



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



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InterAction

Enhancing the Effectiveness of Humanitarian Action A Dialogue between UN and Non-UN Humanitarian Organizations

**12-13 July 2006
Geneva, Switzerland**

Background Information

Participating Organizations

and

their Representatives



ACF – Action Contre La Faim

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<http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org>

Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

ACF intervenes in the following situations:

In emergency situations of war, conflict, and natural disaster that threaten food security.

- In situations of social/economic breakdown, linked to internal or external circumstances, which place particular groups of people in an extremely vulnerable position
- In situations where survival depends on humanitarian aid

Activities:

ACF's five-pronged approach integrates nutrition, water and sanitation, food security, health programs and advocacy. The fight against hunger goes beyond simply supplying food, and the complementarity of our programs is essential. Our experts work together to bring appropriate and effective integrated solutions to the specific problems facing communities for long-term sustainability. All of these activities are necessary to eradicate hunger and must be addressed simultaneously.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

ACF agrees to set up partnership with other NGOs on an ad hoc basis, provided that the combined answers of the 2 NGOs deliver better results for the beneficiaries. This partnership can be set up both at field or HQ levels.

Biography – Mr. Benoît Miribel, Executive Director

Benoît Miribel is Executive Director of "Action contre la Faim" since March 2003, a non-governmental international organization specialized in the fight against hunger. Programmes dealing with nutrition, water-sanitation, health and food security are currently operating in 40 countries over the world.

Prior to this position, he was Executive Director of "Institut Bioforce Development", a vocational training and guidance centre for actors involved in questions of solidarity; Director of Communication and Development at "Action contre la Faim" after having been in charge for the organization's programmes in Angola, Burma, Bosnia, Cambodia, Laos and Mozambique. Before that he was in charge of the Marketing and Promotion Unit at the Airport of Lyon St Exupéry.

He is member of the Board of VOICE, a coordination gathering 90 European humanitarian organisations, and chairs in addition the "Emergency and Post-Crisis" Commission of the French Haut Conseil de la Coopération Internationale (HCCI - A consultative body of the French First Minister) Benoît Miribel has a post-graduate diploma (diplôme d'Etudes approfondies, D.E.A.) in International Relations at the University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne and works on a PhD on NGO governance.



ACT - Action of Churches Together

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Action by Churches Together (ACT) International is a global alliance of churches and related agencies working to save lives and support communities in emergencies. In 2005, ACT raised US\$122 million for humanitarian assistance in 39 countries. ACT's members are Protestant and Orthodox churches and their related agencies, drawn from the membership of the World Council of Churches and The Lutheran World Federation.

ACT offers assistance to people caught in natural and environmental disasters, as well as in emergencies caused by war and civil conflict. Striving to reach people in need across front lines, national borders, and other ethnic, political, or religious divides, ACT provides assistance irrespective of race, gender, belief, nationality, ethnic origin, or political persuasion. ACT and its members are signatories to the Code of Conduct in Disaster Relief and aim to uphold the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, known as the Sphere standards.

ACT has strong local roots within populations affected by humanitarian crises and is therefore able to provide locally based knowledge, analysis, and understanding of emergencies. ACT recognizes that, as vital as the identification of vulnerabilities and providing for people's immediate needs are when crises occur, these are only two links in a much longer chain. With its local roots, members of ACT are equipped and well-placed to lift up communities' own priorities and available coping mechanisms. Strengthening and developing local capacity lies at the heart of our responses to emergencies.

ACT members have expertise in a range of humanitarian emergency sectors: camp management, shelter, food and non-food distribution, health care and trauma counseling, water and sanitation, disaster preparedness, de-mining, protection, and the transition from relief to development, conflict resolution, and peace and reconciliation initiatives.

The ACT Coordinating Office facilitates the alliance's response to emergencies, provides quality control of appeals (including evaluations of larger programs), oversees funding flows, and distributes policies, standards, and guidelines in humanitarian assistance. The Coordinating Office distributes news related to its members' responses to emergencies, supports their advocacy initiatives, as well as shares program and financial information about ongoing emergency and post-crisis operations with its members and partners. The director of the ACT Coordinating Office reports to the ACT Executive Committee.

The running cost of the ACT Coordinating Office in 2005 was US\$1.74 million and was entirely funded through member contributions. The ACT Coordinating Office is based in the Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland.

ACT is governed by a General Assembly/Emergency Committee of 30 elected members from around the world who meet annually to shape ACT policy. An Executive Committee comprising eight of those members meets several times a year to oversee the implementation of policies and mandates of the ACT Coordinating Office. ACT International is registered as a legal entity in Switzerland.



ACT's founders, the World Council of Churches and The Lutheran World Federation, are members of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response. The emergency network of the Catholic Church, Caritas Internationalis, is an observer to the ACT Emergency Committee. In a number of emergencies ACT members work in partnership with United Nations agencies such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Program, and UNICEF.

ACT emergency funding is based on actions and information from its members, presented in alerts and appeals to assist people caught in emergencies. ACT can also respond with its Rapid Response Fund to meet urgent humanitarian needs. Members predominantly in Europe, North America, Asia, and the Pacific raise funds for this work from private donations, church collections, and partners such as ECHO (Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission) and individual governments.

In 2005, ACT's emergency funding totaled US\$122 million. Africa received US\$40 million, Asia and the Pacific US\$72.7 million, Europe US\$0.6 million, Latin America and the Caribbean US\$3.7 million, and the Middle East US\$4.3 million. US\$700,000 was spent on Emergency Management Training and the Rapid Response Fund.

Biography – Mr. John Nduna, Director, ACT International



Zambian-born John Nduna, a relief and development worker with experience at international and field levels in Switzerland and Africa, joined the Geneva-based Coordinating Office of Action by Churches Together (ACT) International as its director on April 1, 2006.

Mr. Nduna previously headed up the ecumenical organisation, Church Ecumenical Action in Sudan (CEAS), which operates out of Nairobi. In joining ACT—a global alliance of churches and related agencies responding to humanitarian emergencies—Mr. Nduna brought with him two decades' experience in the field of humanitarian work and working in particular with refugees in various sectors such as small business development, self-help and repatriation programs.

Mr. Nduna believes that as an ecumenical body, one of ACT's strengths is that its 128-strong membership is well placed to respond to humanitarian crises, at a local level through churches and church councils and related agencies, as well as at a global level.

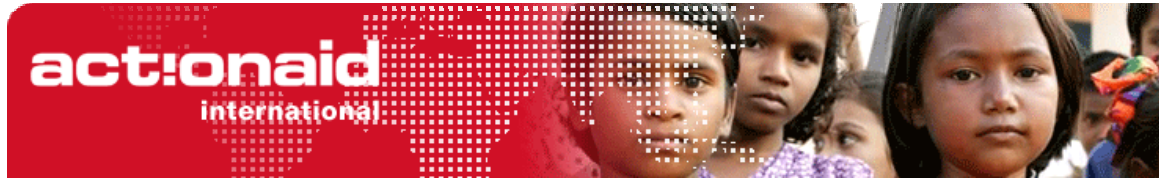
Mr. Nduna, an Anglican, was born in the Monze district in the Southern region of Zambia, and grew up in Kitwe and Lusaka in Zambia and has worked in Africa for some 20 years, with five years spent in Geneva, Switzerland, as the ACT International appeals officer for Africa.

He graduated from the University of Zambia with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in economics, which led to an early career in banking. His degree was later supplemented by an international qualification in small business management from the International Institute of Small Business Management in Hyderabad, India. But a desire to "make a difference" saw him take up several appointments within the field of humanitarian assistance and development, with a focus on refugees in Zambia, Mozambique and Tanzania. Mr. Nduna worked for, amongst others, the Lutheran World Federation/Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service, as its emergency project coordinator of its Burundi Refugee Program in Tanzania. Of special concern to him is the continued "lack of meaningful response to some of the world's worst humanitarian situations around the world, such as the 'forgotten emergencies' of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Sudan." Mr. Nduna manages a staff of 14.

Mr. Nduna is married to Sydia Nduna, who is a consultant with the World Council of Churches, working in the field of uprooted peoples in Africa. They have three children: Chimuka, Busiku and John (Jr.).



ActionAid



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Our Approach

ActionAid's strategy on Human Security takes a rights-based approach to emergencies and conflict work. This approach emphasises respecting, promoting, protecting and fulfilling the rights of poor and excluded people. We direct attention to the responsibilities of the state and other powerful institutions to protect and empower poor and excluded people. We work together with partners and alliances to hold states, governments and institutions accountable for the enhancement of human security.

We apply a rights-based approach by emphasising empowerment and proactive participation of poor and excluded people in the design and implementation of our programmes. We provide basic assistance to people based on their needs and capacity, not on their identity, gender or beliefs.

Our approach promotes long-term sustainable solutions through the integration of humanitarian work and ongoing development work. Development interventions must be orientated to the reduction of vulnerability, incorporating actions of prevention, mitigation and preparation for emergencies. Communities will be better able to respond, more resilient and have a stronger capacity to recover, thus building long-term sustainable structures for human security.

Our approach encompasses preparedness, response and recovery. Our strength lies in rooting our responses on local knowledge, taking the opportunities available to reinforce the long-term struggle for poverty eradication, conflict prevention, ending violence, enhancing social and economic post-conflict reconstruction and peace-building. We have a particular focus in our responses on livelihood recovery and psychosocial needs.



A long-term perspective

ActionAid's approach does not necessarily imply our long-term presence or even long-term intervention. For us, it is important to understand

- The causes and patterns of vulnerability
- The close relationship between poverty, vulnerability and denial of rights
- Those factors which enhance people's resilience and capacity to cope
- The extent of protection for poor and excluded people by their governments and by the international community
- Poor people's lack of access to and control over basic resources, for example, land, adequate shelter and information, undermines their capacity to cope. Our work particularly addresses people's concerns for the sustainability of their livelihoods as well as their immediate needs.

Addressing the causes

ActionAid's approach seeks to tackle the causes of emergencies and conflict, the underlying problems associated with the behaviour, policies and practices of governments and institutions. We seek to address these by enhancing understanding and mobilising people to raise their voices. We work with communities and civil society to promote positive action at local, national and international levels.

Addressing immediate needs

We believe the humanitarian imperative comes first. We provide appropriate assistance to save lives and ensure that poor and excluded people access their immediate needs during emergencies. Delivering services is not an end in itself. We do so in a manner that not only satisfies immediate needs but also empowers communities to claim their rights and promotes structural changes in the long-term that protect the right to live with dignity.

Participation and empowerment

We promote the right of poor and excluded people to participate in and influence the decisions that affect them in the planning as well as the implementation of the responses. We support the processes of empowerment of the individuals and vulnerable groups with whom we work so that they may ensure that all actors, particularly the state as the primary duty-bearer, are transparent, accountable and effective.

Reinforcing local capacities

We recognise the significant role poor and excluded members of society can play in undertaking vulnerability analysis and risk assessments in order to develop in-depth understanding of the underlying causes, dynamics and consequences of emergencies and conflict. We believe that the individuals, families and communities with whom we work have capability to confront and to overcome the impact of crises, so our programmes are designed to reinforce local capacities and resilience. At the same time, our approach seeks to increase the capacity of people and institutions responsible for emergency preparedness and response.



Emphasising the rights of women

Women and men have differing vulnerabilities to crises as well as different capacities and coping strategies. Emergency and conflict situations provide an opportunity to redress gender inequalities and to build on the capacities of women, by upholding women's rights and access to resources.

ActionAid puts particular emphasis on understanding the dynamics of power, inequality and discrimination. We offer support focused on the particular needs of women and girls and promote their right of access to available assistance and control over the means in which it is delivered. We emphasize the need to strengthen local capacities, especially women's leadership roles in emergencies, conflict prevention and peace-building, and to help them create alliances with other civil society organisations to claim their rights, demand protection from violence and provide support and care for traumatised individuals.

Partnerships

Our grassroots experience recognises the importance of local knowledge. In order to deliver our emergencies and conflict programmes, we will work in partnership with local civil society organisations. In the process we build on their capacity in order to respond appropriately.

International Dimension

While the consequences of emergencies and conflict are felt locally, our experience has taught us that there are international dimensions to both causes and consequences of emergencies and conflict situations. We include an international dimension to our situation analysis and draw on relevant experience and knowledge from all the countries where we work and the long-term partnerships with communities and grassroots organisations. As an international organization with global reach and influence, we will utilize findings from conflict and vulnerability analyses to build alliances and create advocacy networks to challenge international organizations.

Biography – Mr. Richard Miller, Executive Director, ActionAid UK

Richard joined ActionAid in January 2004 after working for almost 20 years with CAFOD, where he established a public policy unit and led on campaigning activities.

From 1998-2004 Richard was CAFOD's regional representative, working in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.

Richard has a rich background in leading and managing organisations and programmes and working with local partner organisations focusing on poverty eradication, HIV and AIDS, campaigning and advocacy.

Richard has a BSc in politics and social policy. He has been a trustee of the International Voluntary Service, on the advisory board of Traidcraft Exchange and is now a trustee of the Disasters Emergency Committee.



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Aga Khan Foundation represented by FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance

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AGA KHAN FOUNDATION



Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) is a private non-profit, non-denominational, international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy, primarily in Africa and Asia. Its mission is to strengthen the capacity of grassroots communities to solve their own problems and to promote opportunities that lead to long-term improvements in their income, health, education and the sustainability of local institutions and the environment. The Foundation supports community-based programs in the areas of health, education, rural development, civil society and the environment.



FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance

Through its sister agency Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS), the Foundation is able to assist in humanitarian relief operations. FOCUS, an international group of agencies established in Europe, North America, and South America to complement the provision of emergency relief, helps people in need reduce their dependence on humanitarian aid and facilitates their transition to sustainable, self-reliant, long-term development.

FOCUS is committed to engaging volunteer professionals in its international programs and projects. These programs include the fostering of disaster resilience in Tajikistan through risk assessment, structural mitigation, and vulnerability awareness; relief and recovery efforts in Afghanistan; refugee resettlement assistance; and multi-sectoral Preparedness, Mitigation, and Prevention (PMP) programming in India and Pakistan.

FOCUS has also engaged in disaster response. In the aftermath of the October 2005 earthquake in Pakistan, FOCUS deployed search and rescue teams in the affected areas almost immediately. FOCUS also provided food and medical assistance to victims of the earthquake. In Tajikistan, FOCUS responded to devastating avalanches by providing heavy equipment and responding to critical needs. Last year in the United States, FOCUS responded to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by providing food, shelter and resettlement assistance.



AKF USA and FOCUS are affiliated with the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), a group of private non-denominational development agencies working to empower communities and individuals, often in disadvantaged circumstances, to improve living conditions and opportunities, especially in Africa and Asia. The agencies' mandates range from education, health, culture and architecture to the promotion of private sector enterprise and rural development.

AKDN works in over 30 countries for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion. As an integrated network, AKDN creates a synergy of specialized expertise and resources with broad development goals to build self-sustaining institutions that can respond to the challenges of social, economic and cultural development. The agencies of AKDN share a common goal to help the poor achieve a level of self-reliance sufficient to plan their own livelihoods and help those even more needy than themselves. Inspiration for the creation of AKDN institutions, some of which are over 100 years old, is rooted in the ethic of compassion for society's most vulnerable.

