



29 November 2004

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to bring to your attention the Global Conference on the Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict, to be held in New York at UN Headquarters from 19 to 21 July 2005.

In preparation for the Conference, the European Centre for Conflict Prevention, a CSO based in Utrecht, is coordinating a Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, a three-year global programme aimed at strengthening CSO networks, identifying and implementing mechanisms for greater interaction between the United Nations, governments and civil society in the field of conflict prevention and peace-building.

The global conflict prevention community joined together to form the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict in 2003, as a response to Recommendation 27 of the Secretary-General's Report on the Prevention of Armed Conflict. All sectors and disciplines working on conflict prevention are involved, from the community level to the international level.

The Global Partnership Programme has been structured along a series of parallel regional processes worldwide led by key CSOs. To this end, regional conferences are being held to develop action agendas that identify key issues for the region, strategies for greater CSO participation, and recommendations for improved partnerships between CSOs, government and the UN system. Issues identified in the regional action agendas will feed into the agenda to be discussed at the Global Conference in July 2005.

As crisis prevention and recovery are growing priority areas for UNDP and CSO engagement and support is increasingly critical to ensure long-standing peace, We would like to invite you and your staff to directly engage with the Global Partnership CSO focal points in your region. Attached please find the calendar of upcoming meetings in your regions and the list of regional CSO focal points.

Please join us in supporting the Secretary General's call for action.

Many thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Jenks', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Bruce Jenks
Director

Bureau for Resources & Strategic Partnerships

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julia V. Taft', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Julia V. Taft
Director

Bureau for Crisis Prevention & Recovery

To All UNDP Resident Representatives

Global partnership for the prevention of armed conflict

Calendar of Events

2004

November

4-6: Balkans: Regional Conference and Regional Steering Group Meeting, Igalo, Montenegro

9: US Consultation meeting on the Action Agenda

21: Asian Civil Society Forum

19-20: International Conference on the Great Lakes Region: Central and Eastern Action Agenda to be presented here,

Southeast Asia: Regional Steering Group Meeting (Date to be determined)

December

9: North American Regional Conference, Ottawa, Canada

10: Inter-American Collaboration GPPAC Initiative, Ottawa, Canada

Caucasus: Regional Conference in Tbilisi, Georgia (Date to be determined)

Expected: Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change

2005

January

Southern Africa: Regional Conference

26-31: World Social Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil

27-28: NGO Process for the Community of Democracies, Santiago, Chile

Expected: Next Secretary General Report on Prevention

Expected: Sachs Report on Millennium Development Goals

February

1-2: Northeast Asia: Regional Conference Tokyo, Japan

Africa: Inter-Regional Consultation, Nairobi, Kenya

9-18: Commission on Social Development Conference (Copenhagen +10), New York, USA

Southeast Asia: Regional Conference (Dates to be determined)

Pacific: National consultations in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Bougainville, PNG (Dates to be determined)

28-1 March: Latin America and the Caribbean: 2nd Regional Conference, Caracas, Venezuela

March

20-22: International Steering Group Meeting, Basque Country

Pacific: Regional Conference (Dates to be determined)

June

Central Asia: Regional Conference (Dates to be determined)

July

16-17: International Forum, preparatory conference

19-21: **International Conference** at UN Headquarters, New York, U.S.A.

The Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict

An integrated programme of research, discussion and network building



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