations.

Based in the 18th-century Villa Plantamour on the shores of Lake Léman in Geneva, the HD Centre has three meeting rooms regularly made available to the humanitarian and conflict-resolution communities.

The HD Centre also encourages and promotes dialogue and debate on challenging issues by sharing its own experience, and its learning from the experience of others. This includes the regular organisation of meetings, conferences, panel discussions and retreats.

In 2006, the HD Centre hosted more than 70 external meetings involving United Nations agencies and the Red Cross Movement, non-governmental organisations such as Médecins Sans Frontières, International Bridges to Justice, and the Norwegian Refugee Council, as well as Swiss organisations such as the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. Overall, more than 25 different organisations used the HD Centre's venue in 2006.

The HD Centre also encourages and promotes dialogue and debate on challenging issues by sharing its own experience, and its learning from the experience of others.

As well as the events already mentioned, the HD Centre held the following meetings:

Commerce, Crime and Conflict: report launch, September 2006

Commerce, Crime and Conflict: Legal Remedies for Private Sector Liability for Grave Breaches of International Law is a report of the FAFO Institute for Applied International Studies, supported by the HD Centre, and launched on 6 September 2006 in Geneva. The report was presented to representatives of the diplomatic and humanitarian communities, in the presence of Mr John Ruggie, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General.

Exchange for Peace: introducing the HD Centre, October 2006

For the second year running, the HD Centre welcomed 30 young people from nine conflict-affected countries, all engaged in peace work in their respective regions. As part of their two-week programme with the Swiss-based organisation Exchange for Peace, they visited the HD Centre for half a day, and were introduced to the organisation, and to the theories of conflict resolution.

Exchange for Peace supports young leaders in their efforts to work for a positive future in countries affected by conflict. It offers training courses, an opportunity to meet and access to a network to facilitate effective engagement for peace.

Peace in Northern Uganda: presentation by Betty Bigombe, December 2006

The HD Centre welcomed Former Ugandan Chief Mediator Ms Betty Bigombe, on 14 December 2006, for a panel discussion on the prospects for peace in Northern Uganda. Ms Bigombe facilitated peace talks with the Lord's Resist-

DIALOGUE AND EVENTS



ance Army (LRA) between 1992 and 1994, while she was a cabinet Minister in Uganda. She re-initiated talks between the Ugandan Government and the LRA rebels, as an independent initiative, in 2004–2006.

In the presence of some 30 guests, representing the Geneva-based diplomatic and humanitarian communities, Ms Bigombe spoke of lessons learnt from her work.

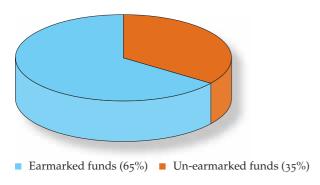
This included aspects of being a woman mediator, but also covered prospects for the current peace process, and deep nationwide challenges for reconciliation in Uganda.

For more information on the HD Centre's past and forthcoming events, or on its venue, please visit our website: http://www.hdcentre.org. ■

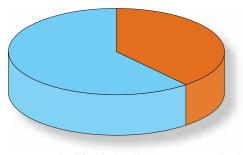
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The HD Centre has had a steady financial growth since its launch in 1999 at an average of CHF 1.8m per year. In 2006, the HD Centre received an overall contribution of CHF 13,861,996; Of which 9,057,395 (65%) consisted of earmarked funds, that is those that are raised for and to be spent on identified project activities. Norway contributed approximately 73% of these earmarked funds followed by Switzerland, Sweden and Canada with 12%, 6% and 6% respectively and CHF 4,804,601 (35%) was raised as un-earmarked funds.

Income 2006: Category of funds



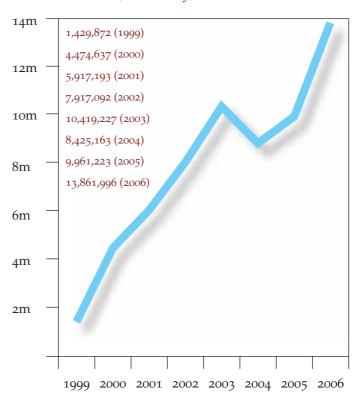
Income 2005: Category of funds



■ Earmarked funds (61%) ■ Un-earmarked funds (39%)

Un-earmarked funds are contributed to the organisation for it to disburse as it sees fit. These funds are important in maintaining the organisation's independence from donor driven demands and yet allow the organisation to respond quickly to changing circumstances, to launch assessments as the need arises and participate in projects that may otherwise not receive the attention they deserve. DFID contributed approximately 29% of the unearmarked funds followed by Switzerland, Sweden, UASID, and Norway with 28%, 20%, 12% and 9% respectively.

Income over time, in Swiss francs (CHF)



FINANCIAL Statement

The Government of Norway contributed the largest amount to the HD Centre in 2006, with Governments providing 96% of the total income. Long-term efforts are under way to increase the number and diversification of sources providing financial support, such as Foundations.

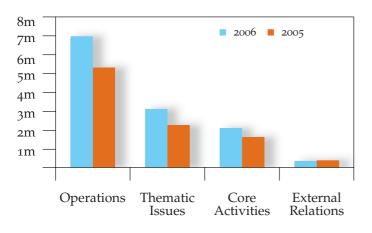
Financial Contributions for the FY 2006 were received from the following donors:

- Government & Bilateral Agencies: Norway, Switzerland, DFID / UK), Denmark, Sweden, Ireland, Canada, USAID, Netherlands
- International Organisations: ICRC, OCHA, MacArthur Foundation
- Others: City of Geneva

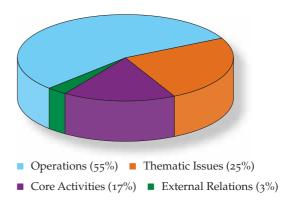
Expenses

The HD Centre's total expenses in 2006 amounted to CHF 12,549,605 with an increase of 31%, when compared with FY 2005.

Expenses: 2006 versus 2005, in Swiss francs (CHF)



2006 expenses by programmes



In 2006, 83% of the expenses were incurred on programmes (Operations, Thematic Issues and External Relations with 55%, 25% and 3% respectively) and 17% on Core Activities (General Operating Costs).

The independently audited financial report for 2006 is available up on request. ■