Biography – Mr. Gulam Juma, CEO, Focus Humanitarian Assistance USA

Gulam Juma has been the Chief Executive Officer at Focus Humanitarian Assistance USA, an affiliate of the Aga Khan Development Network, since 1999 and more recently was appointed the Executive Officer for Focus International Coordinating Committee, a body that oversees the global Focus Humanitarian Assistance activities worldwide.

He has extensive experience providing results-oriented leadership to enterprises and nonprofit agencies in both North America and developing countries. His experience includes ten years in finance for the Nestle Corporation in Canada, where he served as Assistant Treasurer, and six years as Senior Executive Director and Senior Executive of the Filtisac Corporation, an Aga Khan Development Network enterprise in West Africa.

Mr. Juma's work with the nonprofit sector includes both leadership of Focus Humanitarian Assistance and extensive work with humanitarian and community development projects of Rotary Club, the Toronto Board of Trade, and the Aga Khan Development Network. Mr. Juma is a Certified General Accountant trained in Canada.



AHA – Africa Humanitarian Action

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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) has grown into a pan-African organisation, with the goal of providing humanitarian assistance and human security to communities and persons affected by conflict, instability, disasters, and poverty in Africa. At the heart of our work is a firm commitment to reduce poverty through addressing crisis-related suffering and laying the foundation for recovery and sustained development.

AHA's mission is to deliver on this goal through the delivery of emergency and recovery health and related services and building local capacities in disaster preparedness and conflict prevention. A particular focus of AHA's work is its contribution to the fight against HIV-AIDS, TB, Malaria, and other communicable diseases of poverty; as these affect populations of humanitarian concern and the promotion of African civil society role in African humanitarian action.

AHA focuses on the provision of services to refugees, returnees and internally displaced peoples, with a special focus on promoting the rights, interests and empowerment of disadvantaged and excluded groups (e.g. people with HIV-AIDS, women, children, orphans, elderly and disabled). In addition to implementing a range of services from health care to camp management, repatriation, shelter services and the rehabilitation of health infrastructure, we work to strengthen local communities' capacities through education, information, and technical support.

AHA's practical work has placed us in a good position to make noteworthy contributions to the ongoing debate on humanitarian reform, through a Symposium in Addis Abeba in December 2004, on strengthening African civil society capacity to contribute to humanitarian responses. This event was attended by participants from across the continent and further afield. AHA is now partnering with a number of international and regional organisations in working towards the resolutions of this event. AHA is also one of the very few Southern Full Members of Advanced Learning Net work for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP), and will continue to maximise the benefits of the interactions this position affords.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

- Diversify funding sources

To avoid dependence on any one donor, African NGOs must diversify their funding from different multilateral, bilateral, Northern NGO and private sources. As far as possible, they should mobilise local resources, especially from the private sector, including African businesses and regional offices of multinational corporations.



For their part, donors must support and facilitate this diversification of funding: for example by co-operating with each other to ensure their requirements for proposals, budgets and reports are consistent. In order to ease the administrative overheads for African NGOs, donors should consider streamlining their procedures and adopting common formats for such documents. In particular, during humanitarian crises, donors should develop shortcut avenues for rapid funding of humanitarian action by African NGOs.

- Establish relationships beyond project or programme funding

African and Northern NGOs and donors should explore the possibilities for partnerships which extend beyond the funding and implementation of projects and programmes. For example, this may include mutual support and exchange of information around areas of advocacy and policy dialogue. Northern NGOs must be willing to be more responsive to the agenda of African NGOs in such partnerships and avoid imposing externally formulated frameworks.

In any such relationships, the contribution of African NGOs should be recognised and valued by all parties. In practice, this means that northern actors should be prepared to pay for the expertise and time of African NGOs, to ensure that the latter's involvement in partnerships is not eating into their core costs.

- Ensure clarity of organisational mission and strategy

African NGOs need to have a clear, public organisational mission and strategy which underlie their policy and practice. Once an NGO's missions and strategy are in place, the NGO should have the conviction to turn down funding opportunities that detract from them or where funding is offered in such a way as to compromise the organisation's principles.

On their part, donor and Northern NGOs should find out about the mission and strategy of potential African NGO partners and respect them: for example, by adapting their own operational priorities to fit the African NGOs strategy rather than expecting the latter to change round donors' fixed policies.

- Develop relationships with a longer-term perspective

Northern NGOs and donors need to adopt a longer-term perspective to funding African NGOs, which incorporates the development of the capacity of the organisation as a whole. Funding needs to be based on realistic time frames and donors need to show commitment and consistency over a sustained period. From the beginning of any partnerships, both donors and African NGOs need to consider capacity building for autonomy and sustainability. African NGOs need to develop strategies for resource mobilisation and diversification. Northern NGOs and donors need to be willing to fund such plans.

Action points and recommendations

All United Nations agencies and international NGOs to support and provide necessary means for African actors to commit themselves to good governance and management based on integrity, transparency and competence in accordance with international standards; to commit themselves to effective collaboration and pooling of resources in humanitarian crisis and response situations and to commit themselves to the principles of mutual accountability, good leadership, impartiality, and building strong civil society organisations.

All United Nations agencies and international NGOs to involve African NGOs during the emergency phase of response as a means of augmenting the capacity of African NGOs.

All United Nations agencies and international NGOs to commit themselves to building long-term capacity of southern NGO counterparts and pursue that as a goal in itself. Further, they are urged not to poach national staff in a manner that destroys that capacity.



All United Nations agencies and international NGOs to recognise the need for African NGOs to have humanitarian response and intervention funds at their disposal, pledge to channel not less than 25% of their contributions to humanitarian action in Africa directly through African NGOs.

All United Nations agencies and international NGOs to pledge, in accordance with international norms of programme delivery, to work with African NGOs on a frame agreement basis that provides for a minimum of 10% to cover both direct operational overheads and contribution towards core costs, in addition to direct programme costs.

All United national agencies and international NGOs to commit themselves to the standardisation and simplification of management and reporting requirements and systems.

Biography - Dr. Dawit Zawde, President/CEO

Dr. Dawit Zawde, Ethiopian national, born in London in 1945. He has over twenty years of experience as physician and consultant. He has served as Medical Director of the Addis Abeba University teaching Hospital and an Associate Professor of Medicine at the faculty. He holds an M.D. with honors from the First Moscow Medical Institute, and a Master of Science in Clinical Tropical Medicine from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine at London University.

Dr. Dawit Zawde has worked in leadership positions and as a consultant for humanitarian and development organisations at both country and community levels in Africa for over three decades. He is a former President of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and has held numerous positions in the International Red Cross/Crescent Movement.

In the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide, in 1994, Dr. Dawit Zawde founded Africa Humanitarian Action of which he is the President and Chief Executive Officer. He has an accumulated experience of humanitarian action, refugee and health issues in the international humanitarian arena and a strong record of organisational analysis and problem identification and solving.

Dr. Dawit Zawde is a leading advocate of strengthening African Civil society and non-governmental organisations and of African renaissance.



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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

It is a community-based action research, action planning and action advocacy organization. It works towards bridging the gap between policy, practice and research related to disaster risk mitigation. As an operational as well as learning organization it has the ability to link local communities to the national and international level of relief and long-term recovery policies and studies and vice versa. Established after the 1987-89 Gujarat droughts, AIDMI has expanded its work over the years to cover various types of disasters in many areas of India and beyond. AIDMI's work focuses on disaster risk mitigation for the poorest and most vulnerable section of society. In partnership with the disaster affected communities, AIDMI strives for a timely and targeted response after a disaster through community based rehabilitation and risk reduction. It follows a sustainable approach by integrating water, food, habitat, and livelihood security in its recovery programme. It is AIDMI's mission to turn disaster relief and recovery into an opportunity for poverty alleviation and risk reduction for local communities through local capacity development and risk transfer and microfinance initiatives.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

The local community is AIDMI's primary operational partner in its humanitarian action. However, AIDMI works closely with multiple stakeholders around the world and across sectors on improving global disaster mitigation. To this end, AIDMI has forged partnerships with local communities and community-based organisations, government agencies and the army, the private sector, NGOs and INGOs, as well as national and international stakeholder networks and universities. The relationship ranges from funding and implementing partnerships to learning and advocacy alliances. Through its wide network, AIDMI has the ability to link the community level with the national and international policy level. On the one hand, AIDMI thus implements international and national projects through its community-based actions and brings new findings and initiatives to the forefront of disaster affected communities. On the other hand, AIDMI's experience in the field provides national and international stakeholders with local insights and project evaluations (see for example the recent work on evaluating the tsunami recovery for the Disaster Emergency Committee and the Tsunami Evaluation Coalition). Overall, these partnerships are an acknowledgement of AIDMI's belief that mutual trust, shared goals, and joint learning are the prerequisites for more effective and sustainable global disaster risk mitigation.



Additional information relevant to the agenda

Although the local capacity is key to saving lives in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, it is often underestimated and undervalued by the aid agencies and overlooked by the media as if local capacities are yet to be found or built! As an organization that grew out of a local project-based initiative, AIDMI understands the value of the local community to cope with a disaster. Local committees, which are selected by the community itself, play a central role in all stages of AIDMI relief and long-term rehabilitation operations. The integration and support for local actors and NGOs should be a must in humanitarian actions.

Biography – Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, Honorary Director

Mihir R. Bhatt studied and practiced architecture and city planning in Ahmendabad and Delhi, India, and later Cambridge and Washington DC, USA and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

On returning to India in 1989, he initiated a project on disaster risk mitigation with a team of three, which has now become a 78 member and 11 activity centre strong All India Disaster Mitigation Institute(AIDMI). AIDMI works on both direct action and community learning.

Mihir received a Russell E. Train Institutional Fellowship from the World Wildlife Fund, USA (1997), Eisenhower Fellowship, USA (2000), and recently Ashoka International Fellowship, USA (2004). He has set up risk transfer initiatives – including *Afat Vimo*: a life and non-life disaster insurance and mitigation programme – for 12000 micro-enterprise beneficiaries of AIDMI's Livelihood Relief Fund (LFR) across three states on India. Recently he worked on the evaluation of tsunami recovery for the Disaster Emergency Committee, Tsunami Evaluation Coalition, and Oxfam International in four countries.



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(Secretariat's website, under construction)
<http://www.careinternational.org>
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CARE International is a non-profit, nondenominational organization fighting global poverty. Supporting programs in more than 60 countries, implemented by some 12,000 staff, CARE helps communities improve their quality of life through projects in agriculture and natural resources, economic development, education, food, health, water and sanitation and emergency response. The organization is led by a federation of twelve national members based in Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, France, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Thailand, United Kingdom and the USA.

Vision

We seek a world of hope, tolerance and social justice, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security.

Mission

CARE International's mission is to serve individuals and families in the poorest communities in the world. Drawing on our diversity, resources and experience across the world, we promote innovative solutions and are advocates for global responsibility. We bring about lasting change by:

- Strengthening people's ability to help themselves
- Providing economic opportunity
- Delivering relief in emergencies
- Influencing policy decisions at all levels
- Addressing discrimination in all its forms

Guided by the hopes and views of local communities, we pursue our mission with both excellence and compassion because the people whom we serve deserve nothing less.

What We Do

CARE tackles underlying causes of poverty so that people can become self-sufficient. Recognizing that women and children suffer disproportionately from poverty, CARE places special emphasis on working with women to create permanent social change. Women are at the heart of CARE's community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

CARE helps families produce more food and increase their income while managing their natural resources and preserving the environment for future generations. CARE works with farmers to increase their crop and livestock yields through activities such as planting new seed varieties, animal husbandry, home gardening and irrigation.



Education

CARE is dedicated to promoting basic education for all. Experience shows that educated people are likely to marry later and have healthier families and greater earning potential. Our projects promote and facilitate discussion between parents, teachers and other members of the community to overcome barriers to education that help keep families mired in poverty. CARE also provides economic incentives to help parents cover the cost of keeping their children in school.

Emergency Relief

The fight against poverty is never more difficult than in times of crisis. Our projects directly assist survivors of natural disasters and conflict through both immediate relief and longer-term community rehabilitation, including food, temporary shelter, clean water, sanitation services, medical care, family planning and reproductive health services, and seeds and tools. CARE also is increasingly focused on post-conflict rehabilitation programming in places such as Angola, Bosnia and El Salvador.

Health

A family cannot be economically healthy if it is not physically healthy. CARE's health projects focus on mothers and children, who often are the most vulnerable to disease and malnutrition. We are particularly interested in increasing the capacity of our local partners to deliver quality health services. This includes training local health volunteers as counselors, mentors and monitors of community health. CARE is focused on interventions ranging from nutrition and education to birth spacing and clinical services. Our reproductive health projects encompass family planning, prenatal care, labor and delivery services, and the prevention, detection and treatment of STDs, including HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS

We believe that our HIV/AIDS programs must provide information and services to vulnerable groups while addressing the underlying factors that lead people to make choices that put them at risk of infection. CARE's HIV/AIDS programs link with our other sectors, including health, education and economic development. Through our HIV/AIDS programs, we help communities care for children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS; develop peer education and outreach in communities; and increase access to services such as condoms, voluntary counseling and testing, anti-retroviral treatment, and STI prevention and treatment. Advocacy on behalf of vulnerable and marginalized populations is also an important part of our work.

Nutrition

Proper nutrition is vital to a child's healthy development and an adult's ability to work and care for his or her family. Our projects focus on teaching techniques and practices that help prevent malnutrition. These include demonstrating proper breast feeding; educating families and communities about how to cultivate and prepare nutritious food; providing food as part of emergency relief efforts; and managing food-for-work projects to help communities improve infrastructure.

Economic Development

CARE's economic development programs assist impoverished families by supporting moneymaking activities, especially those operated by women. CARE initiates community savings-and-loan programs and provides technical training to help people begin or expand small businesses that will increase family income.

Water, Sanitation and Environmental Health

CARE helps communities build and maintain clean water systems and latrines. Both directly and through local organizations, CARE provides training and subsidizes construction, but communities make significant contributions in cash and labor, and pay the cost of operation and maintenance. The goal of these projects is to reduce the health risks of water-related diseases and to increase the earning potential of households by saving time otherwise spent gathering water. Projects also include educating people about good hygiene habits to reduce the risk of illnesses.



Biography – Mr. Denis Caillaux, Secretary General



Denis Caillaux assumed his position as Secretary General of CARE International in January 2003. As head of an international non-governmental federation of twelve national members, he oversees the relief and development work of more than 12,000 staff members in over 60 countries.

Prior to joining CARE International, Mr. Caillaux worked for two decades with UNICEF, most recently at headquarters as Secretary of the Executive Board. His numerous field postings ranged from Project Officer in Laos to Country Representative in Ghana, where he was one of UNICEF's primary spokespersons in challenging global structural adjustment policies. As Area Representative in Dakar, Mr. Caillaux directed the global effort toward universal child immunization in the sub-region and advocated for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, helping to organize the first World Summit for Children in 1990.

Additionally, Mr. Caillaux served as a Senior Adviser to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as well as a Commercial Attaché for the French Ministry of Finance in Ethiopia.

A French citizen, Mr. Caillaux holds several advanced degrees in economics and development, including a public law degree from Université de Paris 1-Sorbonne, a Masters of Public Administration from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, and a Doctorate in Economics, Public Finance and Administration from L'Institut du Développement Economique et Social (IEDES). He also holds a Masters of Arts in Law and Diplomacy (MALD) from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Tufts University), and was an Advanced Study Fellow at the International Nutrition Planning Programme of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).



