

WSF Resources Committee meeting, The Hague, September 24 and 25, 2006

Sunday September 24

Present:

Cheri Homkala, Jean-Marie Fardeau, Mark Randazzo, Njoki Njoroge Njehu, Pim Verhallen, Rolando Lopez, Taoufik Ben Abdallah, Theo van Koolwijk, Oduor O'ngwen, Candido Grzybowski, Dulce Pandolfi.

Candido welcomed everyone to the meeting commenting that as usual the meeting had to start with those few that were present. Everyone had received the Consultancy Document, which was one of the main reasons for the meeting. Not everyone present had read the entire document, therefore it was decided to ask the consultants to present the document, have a first general discussion, and discuss details in the session on Monday September the 25th. This would give people a chance to study the document for the following day. It was also announced that Sergio Haddad and Nandita Shah had excused themselves from the meeting. Sergio, due to last minute unexpected tasks, and Nandita, due to a leg injury. Sergio and Alessandra Ceregatti had sent in their comments and suggestions for to the revision of the document. Nandita Shah and Candido Grzybowski also sent their inputs in writing.

Some logistical information and schedule details were given to all for the rest of the evening and the following day.

1. The WSF Financial Strategy – Report and Recommendations

The consultants then proceeded to give a Power Point* presentation on the general findings of the consultancy, which is attached to this report. A series of questions, points of clarification, first general opinions etc. followed to the presentation.

The meeting formally welcomes the report and compliments the consultants with the findings and analysis. The meeting suggests to add some more information about the representativity of the interviews and to check again the financial figures, specifically since the contribution from government sources to the Brazil WSFs do not appear in the table. It is also stressed that the Ford Foundation's contributions are allocated for the process and not for the events as such. A discussion emerges on the true costs of the events, including the various contributions in kind and the contributions from various donors and other organisations that allow people to participate. It is concluded that this in fact only costs money to the forum itself and they are not to be considered as financial contributions to the forum itself, although they also determine the level of success and representativity of the forum.

The meeting asks why Mumbai is a model. This is because of wide participation and contribution to the O.C, transparency of the process and the trust model for financial management. The meeting suggests to look also into the Brazil model of agreement within the O.C. membership. The meeting emphasises the conclusions of the

methodology commission to strengthen global political discourses during the forum and within the IC.

2. State of affairs with regard to fundraising for the Nairobi WSF

Taking advantage of the time left, and given the importance of the fundraising strategies for the WSF 2007 in Africa, it is decided to begin discussion of that issue right away. The members of the Kenya Organising Committee and Africa Committee began with a first round of information:

The new venue of the meeting is a sports stadium, some 13 km out of town with 100 meeting rooms. By now, the Kenya organising committee has allocated some 13 million Kenya shillings (equivalent of almost 2 Million USD) from various sources. This means that almost 30% from the budget is covered by now.

The contributions are as follows:

WSF 2007 ORGANISING COMMITTEE

State Of Resource Mobilisation as of September 22, 2006

| AGENCY/SOURCE | CURRENCY | AMOUNT | KES EQUIV. | NAIROBI | DAKAR | REMARKS |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| MS Kenya | KES | 12500000 | 12500000 | 12500000 | NIL | 2500000 disbursed |
| Oxfam GB | KES | 6200000 | 6200000 | 6200000 | NIL | 3000000 disbursed |
| HBF | KES | 1800000 | 1800000 | 1800000 | NIL | 1200000 disbursed |
| Action Aid International | USD | 100000 | 7200000 | USD 70000 | USD 30000 | To be disbursed |
| Oxfam Novib | EUR | 585000 | 52650000 | EUR 400000 | USD 185000 | EUR 200000 disbursed |
| Christian Aid | GBP | 80000 | 10560000 | GBP 60000 | GBP 20000 | To be disbursed |
| EED | EUR | 100000 | 9000000 | EUR 100000 | NIL | To be disbursed |
| Siemenpuu Foundation | EUR | 15000 | 1350000 | EUR 15000 | NIL | To be disbursed |
| ICCO | EUR | 200000 | 18000000 | EUR 180000 | EUR 20000 | To be disbursed |
| French Cooperation | EUR | 100000 | 9000000 | NIL | EUR 100000 | to be disbursed |
| TOTAL SO FAR | | | 128260000 | | | |

Various requests are still pending for decision before the end of the year. Several organisations have indicated their willingness to (additionally) contribute in kind or to be charged for facilities. Others have indicated that they will contribute indirectly by funding their partners to participate. Caritas for instance sponsors 200 people to participate, but as said – unless a proper fee structure is developed – this will hardly or not contribute to the financial basis for the forum itself.

