



**WORLD
FEDERALIST
MOVEMENT**

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TO: Bill Pace, Lenore Hickey
FROM: Jayne Stoyles
DATE: February 5, 2003
RE: Outcome of Individual Meetings on R2P

Hi Bill and Lenore,

The following is a summary of some of the key outcomes of individual meetings we had on the Preventing Conflict/Protecting Civilians project with New York-based groups both during the Porto Alegre meeting from Jan. 24-27 and during my two days in New York afterwards. Also, at the end are my notes from the 'debriefing' Bill and I did in the airport on the way home from Porto Alegre.

Rory Mungoven, Human Rights Watch (during the Porto Alegre meeting)

In attendance: Jayne Stoyles, Rory Mungoven

Input and ideas on a potential R2P network:

- HRW is interested in working closely on 'operationalizing' the concept of the Responsibility to Protect (note that HRW participated as co-chair with WFM and CARE of the New York NGO consultation meeting on R2P in November 2002)
- HRW has developed its own principles for military intervention and is willing to call for such intervention when these benchmarks have been met
- HRW is of course also working in every region and would be interested in connecting its researchers and regional contacts with a group focusing on advocacy at the UN
- focusing on the UN, with an emphasis on the Security Council, is the best approach for a possible network, and even this will be an extremely large task
- there are two possible models for the network: country-specific or issue-specific, but need to note that children's issues and women's issues already have networks
- may want to pick a country situation and start to bring groups together to see what kinds of responses they would call for from the UN
- would need to ensure that organizations had the freedom to participate without being required to take positions on every issue
- in terms of how the network would function, a relevant model is the Watch List on Children and Armed Conflict: a few organizations that form the coordinating committee put their names on the work, but they have the support of 'participating organizations' as well; they produce country briefings focusing on children's issues, and monitor the output of the Council with respect to children's concerns

Input and ideas on a potential R2P network:

- can see two levels: the conceptual level (ie. strengthening the UN as an institution) and the advocacy level
- it would be useful to have a network that could pull together the various groups and force the Security Council and Member States to take responsibility for fulfilling their commitments, pulling together common principles for the participating organizations without requiring consensus on many issues
- could delve into alternative ways to prevent and resolve conflict, carve out what we are able to do
- some research, for eg. of trends in international peace and security, would be useful, as well as looking at lessons learned from previous processes
- a sort of portal is needed like a database, with lists of who is doing what, updates, publication lists, etc. that could be provided to the member organizations
- training and capacity building is needed, or at least centralizing information about what training is available from different institutions and organizations (by issue, for eg. gender)
- general comment: there needs to be organizing for social change so civil society is empowering themselves on their own, through institutions, and documentation

Other relevant contacts and initiatives:

- conceptually, there are new trends in the area of peace and security, for eg. the Windhoek declaration - could assess these activities and look for lessons learned
- Carol Cohen from Wellesley University in Boston, who has worked on women, peace, and security and consulted with the Ford Foundation

Jim Paul, Global Policy Forum (GPF)

In attendance: William Pace, Jayne Stoyles, Lenore Hickey, Jim Paul

** Also see more comprehensive notes by Lenore Hickey

Background information:

- GPF “monitors global policy making at the United Nations and promotes a more open, accountable and democratic policy process at the global level”
- GPF has long-standing experience in following the actions of the Security Council, is the key organizer of the NGO Security Council Working Group and maintains a web site containing the most in-depth research, latest documents, papers, press releases and articles relating to the Security Council
- as for most other NGOs, GPF has a challenge of finding financial resources, and also has little work space; much more work could be done if these issues were addressed
- the Security Council retreat was mentioned, where the findings of the ICISS Report were discussed; apparently there was no planning for follow-up
- most NGOs focusing on advocacy at the UN work on a region or country-specific basis, such as Israel, Iraq, Palestine, and then sometimes on issues such as sanctions or gender issues (eg. the “Res 1325” working group)

Meg Gardinier, Hague Appeal for Peace

In attendance: Jayne Stoyles, Meg Gardinier

** note that this was a confidential meeting, and information about our project will not be shared within HAP at this stage

Input and ideas on a potential R2P network:

- we may want to frame this within the human security context, for example by including 'human security' somewhere in the title
- HAP has a lot of useful contacts that we could use
- if there are some position changes within HAP and a Program Director position were created, it would be possible to work more closely on these issues

Vahida Nainar, Women's Research And Action Group (WRAG) based in Bombay, India

In attendance: Jayne Stoyles, Vahida Nainar, Pam Spees (Women's Caucus for Gender Justice)

Background information

- Vahida has been working extensively on raising awareness about the current situation of state-sponsored violence against Muslims, which has been focused so far on Gujarat for political reasons, but which she feels there is a government plan to spread to other regions; Vahida classified this situation as building towards another Rwanda, comparing all the signs

Input and ideas on a potential R2P network:

- for this kind of situation, it would be extremely valuable to have a way to pressure the Security Council to take action, even to denounce a situation
- at the same time, ideally there would be a network that would allow NGOs and individuals in India to build relationships with NGOs in other countries and ask them to pressure their governments for particular responses (for eg. WRAG is trying to reach Canadian NGOs to get them to press Canada to use its new Crimes Against Humanity legislation to prosecute Indian officials if they travel to Canada)

Don Hubert, Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

I also wanted to note that I had a brief conversation with Don Hubert when I got back to Ottawa, who noted that he has been thinking about two possibilities for a network role after more conversations with NGOs. One would be to provide information services, and he used the example of 'Disarmament Diplomacy', run by Rebecca Johnson, and allowing organizations and individuals to use the information however they see fit. The other is to link the information services to an advocacy network. This is not new, but was a useful confirmation of the possible approaches that seem to be emerging.

People/organizations that we should follow-up with:

- David Petrasik – new Policy Director at AI IS – get meeting while Bill at Wilton Park?
- Freiderick Ebert Stiftung – see what regional meeting they can be invited to (Brussels; DC?)
- research children's network – Julia Friedsen (ask Nicola & Kate) as a potential format for UN Watch
- look into SG's office doing a Plan of Action on Protection of Civilians (Rita Grove responsible)
- think about how best to follow-up FIDH – ask Jeanne in any internal communications to mention ICISS Report to FIDH members and ask for feedback
- look into International Human Rights Council (Petrasik's former organization in Geneva)

ICC at WSF (didn't get to finish this debrief so requires follow-up with Bill)

- first panel – one of first forays into WSF and ICC was mentioned in many meetings, at least 4-5 days in the Terra Vive
- 2 articles on our session; interview of IPS with Bill
- globalization of justice and direct reference to ICC picked up by lots of people
- widespread feeling that ICC is one of the big victory stories and is an example of where US hasn't been able to control the process