Caritas Internationalis

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Caritas Internationalis is a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organisations working to build a better world, especially for the poor and oppressed, in over 200 countries and territories.

Caritas works without regard to creed, race, gender, or ethnicity, and is one of the world's largest humanitarian networks.

Caritas provides a beacon of hope for tens of millions of women, men and children in times of hardship and contributes to the development of social justice in times of peace. Caritas' mandate includes integral development, emergency relief, advocacy, peace building, respect for human rights and support for proper stewardship of the planet's environment and resources.

The Caritas approach is based on the social teaching of the Church, which focuses on the dignity of the human person. Caritas' work on behalf of the poor manifests God's love for all of creation.

Caritas believes that the weak and oppressed are not objects of pity, but agents of change leading the struggle to eradicate dehumanizing poverty, unacceptable living and working conditions, and unjust social, political, economic and cultural structures.

What makes Caritas unique is its ongoing presence in communities, before, during and after crisis situations. Important, too, is that being part of civil society and incorporating the perspective of the poor, Caritas can continuously adapt its strategies to an ever changing environment.

Caritas fights poverty, exclusion, intolerance and discrimination. More importantly, it empowers people to participate fully in all matters affecting their lives, and it advocates on their behalf at national and international forums.

Caritas promotes partnership: local autonomy is paramount in ensuring effective teamwork for the good of all. By pooling expertise and resources, Caritas is able to identify issues at the grassroots, analyse them at national and international levels, and then take action locally, regionally and globally.

The Caritas Internationalis General Secretariat is responsible for the mobilisation and coordination of member organisation's response to major emergencies. The International Cooperation Department works closely with both national and regional structures to facilitate cooperation among members, to ensure an effective response to relief operations, and to help raise funds for major emergencies.



Biography – Mr. Duncan MacLaren, Secretary General



Duncan MacLaren was elected Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis at the 1999 General Assembly, re-elected for another term in July 2003. Born and bred in Scotland, he was educated at Glasgow, Würzburg and Edinburgh Universities, latterly specialising in development studies and theology, especially Catholic Social Teaching. He was a researcher at Glasgow University and in the House of Commons, press attaché with a political party and, for 13 years, director of the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF), the Scottish Caritas. He served on the Scottish Catholic Justice and Peace Commission and was a representative of the Catholic Church in Scotland to create new ecumenical instruments.

He has been active at the international level in Catholic aid and development agencies for many years, becoming Vice-President of the Catholic development network, CIDSE (International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity) and an executive member of the Conference of International Catholic Organisations.

In 1995, he was appointed Head of International Relations at the General Secretariat of Caritas Internationalis in Rome and spearheaded the strategic planning process among all 154 members of the Caritas Confederation worldwide as well as the Confederation's efforts to change policies on issues such as debt, food security and AIDS in favour of the poor. He was then elected Secretary General of the Caritas Confederation at its General Assembly in Rome in 1999.

He has travelled widely in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Oceania and Asia. He is the author of a number of articles and booklets on development and theological topics.

In January 2006 he completed his term as Chair of the SCHR (Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response).

He is a lay member of the Dominican Order and a member of the Pontifical Council 'Cor Unum'.



Concern Worldwide

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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

In implementing our sectoral programmes - livelihood security, education, health and HIV/AIDS – we specialise in certain aspects of each, based on evidence and experience of what works best and the impact the programme is having. The focus of the programmes below is largely based on the work of the PPMGs who considered best practice and suggested the core programme content, scale and targets for each sector going forward.

We intend to make further progress on developing a programmatic approach within each sector. We see ourselves contributing to the achievement of the MDGs. We will continue to strive for innovation and will establish linkages with appropriate institutions to improve the quality of our programme work and impact.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Concern will work with and/or through partners whenever possible and we made substantial progress in moving to this during the last plan. In doing so, we are building the capacity of both civil society and government institutions in our countries of operation. But we are also clear we will retain our own organisational capacity to implement programmes in emergencies and where the local context determines it is not possible to work in partnership.

Concern's partnership is not just with NGOs and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). Given the weakness of governmental and administrative structures in many of the countries in which Concern works, we need to work in partnership with government, either at central or local level.

Biography – Mr. Tom Arnold, Chief Executive Officer

Tom Arnold was appointed Chief Executive of Concern Worldwide in October 2001.

Concern is Ireland's largest NGO working in emergencies, long-term development and advocacy, working in some thirty countries, mainly in Africa and Asia. Prior to working with Concern, he was Assistant Secretary General in the Irish Department of Agriculture and Food.

He was Chairman of the OECD Committee of Agriculture from 1993 to 1998 and Chairman of the working group on policies and markets from 1990 to 1993. At an earlier stage in his career, he worked with the European Commission for ten years, three of which were in Africa. He was a member of the UN Millennium Project's Hunger Task Force (2003- 2005) and is currently a member of the World Economic Forum Expert Group on poverty and hunger.

He is also currently Chairman of the European Food Security Group, a network of 25 European NGOs working to enhance food security in developing countries.



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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

- DWHH's sectoral core competencies in humanitarian action are in the field of food aid and food security, shelter and non-food items, in some cases drinking water supply, other as appropriate.
- DWHH puts strong and early focus on linking relief, rehabilitation and development: Typical interventions can be semi-permanent and permanent shelter, kick-start of agricultural production, rehabilitation of agricultural and rural production, rehabilitation/construction of secondary and tertiary road rehabilitation, housing and basic community infrastructure (including health stations and schools, if service is guaranteed), reintegration of returnees (agricultural production inputs, other interventions to promote local rural economic life. DWHH networks and cooperates with other NGOs in sectors of its rehabilitation programs which are not DWHH's core competency (e.g. in the sectors of education and gender based violence).
- Depending on the context other interventions interventions can include the reintegration of ex-combatants in civil life via provision of livelihoods capital in agriculture or via inclusion (among other groups) in food for work or cash for work interventions.
- DWHH seeks an early discussion with donors present in the field on how to exit humanitarian action and to shape programming towards reconstruction and rehabilitation.
- DWHH puts emphasis on the quality of humanitarian action and has signed the Code of Conduct of the RedCross/Red Crescent Societies and NGOs in Disaster Relief, promotes SPHERE standards. DWHH also participated in the elaboration of VENRO's Working paper No. 14: Humanitäre Hilfe auf dem Prüfstand - Prinzipien, Kriterien und Indikatoren zur Sicherstellung und Überprüfung der Qualität in der humanitären Hilfe. Bonn 2005 etc.)
- On the political level one of DWHH's concerns are - together with others - the preservation of humanitarian space.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

By matter of principle DWHH coordinates and exchanges with Alliance2015 partners, if present cooperation is sought.

Where appropriate Alliance2015 partners do common assessments and programming. Depending on need and scale members agree on the combination of efforts, on separate sectoral or regional intervention, joint logistics where feasible and appropriate (sharing of offices, transport, communication).

Local partner NGOs: Depending on scale and need DWHH either funds partner organisations directly for their interventions. In other cases the organisation supports via sending members of DWHH's emergency task force to the field. Other cooperation includes capacity building for partner NGOs to be better equipped to respond to sudden crises. Since many NGO partners are long-term partners in development, ongoing capacity building via other projects and specific PCM trainings takes place.



DWHH is a signatory of the ECHO FPA, has a framework cooperation agreement with UNHCR, a field level agreement with WFP and links to FAO.

Biography – Mr. Hans-Joachim Preuß, Secretary General

Hans-Joachim Preuß, born 5th June 1955 in Germany, has been Deutsche Welthungerhilfe's Secretary General since January 2003. When Preuß joined the organization in 1996 as Director of the Programmes and Projects Department he was able to contribute his professional experience in development cooperation gained mainly with German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in various positions, e.g. Head of Mission in Benin and as Senior Management Advisor of GTZ's Corporate Development Unit. During his professional life in development cooperation Preuß has worked in and visited some 40 countries, including long term assignments in Mauritania, Benin, Colombia and Nicaragua.

Originally business administrator by profession, Preuß studied agricultural economics at the University in Gießen, Germany, from 1980 to 1985, and continued his post-graduate academic training at the German Development Institute (DIE) in Berlin. While lecturing regional planning and project planning at the University of Gießen, Preuß received his doctorate in agricultural sciences in 1994.

Preuß is married and has three daughters.



FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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FAO relief and rehabilitation activities

In developing countries, most communities affected by disasters depend on agriculture for their way of life. FAO's expertise in good farming practices, livestock rearing, aquaculture technology and fishing practices, and forestry conservation and growth are therefore crucial in emergency response and rehabilitation efforts.

In the aftermath of disasters, during conflicts and in transition situations, **FAO's role** is to protect, restore, and enhance food security, nutrition and the livelihoods of farmers, herders and fishers. FAO's relief and rehabilitation assistance programme promotes self-reliance, moving crisis-affected communities away from dependence on relief aid, and paving the way for long-term sustainable development.

FAO emergency **activities** include distribution of seeds, seedlings, hand tools, fertilizers and fishing gear, as well as crop protection, replenishment of livestock, the reactivation of veterinary and other agricultural services, training in good agricultural practices, and the emergency repair of irrigation infrastructure and feeder roads. Though FAO does not provide food aid, its assistance often complements food aid and is ultimately meant to reduce it and promote an early exit from humanitarian assistance in general. Prevention, preparedness and early warning of food emergencies are also integral elements of FAO's strategy.

As a standard bearer and as a neutral UN organization serving as an intermediary between the governments -weakened by crisis situations- and the many NGOs, FAO provides **technical advice and coordination** to food security agricultural interventions undertaken by all actors in a crisis situation. The purpose is to avoid overlaps and gaps in disaster assistance, thus optimizing the impact. Donors usually appreciate this role.

The **target groups** for FAO's relief assistance are often the most vulnerable, for example, rural populations displaced by conflict who require assistance in resettling; widowers and female-headed households; ex-combatants seeking to reintegrate into civil society; and poor farmers, fishers and pastoralists who need help, to get back on their feet following a disaster. Aid agencies and government institutions also benefit from FAO's capacity building role through training and information gathering and sharing.

Except for limited start up funding provided by FAO's own resources, the funding for all FAO's food security and agricultural relief assessment missions and field operations, and for many emergency prevention and preparedness activities comes from extrabudgetary resources provided by donors, largely through UN inter-agency Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and other emergency or transitional appeals and strategy papers/updates on behalf of countries affected by disasters.



Current activities

As of June 2006, FAO implements an emergency and rehabilitation portfolio of about US\$430 million, with projects in over 60 countries and regions. Donor contributions reached US\$177 million in 2005 and US\$117 million in 2006 until now. Major assistance programmes are underway throughout Africa, in countries affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami, in Iraq and in the fight against avian flu. FAO also continues its assistance activities in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, as well as hurricane relief in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Firstly, the 1996 World Food Summit Plan of Action underscores the **crucial role that civil society** can play in implementing the commitments undersigned by governments, in particular that of halving the number of undernourished people in the world by no later than the year 2015. FAO is committed to the effective involvement of Non-governmental (NGOs) and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the work of the Organization

Secondly, FAO is seeking to **improve the effectiveness** of the management of emergency-related activities that are currently diversifying from traditionally known relief operations to interventions that support the transition from relief to rehabilitation and development. In this regard, the participation and service provisions by civil society and the development of more effective networking and coordination mechanisms with NGOs/CSOs have become particularly important.

The work of FAO and NGOs is complementary. NGOs/CSOs play a critical role in helping to amplify the voices of the poor in the decisions that affect their lives. This is another reason why the synergy of FAO and NGOs/CSOs should be obvious and presented to governments and donors as a logical and structured partnership. Concurrently, most NGOs do not build capacity of governments. FAO has a role in policy advice and can help bridge relations between governments and NGOs to build capacity and inform policy formulation.

Preparedness. At this stage, the cooperation with NGOs/CSOs mainly consists of exchange and cross checking of information. With regard to early warning activities, NGOs and their staff -well integrated at grassroots level- help FAO to collect location specific data that can be aggregated and used in forecasting disaster and planning for its prevention or reduction. Consultations with NGOs are regularly organized in the context of crop and food supply assessment missions on crop prospects and the food security situation.

Food and Agricultural Relief. FAO has become increasingly active in the management of agricultural relief projects with the aim of rehabilitating local capacities through the supply of inputs. NGOs/CSOs are often the main implementing partners of FAO (through Letters of Agreement or informal agreements) for:

- Distribution of inputs;
- targeting and beneficiary identification;
- logistic support; distribution monitoring, and;
- post-distribution monitoring under FAO supervision (sometimes).

Transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development. NGOs are also FAO partners in activities fostering the early recovery and rehabilitation of the rural sector such as:

- Training activities of farmers, fishers, artisans (e.g. blacksmith groups in producing tools), training of trainers (in some cases FAO trains local NGOs), in monitoring activities, capacity building, etc.;
- support to women's groups in income generation and marketing to enhance household food security;
- cash for work activities;
- seed and food vouchers and fairs ;
- support services – e.g. extension;
- pest and locust control; and
- delivery of animal health services (e.g. vaccinations).



Strengthening resilience to disasters. In a few cases, FAO follows up 'agricultural relief' projects with assistance for the restoration of extension, veterinary, plant-protection and input supply services and institutions where these have been lost. It is also involved in the physical reconstruction of agricultural infrastructure such as irrigation systems, markets and crop storage facilities. FAO also provides policy and strategy support for recovery and development programmes in the food and agriculture sectors. This assistance is geared towards bringing the need for relief to an end, establishing sustainability in agricultural livelihoods and production, processing and marketing systems and helping prevent and preparing for the possibility of further disasters and emergencies. Among the activities aimed at strengthening local capacities and coping mechanisms, FAO manages and promotes conservation farming projects, including different aspects of land and water management (e.g. in Southern Africa). In most of these activities NGOs play a vital role in technical backstopping and supporting implementation (including training of farmers).

Biography – Mr. David A. Harcharik, Deputy Director-General

A national of the United States of America, David A. Harcharik joined FAO in 1995 as the head of FAO's Forestry Department and Assistant Director-General. Since 1 January 1998, he assumed the position of Deputy Director-General of FAO. In this capacity, he assists the Director-General with the overall leadership and management of this specialized agency within the United Nations system dedicated to world food security and the sustainable management of natural resources.

Previously, Mr. Harcharik occupied several positions within the International Forestry Office of the United States Forest Service, starting in 1981. Besides, Mr. Harcharik experienced a two-year Peace Corp assignment in Peru, where he served as Visiting Professor at the Agrarian University, and worked as a private consultant. He has also undertaken short assignments with the World Bank and the World Food Programme.

Mr. Harcharik holds a BS in Forest Management from Iowa State University, a Master of Forestry in Forest Ecology from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in Forest Genetics from North Carolina State University.



International Committee of the Red Cross

International Committee of the Red Cross

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ICRC

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance.

It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The ICRC has a legal mandate from the international community. That mandate has two sources:

- the Geneva Conventions, which task the ICRC with visiting prisoners, organizing relief operations, re-uniting separated families and similar humanitarian activities *during armed conflicts*;
- the ICRC's Statutes, which encourage it to undertake similar work in *situations of internal violence*, where the Geneva Conventions do not apply.