The meeting asks if an alternative budget is available, based on expected income. The representatives from the Kenya O.C. indicate that such a budget will be drafted in October, possibly just before the I.C. meeting in Parma.

Monday September 25

Present:

Clemens Wennekes, Rudolf Scheffer, Cheri Homkala, Jean-Marie Fardeau, Mark Randazzo, Njoki Njoroge Njehu, Pim Verhallen, Rolando Lopez, Taoufik Ben Abdallah, Theo van Koolwijk, Oduor O'ngwen, Candido Grzybowski, Dulce Pandolfi.

The consultants gave a second presentation, introducing three possible scenarios for a future financial strategy of the WSF, and also introducing some key issues that should be discussed and decisions arrived at.

As far as the scenarios are concerned, the three scenarios presented were: An Event Driven Scenario, A Process Driven Scenario, and An Intermediary Scenario. As far as the Issues were concerned, depending on which of the above scenarios would be chosen the following issues needed to be discussed.

- Governance
- Minimal Structure – Troika
- Budget – For the Event, for the Process, For a Mix of Both
- Bank Account(s)
- Work Plan(s)
- Communication Strategy

A long and rich discussion followed regarding the scenario approach, and each one of the issues brought up for discussion and consideration. Two issues were highlighted during the meeting. One of them was the fact that many of the issues being dealt with had political implications for the WSF at large, and the Resources Commission as such did not have a mandate to deal directly with those concrete issues. The second point had to do with the fact that structure charts (organigrams), and ordinary structures as such were not adequate to portray the nature of the WSF as it was envisioned. The state and functioning of a global body based on values, principles and future world views was difficult to draw. Any attempt to do so, would fail to portray the general ideas and could be easily challenged.

Following a long deliberation of the Consultant's report, participants agreed to put forward a series of proposals for discussion at the upcoming IC meeting in Parma. Because resource mobilization for the forum requires strengthened governance structures, these suggestions aim at reinforcing or improving in the short term those resource development and management capacities that currently exist, while setting in

place mechanisms for further strengthening WSF governance over the medium to long term.

Commission participants propose that a working group be initiated in Parma to develop recommendations for the establishment of an International Facilitating Committee (IFC) to help strengthen the *process* side of the WSF. The idea of creating an IFC is that it would provide support to “WSF offices” (in India, Brazil, Kenya, etc.), increasing their efficiency and strengthening links between them. Working with recommendations from the RC based on the consultants report, the objectives of this task force would be to develop:

- The mandate for the IFC, composition and job descriptions for its members
- A draft charter of principles for resource mobilization and management
- A draft WSF process (“non-event”) budget for next two years
- Modalities for the possibility of creating one or more resource development funds and accounts.

The task force would then develop and present a proposal for establishing the IFC to the Nairobi IC meeting following WSF 07.

Inter alia, the following additional issues were noted, and recommendations made:

- On the question of translation and translation equipment for the Nairobi forum, it was agreed that given the complexities of the issues, the enormous costs involved and the pros and cons of different possible options (Babels vs. commercial service providers for translation, Greek, Indian or local providers of equipment), the Nairobi forum organizers in Kenya should take final decisions on this matter, in a straightforward, transparent and - given the importance of this issue - timely manner.
- It is recommended that a media and communications working group be set up in Parma to help organize and implement a media strategy for WSF/Nairobi.
- Following recommendations made to consultants through the interview process, the RC discussed a new fee structure for WSF '07 that would significantly increase the sense of ownership of the forum by increasing the percentage of income raised from participants themselves. The following recommended fee amounts were proposed:

Global North

- Organizations: \$500 for up to 3 participants, + \$100 for each additional group member

- Individuals: \$150 per person

(Approximate income to be generated from 10,000 people = \$1 million.)

Global South (excluding East Africa)

- Organizations: \$150 for up to 3 participants, + \$35 for each additional group member

- Individuals: \$50 per person

(Approximate income to be generated from 6,000 people, half from Africa = \$200,000)

East Africa

- Organizations: \$25 for up to 3 participants, + \$5 for each additional group member

- Individuals: \$5 per person

(Approximate income to be generated from 84,000 people = \$400,000)

Total potential to be raised from group and individual fees: \$ 1,600,000

Finally, regarding the final document of the consultancy, it was decided that the same should be translated to French and Spanish and distributed well ahead of the Parma Meeting in Italy.

With a general consensus on the above conclusions, recommendations and suggestions, the meeting was adjourned at 16:30 hours. Jean-Marie promised to send his written comments for the revision of the document, and Mark Randazzo committed himself to work on the final edition of the consultancy document and the minutes of the meeting.

The Hague
September 2006