The Geneva Conventions are binding instruments of international law, applicable worldwide. The ICRC Statutes are adopted at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, which takes place every four years, and at which States that are party to the Geneva Conventions take part, thereby conferring a quasi-legal or "soft law" status on the Statutes.

Through a reality-based and action-oriented humanitarian coordination, the ICRC seeks to maximise the impact of its work while making sure that all the needs of the affected populations are met. To complement the full spectrum of humanitarian actors, the ICRC upholds its neutral and independent approach and endeavours to be a benchmark for impartial, relevant, timely and effective humanitarian action.

Biography – Mr. Angelo Gnaedinger, Director-General

Mr Angelo Gnaedinger, born in 1951, trained as a lawyer and served as examining magistrate in the Swiss canton of Schaffhausen before joining the ICRC in 1984.

Following initial field assignments in the Middle East and Africa he held various posts at the ICRC's Department of Operations in Geneva. In particular, he was head of the Detention Division from 1992 to 1994, Delegate-General for Western and Central Europe and the Balkans from 1994 to 1998. In 1998, he was appointed Delegate-General for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. He is Director-General since 2002.

Mr Gnaedinger is married and has two children.



ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies

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The International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), founded in 1962, is a global network of human rights, humanitarian, and development NGOs, which focuses its information exchange and advocacy efforts primarily on humanitarian affairs and refugee issues. ICVA attempts to influence policy and practice to reflect humanitarian principles and human rights through information-exchange and advocacy.

One of ICVA's greatest strengths is the ability to bring the field-based perspectives of its member NGOs to various international decision-making bodies and to enable those decisions to be subsequently translated to the field level. Individual NGOs are often not able to access such forums, but through a network like ICVA, NGOs are able to consolidate their input and use ICVA as a vehicle or channel for NGOs views in the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (the main international body for humanitarian coordination) and UNHCR's Standing and Executive Committees.

ICVA members

- AACC – All Africa Conference of Churches
- ACFID – Australian Council for International Development
- ACT – Action by Churches Together International
- ACTIONAID
- ADF – Anatolian Development Foundation
- AHA – Africa Humanitarian Action
- AIDMI – All India Disaster Mitigation Institute
- AIRD – Asian Institute for Rural Development
- AMEL – Lebanese Association for Popular Action
- AMERA – Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance
- ANCB – Afghan NGOs Coordination Bureau
- ARCACE – African Council for Adult and Continuing Education
- AVARD – Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development
- BADIL – BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights
- BRC – British Refugee Council
- CAFOD – Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
- CARE – CARE International
- CCR – Canadian Council for Refugees
- CFSI – Community and Family Services International
- CONCERN Worldwide
- CRA – Chinese Relief Association
- CRDA – Christian Relief and Development Association
- CWS – Church World Service
- DCR – Dutch Council on Refugees / VluchtelingenWerk Nederland
- DRC – Danish Refugee Council
- EMO-BARAKA – Union pour la Promotion du Paysan
- FACS – Fundación Augusto Cesar Sandino
- FONG NICARAGUA – Federación de Organismos No Gubernamentales de Nicaragua
- FRONTIERS – Ruwad Association
- GCR – Greek Council for Refugees
- GUVS – General Union of Voluntary Societies
- HAI – Human Appeal International
- HELPAGE – HelpAge International
- HRF – Human Rights First (formerly Lawyers Committee for Human Rights)
- HRW – Human Rights Watch



- IAI – Interaid International
- IBC – International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation
- ICMC – International Catholic Migration Commission
- ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross
- IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- IIRO – International Islamic Relief Organization
- IIYD – Indian Institute of Youth and Development
- IM – Individuell Manniskohjelp – Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief
- InterAction - American Council for Voluntary International Action
- IRC – International Rescue Committee
- IRCT – International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
- ISRA – Islamic Relief Agency
- JRS – Jesuit Refugee Service
- LWF – Lutheran World Federation
- MA – Mission Armenia 'Arakelutune Hayastan'
- MACOSS – Mauritius Council of Social Service
- MDM – Médecins du Monde
- MERCY Malaysia – Malaysian Medical Relief Society
- MERLIN
- MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières International
- NNGOC – National NGO Council of Sri Lanka
- NRC – Norwegian Refugee Council
- OFADEC – Office Africain Pour le Developpement et la Cooperation
- OXFAM Great Britain
- PLAN Ireland
- Refugees International
- RET – Foundation for the Refugee Education Trust
- SA – Salvation Army International Headquarters
- SCA – International Save the Children Alliance
- SLANGO – Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organisations
- SV – Stichting Vluchteling
- TBBC – Thailand Burma Border Consortium
- TSFI – Telecoms sans Frontières
- VAF – Union for Support and Development of Afghanistan
- WCC – World Council of Churches
- Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children
- WSPA – World Society for the Protection of Animals
- WVI – World Vision International

Biography – Mr. Tom Getman, Chair of the ICVA Executive Committee

Thomas Getman is World Vision's director for humanitarian affairs and international relations. In this role, he manages World Vision's liaison office with the UN and the World Council of Churches and is responsible for diplomatic relations with UN government member missions in Geneva.

From 1997 to 2001, Getman served as director of World Vision's programs in Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Previously, Getman served for 12 years as director of government relations and special assistant to the president of World Vision United States. Getman interpreted U.S. government policy, pressed for needed foreign assistance, and advanced human rights, relief and development concerns. From 1977 to 1985, as a Congressional staff member, Getman helped negotiate protocols with the presidents of Uganda and Zambia and encouraged warring factions to move forward with peace negotiations. In the mid-1980s, Getman played a central role to persuade the South African Foreign Ministry to cease support for the Mozambican rebel group Resistencia Nacional Mocambicana (Renamo).

Before joining World Vision, Getman served as legislative director to U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield. In the Senate, his primary assignments were African foreign policy and social justice, human rights and welfare issues. Getman also served as a regional director for Young Life.

Getman holds a bachelor's degree from Wheaton College and a master's in theology (equivalency certificate) from Fuller Theological Seminary. He is based in Geneva, Switzerland.



OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



SCHR



InterAction

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Our mission and role

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is the world's largest humanitarian organization, providing assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. Founded in 1919, the International Federation comprises 185 member Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, a Secretariat in Geneva and more than 60 delegations strategically located to support activities around the world. There are more societies in formation. The Red Crescent is used in place of the Red Cross in many Islamic countries.

The International Federation's mission is **to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity**. Vulnerable people are those who are at greatest risk from situations that threaten their survival, or their capacity to live with an acceptable level of social and economic security and human dignity. Often, these are victims of natural disasters, poverty brought about by socio-economic crises, refugees, and victims of health emergencies.

The International Federation carries out relief operations to assist victims of disasters, and combines this with development work to strengthen the capacities of its member National Societies. The International Federation's work focuses on four core areas: promoting humanitarian values, disaster response, disaster preparedness, and health and community care.

The unique network of National Societies — which cover almost every country in the world — is the International Federation's principal strength. Cooperation between National Societies gives the International Federation greater potential to develop capacities and assist those most in need. At a local level, the network enables the International Federation to reach individual communities.

The role of the Secretariat in Geneva is to coordinate and mobilize relief assistance for international emergencies, promote cooperation between National Societies and represent these National Societies in the international field. The role of the field delegations is to assist and advise National Societies with relief operations and development programmes, and encourage regional cooperation. The International Federation, together with National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross, make up the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



What We Do

The International Federation's programmes are grouped into four main core areas: promoting humanitarian principles and values; disaster response; disaster preparedness; and health and care in the community. These activities are those which are carried out by most National Societies, and details of each core activity can be found by clicking on the appropriate section. Red Cross Red Crescent promotes individual and community **humanitarian values** which encourage respect for other human beings and a willingness to work together to find solutions to problems. From the seven fundamental principles to the "power of humanity" slogan, the aim is to influence the behaviour of the people we work with.

Disaster response continues to represent the largest portion of our work, with assistance to around 30 million people annually from refugees to victims of natural disasters. This section includes our emergency response units and issues relating to humanitarian policies as we strive to improve the quality of our immediate response and long-term rehabilitation work.

The sharp increase in the number of natural disasters worldwide in recent years has prompted the International Federation to devote more attention to **disaster preparedness** activities. These aim to make National Societies and communities more aware of the risks they face, how to reduce their vulnerability, and how to cope when disaster strikes.

Too many people die as a result of no access to even the most basic health services and elementary health education. **Health and community care** has become a cornerstone of humanitarian assistance, and accounts for a large part of Red Cross Red Crescent spending. Through these programmes, the International Federation aims to enable communities to reduce their vulnerability to disease, and prepare for and respond to public health crises.

Guiding and supporting the development of its member National Societies is one of the International Federation's fundamental tasks, and runs through these four core areas and other programmes. **Capacity building** programmes include management and volunteer training, branch structures, planning, fund-raising and gender equality. Creating the opportunity for National Societies to network and work together is one of the International Federation's key roles.

Biography – Mr. Markku Niskala, Secretary General



Mr. Markku Niskala

Markku began his career in 1970, when he joined the Finnish Red Cross. After eight years he entered the international field, working as a representative in Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Between 1985 and 1987, Markku led the Federation's Europe department in Geneva before returning to Finland as Secretary General of the Finnish Red Cross.

Since then, Markku has continued to contribute to the development of the wider organisation, taking on roles including Vice

Chairman of the Institute for Development of South African Societies. From 2000 to 2001, he undertook a special mission as senior representative of the International Federation in South Africa.



Since 1992, Markku has served as chairman of the Commission for the Financing of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, since 2001, as chairman of the International Federation Red Cross and Red Crescent Donor Forum Coordinating Group.

He was elected Secretary General of the Federation in 2003. Since then, Markku has led the organisation through challenging times in its effort to respond to a number of large scale disasters; the Bam earthquake, harsh hurricane seasons in the Americas, the Asian tsunami, the Pakistan earthquake and severe food shortages in Africa. He has been instrumental in the adoption of an additional emblem, the Red Crystal, which will serve as an alternative protective and indicative Geneva Convention emblem in certain circumstances. Markku has also been leading the Federation through a time of internal change, with the introduction of a new global operating model which modernises and strengthens the organisation's mandate, to help the most vulnerable. He has put emphasis on improved global coordination, and international disaster response. He supported the Federation's lead role in emergency shelter cluster for natural disasters. As from 2006, he chairs the SCHR.

Markku Niskala is married, holds a Masters in Public Administration and speaks Finnish, Swedish, English and German.



OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



SCHR



InterAction

IMC – International Medical Corps

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INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS

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International Medical Corps (IMC) is a Los Angeles-based non-profit, non-political humanitarian organization dedicated to saving lives and relieving suffering through programs that increase local capacity and provide sustainable solutions. For more than 20 years, IMC has demonstrated the ability to deliver major emergency relief and development programs, rehabilitate public infrastructure, and train personnel in the fields of: primary health care, community education, health care management, and community-based development. IMC has responded to complex emergencies, as well as to the challenges of transition and reconstruction, in more than 40 countries on four continents.

IMC's international network of more than 3,500 staff and volunteers offer a wide range of expertise in a variety of clinical disciplines and health care programs, such as: primary health care, HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, maternal and child health, mental health, SGBV, supplemental and therapeutic feeding, communicable diseases, emergency relief and disaster response, health education, water & sanitation, community mobilization, and microfinance and other economic development programs.

In addition to reducing the vulnerability of at-risk populations, IMC builds the capacity of local and national institutions. At the local level, IMC partners with community-based organizations, including primary care clinics and provincial hospitals, as well as local NGOs and PVOs. IMC provides them with technical assistance and capacity building aimed at improving the quality of clinical services and increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of community-based health promotion and disease prevention. At the national level IMC works with the Ministries of Health and other government agencies in designing and implementing a basic package of clinical services to ensure easy access to essential health care for the most vulnerable populations.

IMC understands that no single organization can address all the needs presented by the many complex emergencies taking place around the world, and is committed to collaborative efforts that support its mission. For example: 1) World Health Organization -IMC is a Steering Committee Member of WHO's Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Health Cluster; 2) United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery - IMC acts as co-coordinator for two of the five identified areas, Coordination and Enhancing Local Capacity; 3) Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) - as part of its commitment to the CGI, IMC has secured millions of dollars to decrease women's suffering worldwide; 4) The ONE Campaign – IMC is one of the 11 original founding members; and 5) UN Millennium Development Goals - IMC works toward the MDGs in all of its programs by building local capacity at the grassroots level and ensuring that communities have expertise in health, nutrition, water & sanitation, food security, and sustainable livelihoods.



International Medical Corps comes to the aid of the most vulnerable populations in times of greatest need – following wars, natural disasters and other events that have triggered a breakdown in the delivery of health care and other vital assistance.

Biography – Ms. Nancy A. Aossey, President and Chief Executive Officer

Nancy A. Aossey is President and CEO of International Medical Corps (IMC), an international non-governmental organization dedicated to saving lives and relieving suffering through disaster relief and development programs that build local capacity. As IMC's start-up CEO more than twenty years ago, Nancy had a direct role in establishing IMC's early humanitarian programs in, among others, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Honduras, Nicaragua, Angola, Somalia, Mozambique, Cambodia, Bosnia, Thailand, Rwanda, and Kosovo. Today, with operations on four continents and a staff of more than 3,500 in areas such as Sudan, Northern Uganda, and Indonesia, IMC is a global leader in emergency response, recovery and rehabilitation. IMC's health care training, civil society, and economic development programs help to restore self-reliance and serve millions of children and adults in low-income countries, including fragile and post-conflict states.

For three consecutive years, Nancy was elected and served as Chairman of the Board of InterAction, the United States' largest coalition of more than 165 private and voluntary organizations working in international development, refugee assistance, and disaster relief. She now serves on InterAction's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Nancy is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a Commissioner for the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy, a member of USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, a member of the Los Angeles Council on Foreign Relations, and a member of the Young Presidents' Organization. The *Los Angeles Business Journal* named Nancy its Non-Profit CEO of the Year in 2006. She was also a recipient of the Young Presidents' Organization Global Humanitarian Award in 2003.

Nancy works closely with other international agencies, including: USAID; OFDA; the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration; the World Health Organization, UNICEF; the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the U.K. Department for International Development, the Canadian High Commission, the Swedish International Development Authority, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union, the World Food Program, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

As chief spokesperson for IMC, Nancy has testified before the U.S. Congress. She has appeared on major television news programs, including "Larry King Live," "Good Morning America," "The CBS Evening News," and "The McNeil-Lehrer NewsHour," as well as radio broadcasts on National Public Radio and Voice of America, and been profiled in *The New York Times* and *USA Today*. IMC's humanitarian work has been featured frequently on "60 Minutes," "Nightline," "The Today Show," CNN, FOX, and MSNBC; in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Boston Globe*, and *Chicago Tribune*; and in *Time*, *LIFE*, *Newsweek*, and *O: The Oprah Magazine*.

A resident of Santa Monica, California, Nancy, 47, was born and raised in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and holds an MBA from the University of Northern Iowa.



OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



SCHR



InterAction

InterAction

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InterAction

InterAction is the largest alliance of U.S.-based international development and humanitarian nongovernmental organizations. With 160 members operating in every developing country, we work to overcome poverty, exclusion and suffering by advancing social justice and basic dignity for all.

InterAction is greater than the sum of its parts, a force multiplier that gives each member the collective power of all members to speak and act on issues of common concern. InterAction convenes and coordinates its members so in unison they can influence policy and debate on issues affecting tens of millions of people worldwide and improve their own practices.

Formed in 1984, and based in Washington, D.C. with a staff of 40, InterAction includes members headquartered in twenty-five states. Both faith-based and secular, these organizations foster economic and social development; provide relief to those affected by disaster and war; assist refugees and internally displaced persons; advance human rights; support gender equality; protect the environment; address population concerns; and press for more equitable, just, and effective public policies.

Reflecting both the generosity of the American people and their strong support for international development and humanitarian assistance, our members receive more than \$3 billion in annual contributions from private donors. Neither InterAction nor its members bear lightly the responsibility of the trust the American people place in us. As such, members ascribe to InterAction's Private Voluntary Organization Standards that help assure accountability in the critical areas of financial management, fundraising, governance, and program performance.

InterAction Program Committees

InterAction works through four standing member program committees. They are:

Committee on Development Policy and Practice — Facilitates dialogue, collaboration and action at program and policy levels on priority development concerns of its members and their southern partners in overcoming poverty and achieving sustainable development.

Committee on Humanitarian Policy and Practice — Provides its member organizations with a framework for consultation, coordination and advocacy on behalf of people forcibly displaced or otherwise affected by conflict, natural disasters and oppression. It addresses issues relating to the protection and assistance needs of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as operations, security, and coordination in disaster response.



Public Policy Committee — Educates policymakers, the media and the public on international development, refugee and relief programs and policies, and works to coordinate the efforts of member organizations to influence policy and budget priorities in order to maximize effectiveness of advocacy and outreach to the Congress and the administration.

Commission on the Advancement of Women — Created in 1992 by InterAction's Executive Committee out of the former subcommittee on Women in Development to give enhanced visibility and priority to gender equality within the community of nongovernmental organizations, the commission promotes gender equity in the policy and practice of InterAction members, national, and international development and humanitarian assistance organizations.

InterAction Member Organizations

Academy for Educational Development	Brother's Brother Foundation	Ethiopian Community Development Council
ACDI/VOCA	CARE	FINCA International
Action Against Hunger USA	Catholic Medical Mission Board	Floresta
ActionAid International USA	Catholic Relief Services	Food For The Hungry
Adventist Development and Relief	Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE)	Freedom From Hunger
Agency International (ADRA)	Center for International Health and Cooperation (CIHC)	Friends of Liberia
African Medical & Research Foundation	Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)	Friends of the World Food Program
AME-SADA	Children International	Gifts In Kind International
Africare	Christian Children's Fund (CCF)	Global Health Council
Aga Khan Foundation USA	Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC)	Global Links
Aid to Artisans	Church World Service	Global Operations & Development / Giving
Air Serv International	Citizens Development Corps	Children Hope
American Friends Service Committee	Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs	Global Resource Services
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee	Communications Consortium Media Center	GOAL USA
American Jewish World Service	Concern America	Habitat for Humanity International
American Near East Refugee Aid	CONCERN Worldwide U.S., Inc.	Health Volunteers Overseas
American Red Cross International Services (ARC)	Congressional Hunger Center	Heart to Heart International
American Refugee Committee	Counterpart International	Heartland Alliance
AmeriCares	Direct Relief International	Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
America's Development Foundation (ADF)	Doctors of the World	Heifer International
Amigos de las Américas	Enersol Associates	Helen Keller International
Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team	Episcopal Relief & Development	Help The Afghan Children
Baptist World Alliance	Equal Access	Holt International Children's Services
B'nai B'rith International		The Hunger Project
Bread for the World		IFES
Bread for the World Institute		INMED Partnerships for Children
		Institute for Sustainable Communities
		Institute of Cultural Affairs
		Interchurch Medical Assistance
		International Aid, Inc.
		International Catholic Migration



Commission (ICMC)
 International Center for
 Research
 on Women (ICRW)
 International Crisis Group
 (ICG)
 International Institute of
 Rural
 Reconstruction
 International Medical Corps
 International Orthodox
 Christian
 Charities (IOCC)
 International Reading
 Association
 International Relief &
 Development
 International Relief Teams
 International Rescue
 Committee (IRC)
 International Research and
 Exchanges Board
 (IREX)
 International Social Service
 — United States of
 America Branch, Inc
 International Women's
 Health Coalition
 International Youth
 Foundation
 Interplast
 Intervida Foundation USA
 Jesuit Refugee Services
 USA
 Katalysis Bootstrap Fund
 Korean American Sharing
 Movement
 Latter-day Saint Charities
 Life for Relief and
 Development
 Lutheran World Relief
 MAP International
 Medical Care Development
 Mental Disability Rights
 International
 Mercy Corps
 Mercy USA for Aid and
 Development
 Minnesota International
 Health
 Volunteers
 Mobility International USA
 National Association of
 Social Workers
 National Council of Negro
 Women

National Peace Corps
 Association
 Near East Foundation
 NetAid
 Northwest Medical Teams
 Operation USA
 Opportunity International
 Oxfam America
 Pact
 Partners for Development
 Partners of the Americas
 PATH
 Pathfinder International
 Physicians for Human
 Rights
 Physicians For Peace
 Plan USA
 Planning Assistance
 Population Action
 International
 Population Communication
 Presbyterian Disaster
 Assistance and Hunger
 Program
 Project HOPE
 ProLiteracy Worldwide
 Quixote Center/Quest for
 Peace
 Refugees International
 Relief International
 RESULTS
 Salvation Army World
 Service Office
 Save the Children
 SHARE Foundation
 Solar Cookers International
 Stop Hunger Now
 Support Group to
 Democracy
 Trickle Up Program
 Unitarian Universalist
 Service Committee
 United Methodist Committee
 on Relief
 United Way International
 USA for UNHCR
 U.S. Committee for
 Refugees and
 Immigrants
 U.S. Committee for UNDP
 U.S. Fund for UNICEF
 Vietnam Veterans of
 America Foundation
 Winrock International
 Women for Women
 International

Women's EDGE
 Women's Environment and
 Development
 Organization
 World Concern
 World Conference of
 Religions for Peace
 World Education
 World Emergency Relief
 World Hope International
 World Learning
 World Rehabilitation Fund
 World Relief
 World Resources Institute
 (WRI)
 World Vision
 YMCA of the USA



Biography – Dr. Charles MacCormack, Board Chair

Dr. Charles F. “Charlie” MacCormack has been President, Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Board of Directors of Save the Children since January, 1993.

Dr. MacCormack was President of World Learning (formerly known as The Experiment in International Living), in Brattleboro, Vermont from 1977 through 1992. Prior to becoming President of World Learning, he served as an International Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution, Assistant to the Dean of the International Fellow Program at Columbia University and lecturer at the University of New Hampshire.

During the April 2006 InterAction Forum, Dr. MacCormack was elected the Board Chair. Previously, he had served on InterAction's Executive Committee. He serves as President of the Nongovernmental Committee on the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and is on the Board of Landmark College.

Dr. MacCormack is on the Food Security Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He was selected by the United Nations Secretary General to participate in the founding of the United Nations University, served as a member of the U.S. delegation to the World Food Summit and the United States Delegation to the Preparatory Committee for the 2001 General Assembly Special Session on the Children.

He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Education by Middlebury College, an honorary Doctor of Laws by Clark University and was made a member of the Grand Cordon of the Order of Al-Istiqlal by King Hussein of Jordan.

Dr. MacCormack received his Ph.D. and M.A. from Columbia University. He was a National Science Foundation Fellow at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City and was a Fulbright Fellow at the Universidad Central de Venezuela in Caracas. He received his B.A. from Middlebury College.



IOM – International Organization for Migration

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IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Summary of IOM Humanitarian Priorities

IOM's Constitution states that the Organization shall concern itself with persons in need of migration assistance. The term "migration" encompasses all forms of migration including: permanent migration, temporary migration, return migration and emergency migration. It refers to the movement of a person from one country to another, within a region, or even within one's own country, be it as a migrant, an economic migrant, a refugee, a displaced person, or a national returning to his/her country of origin who, without international assistance could not otherwise move in safety and dignity. IOM's mission is to ensure the safe, orderly and dignified migration of persons who are in need of international migration assistance.

The Emergency and Post Conflict Division (EPC) coordinates, supports and assists IOM's response to such migration emergencies as population displacement, large-scale evacuations and returns.

Based on its experience in responding to emergency and post-conflict situations, the Organization focuses on the following priority programme activities:

- Emergency assistance in shelter, camp management, NFI distribution, registration, and surveying and profiling migrants;
- Transportation assistance by air, land and sea;
- Integration or reintegration assistance tailored to the needs of specific groups (IDPs, refugees, ex-combatants), but which also benefits the larger community;
- Capacity-building to provide local administrations with the skills to manage emergency displacements;
- Population stabilization and livelihood recovery activities;
- Medical assistance and psychosocial programmes to address post conflict trauma.

IOM's increasing involvement in assistance to internally displaced persons since the 1990's has led to a series of internal policy papers laying down priorities and procedures. IOM's activities are aimed at assisting and protecting those who are displaced.

Providing assistance in the response phase of a natural disaster has developed into one of IOM's key activities during the last decade. In addition to managing major movements of people following natural disasters, in the post-emergency phase IOM's programmes bridge the gap between relief and development by empowering communities to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected communities.



IOM has been deeply involved in the transition from emergency and/or post-conflict assistance to the restoration of a functioning civil society. IOM therefore works closely with local or national authorities, other intergovernmental bodies and NGOs to ensure that programmes are sustainable and capacity built so as to continue after IOM's departure. IOM supports intervention programmes that foster the reactivation of government structures and democratization at central and provincial level through either specific capacity building activities or community-based development assistance projects.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

IOM's relations with non-governmental partners have evolved along with the organization's programme activities. In the early years, these focused on partnership in resettlement programmes for refugees and migrants. Increasingly, the relationship is focused on collaboration in assisting populations affected by humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters as well as victims of human trafficking. As IOM has become involved in complex displacement situations around the globe, and as migration has become a global phenomenon of major dimensions, IOM has come into greater contact with a broader range of operational NGOs than those with which it has worked traditionally, as well as with advocacy-based organizations.

Internally, IOM recently designated an NGO focal point who works with colleagues to improve the flow of information between the organization and NGO partners, and to increase mutual understanding. Externally, IOM has built on operational links with a growing range of organizations and seeks to build synergies by concluding cooperation agreements adapted to current needs. The latest of these was signed with Islamic Relief on 30 January 2006. In all cases, IOM's strategy is to seek complementarity in order best to address protection and assistance concerns. IOM is also committed to increased consultation and cooperation within the ongoing cluster developments.

Biography – Mr. Brunson McKinley, Director General



Brunson McKinley took office as Director General of the International Organization for Migration in October 1998. He was re-elected to a second five-year term in 2003.

Mr. McKinley came to IOM from a career in the diplomatic service of the United States, with postings in Italy, China, Vietnam, the United Kingdom and Germany. He was the first American Ambassador to Haiti in the post-Duvalier period. From 1995 to 1998 he served as the US Humanitarian Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Brunson McKinley was born in 1943. He studied classical languages at the University of Chicago and Harvard University and served as an Army officer for five years. He speaks French and German and has studied Spanish, Italian, Chinese and Vietnamese.



IRC – International Rescue Committee

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What is the International Rescue Committee?

Our Mission

Founded in 1933, the IRC is a global leader in emergency relief, rehabilitation, protection of human rights, post-conflict development, resettlement services and advocacy for those uprooted or affected by conflict and oppression.

Our Work

At work in 25 countries, the IRC delivers lifesaving aid in emergencies, rebuilds shattered communities, cares for war-traumatized children, rehabilitates health care, water and sanitation systems, reunites separated families, restores lost livelihoods, establishes schools, trains teachers, strengthens the capacity of local organizations and supports civil society and good-governance initiatives. For refugees afforded sanctuary in the United States, IRC offices across the country provide a range of assistance aimed at helping new arrivals get settled, adjust and acquire the skills to become self-sufficient. Committed to restoring dignity and self-reliance, the IRC is a global symbol of hope and renewal for those who have taken flight in search of freedom.

Our Impact

In 2005, IRC programs restored hope and opportunity for more than 12 million conflict-affected individuals around the world, and millions more were aided by the local organizations and community groups the IRC supports. Our latest annual program data indicates:

- More than 6 million people gained access to health services and clean water and sanitation through the IRC health programs.
- Over 298,000 children, more than half girls, attended classes taught by IRC-trained teachers in schools rehabilitated or supported by the IRC. We also helped 26,000 adults, half of them women, learn to read.
- Over 26,000 youth and adults graduated from IRC-supported vocational training or adult education courses that helped them find sustainable employment and economic security.
- More than 7,500 teachers and educational personnel were trained by the IRC.
- More than 4 million people received primary health care and reproductive health services from IRC doctors, nurses, community health workers and IRC-supported clinics. Our health education programs reached more than three million people.
- Nearly 24,000 survivors of sexual violence received counseling, medical care and psychosocial assistance. We provided material support to 12,000 survivors and provided prevention education to some 558,000 men, women and adolescents.



- IRC child protection teams reunited over 6,000 separated children and former child soldiers with their families and relatives and provided specialized care for an additional 9,300 vulnerable children and adolescents.

- In the United States, the IRC helped over 20,000 refugees and asylees settle into their homes, schools and communities and move toward economic independence.

Our Ratings and Efficiency

The IRC is consistently awarded high marks by charity watchdog groups and respected publications for the efficient use of its financial support and the effectiveness of its work.

Of every \$1 the IRC spends, 90¢ goes to programs and services that directly benefit refugees and war-affected populations.

IRC Program Activities

The IRC helps people fleeing racial, religious and ethnic persecution, as well as those uprooted by war and violence.

At the outbreak of an emergency, we provide sanctuary and lifesaving assistance: For refugees driven from their homes, we provide emergency assistance: water, food, shelter, sanitation and medical care. When the emergency has subsided, we enable people to rebuild their lives by providing education, training and economic assistance.

We help thousands of refugees resettle in the United States every year, and our offices across the country make sure that all new arrivals receive shelter, food and clothing. We also provide recently arrived refugees with translation services, English-language instruction, job training, employment services and other counseling.

Last, but not least, we are vocal public policy advocates, calling attention to critical issues affecting refugees around the world.

Biography – Mr. John C. Keys, Vice President, International Programs

The International Rescue Committee is a private, non-sectarian humanitarian relief agency that provides assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons, and communities affected by conflict and war in 25 countries around the world. Each year the IRC also assists thousands of refugees who are legally allowed to resettle in the United States. Internationally, the IRC implements a broad range of emergency, reconstruction, and post-conflict programs in child protection, health, shelter, water and sanitation, protection of human rights, community development, rule of law, and good governance.

John Keys leads the International Programs Department (IPD), overseeing programs in 25 countries. He has over twenty years of international development and relief experience, the last ten with the International Rescue Committee. Before joining the IRC, John spent four years as a country director for the American Refugee Committee. He lived and worked in Africa for 14 years, with extended assignments in Rwanda, Malawi and Togo. Keys earned his Bachelor's degree from New York University and served four years in the Peace Corps.

The IRC's annual budget has grown to approximately \$190 million, with the International Programs Department spending close to \$140 million.



Islamic Relief Worldwide

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Summary of Islamic Relief's humanitarian priorities

Islamic Relief's vision is a caring world where the basic requirements of people in need are fulfilled. Its mission is to be a worldwide role model, inspired by Islamic values, in:

- assisting individuals, groups and institutions to develop safe and caring communities;
- helping the poor and suffering to enjoy self reliance with dignity;
- making it possible for those who wish, to support others reach those who need their help.

To achieve this, IR raises funds, builds partnerships and communicates key messages as it:

- works to mitigate disasters, prepare for their occurrence and respond by providing relief and rehabilitation;
- promotes sustainable development through programmes in education, health & nutrition, water & sanitation and income generation;
- advocates on behalf of the poor and suffering;
- commits itself to harnessing our outputs and outcomes to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

Islamic Relief does its work without regard to race, gender or belief, and without expecting anything in return.

Historically, the provision of emergency aid in response to disaster has been the cornerstone of Islamic Relief's work overseas. However, IR has gradually shifted its emphasis from fulfilling the immediate needs of the poor, to working to ensure their political, economic and social empowerment through community-based development projects.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Affiliated NGOs

Islamic Relief works via a global network of locally registered affiliated implementing NGOs. The affiliated partners such as Islamic Relief Pakistan, Islamic Relief Niger, Islamic Relief Sudan, etc., are often registered independently, but work very closely with the Islamic Relief Head Office. Country strategies are developed by the affiliated implementing partners through communication with local communities. This ensures a bottom-up needs-based approach. Notwithstanding this tailor-made approach, formal reporting and monitoring procedures ensure that IR affiliates all move in the same direction.



Partnerships with other NGOs

In addition to the partnerships with its affiliated implementing NGOs, IR routinely works with a range of national and international, Muslim and non-Muslim NGOs. The organization has a co-operation agreement with CAFOD; is a member of Disasters Emergency Committee; a member of British Agencies Afghanistan Group; and a member of the Palestinian Platform (London).

Perhaps most significant is IR's role in the World Humanitarian Forum (WHF). As a faith-based British NGO that is part of the wider international community, Islamic Relief has the unique ability not only to engage with Muslim beneficiary and donor communities in the North and South, but also to build bridges between faith and non-faith communities. This ability affords it the potential to build networks and to offer new ideas and approaches to development that will facilitate and enhance international humanitarian and development efforts. In this context, IR came to be a key stakeholder in the formation of the WHF, which brings together faith- and non faith-based NGOs throughout Asia and the Middle East.

Partnerships in the wider relief and development community

IR does not limit itself to partnerships within the NGO community. It has a Programme Partnership Agreement with DFID; a Framework Partnership Agreement with ECHO; and Memorandums of Understanding with UNHCR and IOM. IR frequently partners up with WFP and a range of other UN specialized agencies; has consultative status with ECOSOC; and regularly contributes to key forums and summits such as the World Economic Forum, World Faith and Development Leaders Forum, and the International Summit on Democracy, Terrorism and Security.

Biography – Dr. Hany El Banna - President, Islamic Relief, UK

Dr Hany El Banna, MBBCH, Diploma in Islamic Studies (Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt) and M.D. (Birmingham University, UK) is the Co-founder and President of Islamic Relief, the largest Western-based international Muslim relief and development NGO, established in 1984 in Birmingham, UK.

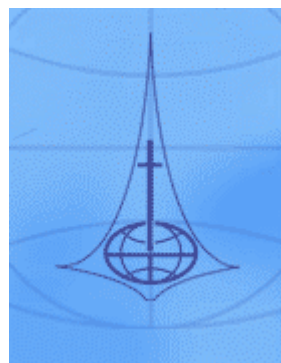
A pathologist by education, Dr. Hany attended a medical conference in Sudan in 1983 during a time of famine in the region. The poverty and desperation he witnessed compelled him to return to the UK and set up Islamic Relief as an organisation to help people in need.

In November 2003, after 20 years of humanitarian work, Dr Hany was honoured by Queen Elizabeth II with an OBE for services rendered to the community.



Lutheran World Federation

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The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947, the LWF now has 140 member churches in 78 countries all over the world with a membership of nearly 66 million Christians.

The LWF acts on behalf of its member churches in areas of common interest such as ecumenical and interfaith relations, theology, humanitarian assistance, international affairs and human rights, communication and mission and development work. The LWF staff members in Geneva number 70 from 20 different countries. There are also some 60 expatriates who work alongside with local staff in the field programs of the department for World Service.

The Department for World Service (DWS) is the internationally recognized humanitarian and development agency of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) working with marginalized and disadvantaged communities in the areas of greatest vulnerability and endemic need. Its work includes issues such as the environment, human rights, land mines, refugees, training, evaluation, development education and migration and resettlement. In these efforts, DWS cooperates within global networks that include ecumenical, governmental and non-governmental partners.

With a field presence in 37 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin and Central America and Europe, DWS has a distinguished record of compassionate and professional humanitarian response, and effective long-term development programs. Most of the DWS country programs started at the invitation of local partners (either church or government) in response to emergency situations, whether from natural disasters, human-made disasters or armed conflict. In many situations, after the initial emergency, DWS has continued working with the local population with development activities focusing on sustainability, advocacy, empowerment, capacity building, risk management and disaster preparedness. This work is implemented in partnership with local institutions.

DWS Focus Areas

With both international and local operational capabilities, the work of DWS is supported and enabled by specialized activities in the following five focus areas:

1. Emergencies, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

With almost sixty years' experience providing immediate relief in emergencies and meeting the ongoing needs of refugees and displaced populations, DWS is the leading ACT (Action by Churches Together) operational agency for emergencies, and the second largest partner of UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees). To maintain this strong leadership and to build effective bridges to sustainable development, DWS focuses on risk management, disaster preparedness and emergency response.



2. Sustainable Development and the Environment

The DWS goal of building sustainable communities embraces the commitment to sustainable development. The LWF Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2000, articulate a holistic approach in addressing the dimensions of human rights, gender, environment and communication in the process of achieving sustainable development. These emphases give direction to the practical work of DWS in areas such as HIV/AIDS, water and soil conservation, integrated rural development, food security and genetically modified organisms.

3. Advocacy and Communications

To challenge and respond to the causes and consequences of human suffering, DWS works ecumenically with a rights based approach in order to empower local communities. With the goal of amplifying the voices of local partners for greater participation in advocacy networks, DWS' local and international networks focus on identifying, studying and responding to key advocacy issues.

4. Human Resources Development

DWS employs over 5,800 experienced local staff and consultants country programs and field operations. DWS emphasizes continuous learning to ensure that staff are knowledgeable, well trained and able to work professionally and flexibly in extremely challenging circumstances. Capacity building is multiplied when international and local partners share perspectives, experiences and skills.

5. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The DWS Global Strategic Plan 2002-2006 provides the direction for the work of DWS, and the responsibility for program implementation lies with DWS Geneva. An integrated planning, monitoring and evaluation system, based on a defined project cycle, is applied to all DWS country programs and projects. The system includes country strategy outlines, cooperation agreements, programmatic action plans, field/project monitoring functions, evaluations and impact assessments.

Partnerships in humanitarian action

DWS global partnership and resource base offers a multitude of possibilities for cooperation and diversity of response. DWS is positioned to link with local communities, government and non-governmental partners, NGO coalitions, and churches and agencies within the global Lutheran and ecumenical network. Such networks promote the exchange of relevant information and expertise in a mutually supportive way.

As the humanitarian and development agency of the LWF, DWS acts on behalf of LWF member churches around the world. This constitutes an extensive network of relationships for advocacy, support, cooperation and community-based response and development. DWS works strongly within an ecumenical context and is committed to close cooperation with its ecumenical partners.

DWS works closely with other humanitarian organizations in carrying out its work and bringing its experience into public policy debate. DWS has long enjoyed a partnership relationship with United Nations agencies involved in humanitarian response. It signed Memoranda of Understanding with UNHCR and WFP. DWS has partner relationships and agreements with many governments around the world, and inter-governmental bodies such as the EU (European Union), often facilitated in liaison with LWF member churches or related agencies. The DWS main partners are:



Ecumenical Partners

- ACT (Action by Churches Together)
- EAA (Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance)
- APRODEV (Association of World Council of Churches related European development agencies)

Humanitarian Partners

- SCHR (Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response)
- ICVA (International Council of Voluntary Agencies)
- SPHERE Project (Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response)
- VOICE (Main NGO interlocutor with EU for humanitarian affairs)
- EURONAIID

UN Agency Partners

- UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees)
- WFP (UN World Food Programme)
- UNICEF (UN Children's Fund)
- UNDP (UN Development Programme)
- OCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)
- UN Interagency Standing Committee.

Biography – Rev. Eberhard Hitzler, Director of the Department for World Service

Rev Eberhard Hitzler is the Director of the Department for World Service of the Lutheran World Federation, based in Geneva.

The LWF is engaged in emergency response and development cooperation in 37 countries. Mr. Hitzler has started work in this capacity on 1st July 2006.

He is a German citizen, with previous experience in development work with church related NGOs and Churches. He served as the Secretary for development policy and as Africa secretary of the Evangelical Church in Germany just prior to joining the LWF. Mr. Hitzler gained field experience in development work in Tanzania.

He is married and has two daughters.



MDM – Médecins du Monde - Réseau International

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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World international network is composed of 16 associations, 12 of which are operational on an international level. The member associations of the network rely on the commitment of their members (the majority of them are health professionals) to bring help to the most vulnerable populations of the world, including their country of origin. The member associations, within this framework, have brought help to populations that were victims of significant humanitarian crises.

The actions of the members of the network are based on care and testimony.

Care

The first mission of *Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World* is to care for others. The actors (employees and volunteers) of the association are committed to assist all vulnerable populations: victims of natural disasters, famines, diseases (endemics or epidemics, particularly AIDS), victims of armed conflicts, political violence, refugees, displaced persons, minorities, street children, drug users, and all of those excluded from care.

Testimony

Considering that there is no cure without justice, no sustainable help without social laws, *Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World* considers it necessary to go beyond care. Apart from its medical practice, and in all independence, *Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World* testifies to the obstacles in accessing care, to the attacks on human rights and dignity.

In 1987 *Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World* developed the concept of the “right of interference,” to intervene in Armenia, Kurdistan and Somalia. On March 31, 1990, in Krakow, the members of the international network signed the European Charter of humanitarian action for the refusal of exclusion, discrimination and torture. This charter reaffirms the commitment of *Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World* in favour of both the assistance to all victims and the humanitarian international law.



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



SCHR



InterAction

Biography – Dr. Eric Chevallier, Director, International Operations and Programmes, MDM France

As of January 2006, **Eric Chevallier**, is Director of international operations and programmes at Médecins du Monde France.

For the past 20 years he has been involved with NGOs, the UN, and his national government on crisis prevention and management, as well as on international health issues. In 2005, he worked as Post-tsunami national coordinator for France. Before this, he served as deputy director in charge of International Crisis Monitoring and Management with the SGDN, French Prime Minister's Office. He served as special adviser to Bernard Kouchner, Head of the UN Mission in Kosovo (mid-1999 to 2001) and later on served as his senior adviser at the French Ministry of Health. He has been Director of AMI, an international NGO and a member of the creating team of UNAIDS.

Eric Chevallier is also a Lecturer at ENA, and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris on Conflict Prevention and Peace Building as well as in several institutions within and outside of Europe. Eric Chevallier is a medical doctor and is a graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris.



Mercy Corps

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Mercy Corps at a Glance

Mercy Corps works amid disasters, conflicts, chronic poverty and instability to unleash the potential of people who can win against impossible odds. Since 1979, Mercy Corps has provided \$1 billion in assistance to people in 82 nations.

Supported by headquarters offices in the North America, Europe, and Asia, the agency's unified global programs employ 2,700 staff worldwide and reach nearly 10 million people in more than 40 countries.

Over the last five years, more than 90 percent of the agency's resources have been allocated directly to programs that help people in need.

Our Mission

Mercy Corps exists to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping people build secure, productive and just communities.

Core Values

- We believe in the intrinsic value and dignity of human life.
- We are awed by human resilience, and believe in the ability of all people to thrive, not just exist.
- Our spiritual and humanitarian values compel us to act.
- We believe that all people have the right to live in peaceful communities and participate fully in the decisions that affect their lives.
- We believe that human imagination and energy can inspire innovative solutions to any problem, no matter how intractable.
- We believe that it is our duty to be effective stewards of the financial resources entrusted to us.

Who We Help

All over the world, millions of innocent people are caught up in intolerable situations. But they are not today's victims; they are tomorrow's heroes, who have the power to transform their own communities.



What We Do

- Emergency Relief/Recovery
- Economic Development
- Civil Society Initiatives

Where We Work

Africa – Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe

Latin America – Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua

Balkans – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia

Caucasus – Azerbaijan, Georgia

Central Asia – Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

East Asia – China, East Timor, Indonesia, Kiribati, Mongolia, North Korea

Middle East – Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, West Bank/Gaza

North America – Gulf Coast Response, Mercy Corps Conflict Management Group, Mercy Corps Northwest, Global Envision

South Asia – Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Success Is

Communities that transition into secure, productive and just places within ten years, wherever possible.

Biography – Ms. Nancy E. Lindborg, President



Nancy Lindborg's guidance and strategic vision have helped transform Mercy Corps into a respected, innovative international relief and development organization and global partner of choice.

During her ten years of leadership, the organization has experienced unprecedented growth and met new challenges with responsive, innovative programming.

In her role as Mercy Corps President, Lindborg uses her expertise in public policy, economic development, post-conflict and disaster assistance to lead Mercy Corps' global planning, public affairs, program operations and development, and emergency response. She has directed the organization's launch of programs in such challenging places as Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans, North Korea and tsunami-affected areas of

southern Asia.

From her base in Washington, D.C., Lindborg currently serves as Vice-President on the Board of Directors for the U.S. Global Leadership Campaign and serves as a board member on the ONE Campaign. In critical roles as co-chair of the National Committee on North Korea and Chair of the InterAction North Korea working group, she leads efforts to advance, promote and facilitate engagement between citizens of the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Lindborg served from 2000-2005 on the Sphere Management Committee, an international initiative to improve the effectiveness and accountability of NGOs, and chaired that committee from 2000-2004. Lindborg also served as co-chair of the InterAction Disaster Response Committee from 1998-2002.

Before joining Mercy Corps in 1996, Lindborg managed economic development programs as a regional director in post-Soviet Central Asia and worked in the private sector as a public policy consultant in Chicago and San Francisco. She graduated with honors from Stanford University with a B.A. in English Literature. She also holds an M.A. in English Literature from Stanford and an M.A. in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



MERCY Malaysia

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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

- **Emergency Phase**

- Provides medical assistance through deployment of medical specialists and staff in disasters arising from natural hazards as well as complex crises
- Emergency shelters post-tsunami in Aceh and Sri Lanka
- Psychosocial support in emergencies

- **Recovery & Rehabilitation**

- Medical teams deployed to support disrupted services post disaster
- Reconstruction of primarily health related facilities post-disaster and in other deprived areas e.g. Iran, Afghanistan, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Sudan
- Building capacity in the health sector primarily through training programs

- **Mitigation & Preparedness**

- Interacting with communities to build community based disaster preparedness through educational projects and training workshops in seismic resistant reconstruction

- **Other Projects**

- Partner of UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF in projects in Malaysia to improve welfare of refugees and unregistered children, women.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

- MERCY Malaysia is the Secretariat of the ADRRN and brings together partners to build capacity among Asian NGOs, share experiences and conduct joint projects
- Post and pre disaster works with partner NGOs and governments to provide resource and information support to local and central governments
- Exchange programs for Asian NGOs in issues of governance, accountability and project management



Biography - Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, President

- Qualified as an Obstetrician & Gynaecologist in the United Kingdom in 1991.
- Dr Mahmood is the founder and President of MERCY Malaysia, a non profit organization with headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- MERCY Malaysia founded in 1999 has operated in 14 countries and is focused mainly on activities in Asia.
- Chairperson of the Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network, which has more than 30 Asian NGO partners, since 2004.
- Vice-Chair of ICVA since 2005
- Member of Advisory Board of the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund from May 2006



NRC – Norwegian Refugee Council

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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is an independent non-governmental organization, with the overall objective to promote and protect the rights of refugees and internally displaced persons. This will be achieved through acting as an independent and courageous spokesman for refugees and internally displaced persons, by providing humanitarian assistance in emergency situations and by strengthening the capacity of UN organisations to offer and coordinate international aid and protection.

NRC is a politically and religiously independent and private foundation, and the only Norwegian humanitarian organization which has specialized in protection and assistance to refugees and internally displaced people. NRC was originally co-founded in 1946 by a number of Norwegian non-governmental organizations that wished to coordinate their efforts to help refugees in Europe in the wake of WWII. Today, NRC's 1700 employees in 20 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America work to provide assistance to and promote the protection of some of the most vulnerable people in the world; people who have been forced to flee their homes to save their lives. Most of them are women and children.

NRC's activities are based on three main pillars, which all are directed towards strengthening international protection of refugees and IDPs. These are: advocacy, programme activities and the emergency standby forces. The NRC has a special focus on hidden or forgotten conflicts, both in terms of its advocacy efforts and its practical assistance. International efforts are governed far too greatly by the Western world's proximity to – and concern about – certain conflicts. The NRC will therefore give priority to programmes in areas shouldering the greatest burdens in terms of refugees and IDPs.

Advocacy efforts encompass all types of actions aimed at promoting the rights of refugees and IDPs either in countries where the organization conducts its programmes, in various international forums, and vis-à-vis Norwegian authorities, special interests groups and the general public.

The NRC's Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) is the leading international body monitoring situations of conflict-induced internal displacement, and an important advocate on behalf of the world's 24 million IDPs. The IDMC also conducts training on the protection of IDPs and works to involve civil society actors in addressing internal displacement situations.

The emergency standby forces aim to strengthen the UN's capacity in emergency situations, and have become one of the most important suppliers of personnel to the UN and other humanitarian organisations. 660 men and women are currently on stand-by and ready to be deployed anywhere in the world on 72-hours notice.

Programme activities include distribution of emergency aid, education, construction of transitional and permanent shelter and schools, camp management and camp coordination, and information, counselling and legal assistance to displaced people. The organisation also has projects within information and counselling for refugees and asylum seekers in Norway.



- a. Distribution.** Access to food is an absolute necessity for survival and thus one of the first requirements that needs to be addressed in the case of an emergency. The objective of food aid programmes is to save lives and preserve or improve nutritional status. When possible NRC also includes more emphasis upon saving livelihoods. Field assessments and analysis are always a part of the exercise to obtain knowledge on the particularities of an actual emergency and the needs of those who are most food insecure.
- b. Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA).** The overall objective of ICLA is to contribute to the best possible basis on which refugees and internally displaced people can make an informed decision on whether or not to return. Where return to country/place of origin is impossible in the near future, the objective is to enable refugees who want to integrate and IDPs who need to resettle, to make informed decisions in order to find a durable solution other than return.
- c. Shelter.** NRC is involved in both emergency and long term shelter activities. The solutions can range from plastic sheeting in a short term transit camp to full standard permanent housing in a return or resettlement situation. Within the primary target groups, priority will be given to single parent- and children headed households, elderly and disabled. In addition, NRC will ensure that the needs of special groups among the refugees/IDPs/returnees, such as indigenous peoples, nomads and the landless are considered. In return situations, pioneer families will receive special attention.
- d. Education (in emergencies).** Within the target groups, priority in the field of education is given to the over-aged children with little or no schooling. The NRC implements its programmes by cooperation with education authorities, coordination with education institutions, UN agencies and other NGOs and through capacity and competence building
- e. Camp Management.** Bringing together the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), OCHA's Internal Displacement Unit and UNHCR, the Camp Management Project is a joint effort to improve camp management. The aim has been to develop a comprehensive overview of the camp management role and responsibilities, but also to provide practical and reference tools to support camp managers in their daily work.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Refugees and IDPs are not only the NRC's target group, but also its closest partners in cooperation. We aim for our projects to be based on respect for the culture and customs of the refugee groups, and shall acknowledge the fact that it is these groups themselves that are best qualified to define their own situation and determine how to improve it. Refugees and IDPs shall therefore insofar as possible take active part in the planning and implementation of measures. Such measures shall be based on, and shall be in support of, the refugees' and IDPs' own activities to improve their situation. Whenever possible, the NRC cooperates with local organizations, and in this way aims to improve the capacity of these organizations to assist, and protect the rights of, refugees and IDPs. Such cooperation is initiated and developed with a view to ensuring that programmes and efforts can be taken over and continued by local groups. The IDMC has developed a specific civil society programme aiming at involving non-governmental organisations in monitoring IDP situations and building their capacity to become advocates for the rights of IDPs. The IDMC is also in the process of establishing an international web-based network of national and local NGOs working on IDP issues.

The NRC cooperates with and strives to strengthen international networks that are working to enhance protection of and assistance to refugees and IDPs. Such institutions include the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) and the NGO Forum (a group of Norwegian human rights and refugee organizations).



Biography – Mr. Tomas C. Archer, Secretary General

Tomas C. Archer has been the Secretary General of NRC since February 2006. He has extensive management and leadership experience from the Norwegian Armed Forces where he retired as a Lieutenant General. He is educated as a pilot and has held many different positions in the armed forces among which is Chief of the Royal Norwegian Air force. His last position was the Commander of Norway's National Joint Headquarter where he commanded all of Norway's operational forces around the world. After leaving the armed forces he worked as an independent consultant within management and leadership.

Tomas C. Archer has received recognition for his management and leadership skills and he was selected "Leader of the year" in public management in 2002 and in 2004 he received the Armed Forces first "Equal Opportunities Award". In 2003 the Royal Norwegian Air Force became a member of "The balanced Scorecards hall of fame" under his leadership.

Tomas C. Archer is married with two daughters.



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Summary of the agency's humanitarian priorities

2006 is a year with unique opportunities to strengthen humanitarian actors' ability to undertake lifesaving humanitarian assistance world-wide. Three key reforms should facilitate more robust action through more predictable and immediate funding, better response capacity in the sectors where there have been gaps and stronger leadership in country level coordination. With a new Central Emergency Response Fund OCHA should be able to give immediate minimum funding to jump-start relief operations when lives are most at stake – in the first weeks of an emergency.

Inspired by the Humanitarian Response Review undertaken in 2005, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee has endorsed working together in well-coordinated clusters lead by an IASC member organization to address gaps in a timely manner.

Throughout 2006, OCHA will continue to work with the IASC and others to develop and implement a more predictable and effective humanitarian system. As such, OCHA's main priorities are to support the implementation of the reform, strengthen administrative support to field operations and strengthen information management capacity at field level. These also include working with its partners at improving protection of civilians, as well as access to vulnerable populations, prevention and risk reduction measures.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

OCHA strategy to further strengthen cooperation with NGOs, key partners in advocacy and operations, build on several activities. They include: providing timely information to non-UN humanitarian partners about the inter-agency process and OCHA's work at HQ and field levels; aiming for meaningful interaction and dialogue, not just public relations; emphasizing both informal and formal interaction for enhanced cooperation and trust building; acknowledging and publicizing the role and added value of non-UN humanitarian organizations and seeing benefit in bringing this added value into the IASC decision making process; interpreting flexibly UN rules on involvement and participation and making them better understood by non-UN humanitarian partners; developing an attitude of openness within OCHA HQ and field staff vis-à-vis non-UN humanitarian partners; advocate and allocate financial resources for enhancing their participation and access through the CAPs, CERF and HRF funding mechanisms; involving international and national NGOs in emergency preparedness and response plans, in particular with regard to contingency planning, early-warning, lessons learnt exercises and the CAP process; encouraging UN and OCHA staff to interact with non-UN humanitarian partners directly; seeing their participation, at all levels, as an enhancement of the inter-agency process.



Biography – Mr. Jan Egeland, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator



Mr. Jan Egeland, is the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, since 28 August 2003.

Mr. Egeland has gained 25 years of active experience in humanitarian, human rights and peace work through the United Nations, the Norwegian Government, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other non-governmental and academic institutions. His last assignment was Secretary General of the Norwegian Red Cross. From 1999 to 2002, he was the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Colombia.

Earlier in his career, he served as State Secretary in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1990–1997). Mr. Egeland holds a Magister Artium in Political Science, University of Oslo. He has been a Fulbright Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley and a fellow at the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo, and the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace, Jerusalem.

Mr. Egeland has been Chair of Amnesty International, Norway, and Vice-Chair of the International Executive Committee of Amnesty International.

Mr. Egeland has been an active participant in a number of peace processes. He co-initiated and co-organized the Norwegian channel between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1992, which led to the Oslo Accord (Declaration of Principles) of September 1993. He directed the Norwegian facilitation of the United Nations-led peace talks leading up to ceasefire agreement between Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) guerrillas signed in Oslo in 1996.



OHCHR – Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

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The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), a department of the United Nations Secretariat established in 1993 under GA resolution 48/141, is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in international human rights laws and treaties. The mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations, and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights. In addition to its mandated responsibilities, the Office leads efforts to integrate a human rights approach within all work carried out by United Nations agencies.

OHCHR's priorities are set out in the High Commissioner's Plan of Action launched in May 2005, at the request of the Secretary General. OHCHR's Strategic Management Plan 2006-2007 details the means by which the Office aims to implement the High Commissioner's Plan of Action (<http://www.ohchr.org/english/about/docs/strategic.pdf>).

Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is to protect and promote all human rights for all and to prevent the occurrence or continuation of human rights abuses throughout the world.

OHCHR is guided in its work by the mandate provided by the General Assembly in resolution 48/141, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent human rights instruments, and the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

OHCHR aims to ensure the enforcement of universally recognized human rights norms, including through promoting both the universal ratification and implementation of human rights treaties and respect for the rule of law.

OHCHR supports four types of field presences: (i) Country Offices, (ii) Human Rights Components of Peace Missions, (iii) Regional Offices, and (iv) Human Rights Advisors to UN Country Teams. Operationally, OHCHR works with governments, national institutions, civil society, regional and international organizations, United Nations Country Teams and Peace Missions and the wider humanitarian community to develop and strengthen capacity for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with international norms. This involves integrating human rights into national and regional legislation, policies and practices; disseminating human rights norms, standards and concepts; fostering dialogue between governments and the United Nations human rights mechanisms; assessing human rights challenges; integrating a rights-based approach to national development and humanitarian work; preventing and redressing human rights violations; building national capacities and institutions; and coordinating the work of OHCHR's regional offices with that of regional organisations. Programmatically, OHCHR, particularly Country Offices, Human Rights Advisors, and Human Rights Components of Peace Missions work closely with other humanitarian agencies in the field.



Institutionally, OHCHR is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programme and providing the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies and special mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights with the highest quality support. OHCHR is committed to working closely with its United Nations partners to ensure that human rights form the bedrock of the work of the Organization.

In carrying out its responsibilities, OHCHR will:

- Give priority to addressing the most pressing human rights problems, both acute and chronic, with particular emphasis on those human rights violations that put life in imminent peril;
- Ensure special attention for those who are at risk and vulnerable on multiple fronts;
- Pay equal attention to the realization of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development; and
- Measure the impact of its work through the substantive benefit that is accrued, through it, to its intended beneficiaries.

Biography – Ms. Louise Arbour, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



Louise Arbour was appointed High Commissioner for Human Rights by the Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly, effective 1 July 2004.

Ms. Arbour, a Canadian national, began a distinguished academic career in 1970, culminating in the positions of Associate Professor and Associate Dean at the Osgood Hall Law School of York University in Toronto, Canada, in 1987. In December of 1987, she was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ontario (High Court of Justice) and in 1990 she was appointed to the Court of Appeal for Ontario. In 1995, Ms. Arbour was appointed by Order-in-Council as single Commissioner to conduct an inquiry into certain events at the Prisons for Women in Kingston, Ontario.

In 1996, she was appointed by the Security Council of the United Nations as Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda. After three years as Prosecutor, she resigned to take up an appointment to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Ms. Arbour graduated from College Regina Assumpta, Montreal in 1967 and completed an LL.L (with distinction) from the Faculty of Law, University of Montreal in 1970. Following the Quebec Bar Admission Course, she was called to the Quebec Bar in 1971 and the Ontario Bar in 1977. Ms. Arbour has received honorary doctorates from twenty-seven Universities and numerous medals and awards. She is a member of many distinguished professional societies and organizations and has served on the boards of many others. She has published extensively on criminal law and given innumerable addresses on both national and international criminal law.

Ms. Arbour was born on 10 February 1947 in Montreal, Quebec and has three children. She is fluent in French and English.



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Oxfam International is an international group of autonomous non-governmental organizations dedicated to fighting poverty and related injustice around the world. The Oxfams work together internationally to achieve greater impact by their collective efforts.

In working together the Oxfams believe that:

- Oxfam International offers a unique potential to achieve greater impact on the causes of poverty and powerlessness by combining the diverse experiences of Oxfams and their partners.
- The name 'Oxfam' will stand for a clear and consistent approach. We can achieve this through closer cooperation in our communications, advocacy, education and public campaigns; fundraising; emergency development programmes and fair trade.

The 12 member organisation are in America, Australia, Belgium, Canada (2), Germany, Hong King, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain and the UK.

Oxfam International have offices in the UK, USA, Belgium, Spain, Switzerland and Japan. Affiliate members work in over 80 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific and Europe.

The global consolidated income of Oxfam International is US\$ 837 million, with a central cooperation budget of US\$ 5.3 million.

Summary of the organisation's humanitarian priorities

The right to life and security

Global Strategic Change Objectives:

- *A significant reduction in the number of people who die, fall sick, or suffer deprivation as a direct result of armed conflict or natural disasters.*
- *A significant reduction in the number of people who suffer personal or communal violence, forced displacement or armed conflict.*

Oxfam's work in this area is guided by respect for the autonomy, dignity and capacities of people affected by humanitarian crises. The principles are set out in two international protocols to which the Oxfams subscribe: the Sphere Project's Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response and the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief.

We will continue to improve the quality and effectiveness of our own and others' humanitarian emergencies. Ensuring the dignity of people affected by disasters will remain a central focus of our



practical response and advocacy. We will use our credibility and influence to improve the standard of international response.

We will substantially increase our investment in preparedness for disaster-response by supporting and building the relief and rehabilitation capacities of communities, local groups and organisations.

The protection of the most vulnerable people, particularly women and children in conflict situations, will be a major focus of work for Oxfam. At the same time we will foster an appreciation of the positive role of women as actors in conflict resolution, peace building and humanitarian response.

We will make better use of the media to build global understanding of the causes and consequences of man-made and natural disasters.

Oxfam has an important place in the international humanitarian response community, particularly through the capacities and reputation of Oxfam GB which represents Oxfam International in the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR). We will make better use of this position in order to influence the policies, practices and quality of the overall sector's response. We aim to contribute to the following outcomes in this respect:

- Improvements in the quality of global humanitarian response. These include the implementation of the international standards; reform of donor policies; and the development of new rules where necessary.
- Strengthening the capacities of conflict prevention, resolution and peace-building, at all levels including within the United Nations, and within regional, national and community-level bodies.
- Confronting those who benefit from conflict, and reducing the incentives for exploitation that lead to environmental and social disasters. These include regulation of the arms trade and key extractive industries (oil, mining, forestry).
- Addressing widespread intolerance and prejudice, which is both created and fuelled by conflict and violence.

Strategy for partnerships in humanitarian action

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL - Working Principles

These working principles set common standards which all Oxfam programs should aim to achieve.

1. The Oxfams at all times work through local and accountable organizations and /or towards strengthening or facilitating the establishment of such organizations or structures.
2. Exceptionally, where and when local capacity is insufficient, the Oxfams will help people directly, through consultants (often from the South), field staff, emergency workers and /or co-operants or other support people recruited for their professional capacity. These staff or support people will be brought in (only when local capacity is insufficient or inappropriate) preferable from Southern countries, but also from the North and can where necessary be involved in operational tasks. They will work simultaneously on strengthening local capacity, which means they will be accountable, facilitate local ownership, and work with a short or long term withdrawal strategy.
3. The category of volunteers who are brought in for their own learning experience are accountable to the local organization who has agreed to "adapt" them for specific tasks during a specific time-span.
4. Oxfams and organizations/structures supported by the Oxfams will organize planning, management, implementation and evaluation of projects in such a way that people form participating groups or communities can (optimally) run or (minimally) significantly influence that project at different levels. Oxfams will base their partnership on a relationship where they support partners to achieve their aims; where partners themselves propose, conceive, plan, manage implement and co-evaluate the projects in a direct way. Explicit procedures should be in place to ensure that women and, where



relevant, other marginalized people can significantly influence the projects. This includes systems to encourage diversity and to allow for and resolve disagreements, complaints or conflicts.

5. Gender and diversity issues (such as issues around class, ethnicity, ability, language, age, etc.) are explicit parts of any level of strategic planning, management, implementation, evaluation or withdrawal strategies, whether this be done by local organizations/structures, or by the Oxfams themselves.

6. The constant search for better practice is developed as part of the organizational culture of the Oxfams and is facilitated in local organizations/structures. This involves using and developing participatory processes and instruments at different levels: strategic renewal, planning, monitoring (self) audit of organizations, programs and projects, (self-) evaluation, external evaluations and impact assessment. Linking and learning across projects, organizations and countries should be stimulated.

Biography – Ms. Barbara Stocking, Director, OXFAM Great Britain

Barbara Stocking joined Oxfam GB as Director in May 2001. Oxfam is a humanitarian, developing and campaigning agency, whose purpose is to work with others to overcome poverty and suffering. During the last 4 years, Barbara has led Oxfam's response to humanitarian crises in Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan, for the Tsunami and the Pakistan Earthquake. She has strengthened Oxfam's campaigning (e.g. Make Trade Fair, Education Now) and pushed for Oxfam's scale up of development work e.g. on Livelihoods and HIV/Aids.

Previously a member of the top management team of the National Health Service, in her eight years with the NHS, Barbara worked as regional director and most recently as Director of the Modernisation Agency, charged with modernising the NHS. Barbara has a Masters degree in physiology, and has broad experience of healthcare systems, policy and practice, including periods at the National Academy of Sciences in the USA and with the World Health Organisation in West Africa.

She is married to Dr John MacInnes and they have two sons, Andrew 18 and Stephen 16.



Office of the Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights for Internally Displaced Persons

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The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Dr. Walter Kälin, is appointed by the UN Secretary-General at the request of the Commission on Human Rights to address the human rights issues of internally displaced persons (IDPs). His mandate calls upon him to engage in dialogue and advocacy with Governments and other actors concerning the rights of IDPs, strengthen the international response to internal displacement, and mainstream human rights throughout the UN system. His activities include promoting and disseminating the rights articulated in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, undertaking country visits, engaging Governments and other actors with regard to specific situations of internal displacement, sponsoring national and regional seminars, engaging UN agencies and departments, undertaking research on issues of IDPs' human rights, and reporting annually to the Commission on Human Rights and General Assembly.

The Representative strives to enhance the will to protect the rights of internally displaced persons, to prepare tools for their protection by relevant actors and engages to identify issues and to set the agenda for the protection of the rights of internally displaced persons as new issues arise.

Areas of Activity

1. Promoting Respect for the Human Rights of the Internally Displaced

Advocacy. The Representative engages Governments, international organizations, and also NGOs and other non-state actors as appropriate, in dialogues in order to raise awareness on and enhance the protection of the human rights of IDPs and addresses violations of the human rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs), including through personal and written contact, and, when suitable, public statements.

Disseminating the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The Representative promotes awareness of and dialogue about the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2), including through supporting their translation and wide dissemination and the convening of seminars with governments, international organizations, regional bodies and NGOs.

Promoting National Policies and Laws on Internal Displacement. The Representative encourages the development of national laws and policies on internal displacement and, to this end, plans to develop a domestic policy-maker's handbook to assist Governments. The handbook will draw upon the expertise of international legal experts and domestic policy makers from different parts of the world and define the elements that should be addressed in a national legal or policy framework on internal displacement. The handbook will be disseminated widely and should be a useful tool for national legislators and policy makers.

Deepening Understanding about IDPs' Rights. The Representative has introduced a new course on the law relating to internal displacement at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law* in San Remo, attended by high-level civil Government officials from different parts of the world. He also sponsors research into the implications of particular provisions of the Guiding Principles (such as those concerning property rights, political participation, IDPs and peace processes, and displacement by natural disasters or development) and how they best can be translated into policy.



2. Dialogue with Governments, Non-Governmental Organizations and Other Actors

Undertaking Country Missions. The Representative undertakes 3-4 country missions each year to inquire into the human rights and protection issues of IDPs with relevant authorities, civil society, international actors and IDPs themselves and to develop recommendations for solving ongoing problems.

Engaging in Dialogue with Government Representatives. The Representative engages in dialogue with Government representatives while on country visits as well as with diplomatic representatives in New York, Geneva, and in regional and other fora.

Convening National Seminars. The Representative convenes or supports national seminars in affected countries to bring together Government representatives, civil society, international and regional bodies to develop a more effective national response. The Representative also convenes meetings in other venues to focus attention on specific situations and issues of internal displacement.

Supporting National Human Rights Institutions. The Representative encourages national human rights institutions to integrate internal displacement into their work through technical assistance and other support. In this endeavor, he collaborates with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions* and the Norwegian Refugee Council Global IDP Project*). Beyond the Asia Pacific region, the Representative is seeking to expand such efforts to institutions in other parts of the world, particularly in Africa and Latin America.

Engaging Non-State Actors. The Representative also seeks to engage non-state actors (armed groups) in a human rights dialogue and promote their compliance with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

Partnerships with Civil Society . The Representative works with civil society partners around the world to support their efforts in promoting and protecting the rights of IDPs. Collaborative projects include: the development of studies, reports, handbooks and other materials on the rights of IDPs, including translations of the Guiding Principles into local languages; courses, lectures or workshops that raise awareness and enhance responses to internal displacement; supporting human rights monitoring by IDPs; and outreach campaigns on the rights of IDPs.

Giving a Voice to IDPs. To promote a greater voice for IDPs in the design of programs and initiatives on their behalf, the Representative plans to hold consultations with IDPs to learn their views, provide information about the different tools and strategies available to support them, help forge links among IDPs in different countries and make their views better known internationally.

3. Strengthening the International Response to Internal Displacement

Raising Human Rights and Protection Concerns at the International Level. With a view to ensuring the effectiveness of the international response to internal displacement, the Representative draws attention to situations where existing protection arrangements would need to be enhanced, particularly through his mission reports and participation in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee* and other inter-agency fora. He works closely with the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Inter-Agency Internal Displacement Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs,* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and other relevant agencies and organizations to identify solutions for addressing gaps in international responses to the rights and needs of IDPs.

Integrating IDP issues into the Work of Regional Organizations. The Representative seeks to integrate responses to regional IDP problems into the work of regional organizations. In partnership with these organizations, the Representative supports the convening of regional seminars and the development of policies and programs to benefit IDPs. The Representative will also explore the potential for further standard setting at the regional level.



4. Mainstreaming the Human Rights of IDPs in the UN System

Strengthening Cooperation with OHCHR, Treaty Bodies and other Special Procedures. The Representative works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and collaborates with the Commission on Human Rights' country and thematic procedures to raise the visibility of IDP issues within the scope of their mandates, and encourage systematic attention to the issue by the human rights treaty bodies.

Integrating Attention to IDPs' Human Rights into the Work of UN Agencies, Departments and Programs. The Representative lends his expertise on IDPs' human rights to other relevant agencies, departments and offices of the UN to assist their development of programs and policies in conformity with international norms and the needs of IDPs. The Representative will reach beyond humanitarian actors to also address political, peacekeeping, development and financial actors.

Inter-Agency Advocacy. The Representative engages inter-agency fora, including the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to which he is a standing invitee, on specific country and thematic issues and concerns of IDP human rights. He also provides support when needed in the development of system-wide policies and procedures, such as on the development of benchmarks for "when displacement ends."

The Representative submits annual reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly.

Biography – Prof. Walter Kälin, Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights for Internally Displaced Persons

Mr. Walter Kälin is a Swiss legal scholar and professor of constitutional and international law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern. Mr. Kälin has been closely concerned with issues of IDPs for over a decade, having served as chair of the committee of legal experts that developed the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and having authored numerous books on the subject, including the Annotations to the Guiding Principles (American Society of International Law, Brookings-SAIS Project on Internal Displacement, 2000).

In addition to his responsibilities as Representative, Mr. Kälin is also currently a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (since 2003). From 1991-1992, Kälin served as the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Kuwait under Iraqi Occupation.



Save the Children Alliance

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Save the Children

<http://www.savethechildren.net>

The International Save the Children Alliance is a confederation of 30 member organisations that work together with the same shared mission: Save the Children fights for children's rights; we deliver immediate and lasting improvements to children's lives worldwide. Together, the Save the Children Alliance is the world's largest independent organisation for children, making a difference to children's lives in over 110 countries.

From emergency relief to long-term development, Save the Children helps children to achieve a happy, healthy and secure childhood. Save the Children listens to children, involves children and ensures their views are taken into account. Save the Children secures and protects children's rights – to food, shelter, health care, education and freedom from violence, abuse and exploitation. Our work involves thousands of different initiatives, geared towards children's needs and local circumstances. Several key principles underpin everything we do:

Independence and Collaboration

Save the Children is an independent, non-governmental organisation, with no religious or political affiliations, working worldwide. This gives us a strong, impartial voice and presence across the world. However, we cannot achieve change alone. We work with governments and with local, national and international organisations to improve children's lives directly or to influence the policies and practices of others.

Speaking Out For Children

Save the Children fights for the promotion, protection and fulfilment of children's rights. This means we work with and on behalf of children to make sure their rights are recognised and acted upon by international decision-makers, national politicians and local opinion formers. We are committed to persuading those with power and influence to create a better world for children, through policy and practice.

Involving Children

Save the Children uses many different approaches to tackle children's problems in different situations around the world. We work with children and their families at a community level, finding solutions together. We aim to ensure that all girls and boys are given opportunities to participate in this decision-making, especially children in vulnerable situations and those who may be subject to discrimination.

Commitment to Children Affected by Emergencies

The Board of the Save the Children Alliance has recently renewed its commitment to strengthen and grow our joint capacity to respond to the needs of children in emergencies.

Save the Children defines an emergency as a situation where the lives, physical and mental wellbeing or development opportunities of children are threatened as a result of conflict or natural disasters, and where local capacity to respond is exceeded or inadequate.



Emergency work is a core part of what we do, and why we are present in countries around the world. It is when children are caught up in emergency situations that their rights and those of their families are most threatened. Unfortunately, the number of children and families requiring emergency assistance still far exceeds the global capacity to respond to their needs. We are committed to doing all we can to narrow that gap, with our own interventions, and by working with others.

Our mandate compels us to do all that we can to intervene in such situations, and ensure that the particular needs of children in emergencies are identified and met, and their rights protected. In the aftermath of emergencies and in all other areas of our work, we look for sustainable solutions that will benefit children and their communities for years to come.

Biography – Ms. Jasmine Whitbread, Chief Executive, Save the Children UK



Jasmine is the Chief Executive of Save the Children UK, and Board Member of the International Save the Children Alliance. Before joining Save the Children in 2005, Jasmine spent six years with Oxfam GB, most recently as International Director and Deputy Director responsible for Oxfam's programmes worldwide, and before in West Africa as Regional Director.

Prior to this, Jasmine was Managing Director of a Thomson Financial business, based in the US. She has a background in international marketing in the high-technology sector. Jasmine also spent two years as a VSO volunteer in Uganda.

Jasmine graduated in English from the University of Bristol in 1986, and in 1997 completed the Stanford Executive Program at the Graduate School of Business, Stanford, California. She holds dual British/Swiss nationality and is married with two children.



SCHR – Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response

Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response

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SCHR

SCHR, the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, created in 1972, is an alliance for voluntary action of currently nine major international humanitarian organisations and networks including Care International, Caritas Internationalis, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Save the Children Alliance, Lutheran World Federation, Médecins sans Frontières, Oxfam and World Council of Churches.

Vision

SCHR's vision is a more just and humane world, where the poorest and most vulnerable are placed at the centre of their concerns.

Mission

SCHR's mission is to bring together the major international humanitarian networks with common values to make this vision reality. SCHR members pool experience and use their collective weight to carry out effective humanitarian action by:

- Sharing relevant information among member agencies and fostering cooperation at all levels
- Highlighting issues of humanitarian concern and, where possible, adopting common positions
- Establishing working groups to study in depth relevant humanitarian issues and policies, especially on standards, accountability, security and protection
- Engaging, where possible, in joint advocacy on humanitarian issues and situations
- Engaging with the UN humanitarian system, and actively participating in the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
- Playing a leading role in ongoing debates about humanitarian standards
- Conducting peer reviews to learn from one another and improve our humanitarian response
- Regularly bringing the principals of our members together to build trust leading to further synergies at all levels of our work.

Developing Humanitarian Policy

Sponsor of the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief and a founding member of the Sphere project, SCHR supports humanitarian policy development and aims at closing the policy - practice gap. It learns from experience by following up on studies arising out of SCHR member work as practitioners in humanitarian action and disaster management, forms positions around humanitarian issues of concern, shares information and knowledge and fosters cooperation at all levels.



Peer Review

The Peer Review Process is a recent example of collaboration on learning and accountability. Based on the West Africa scandal of sexual exploitation in humanitarian operations in 2002 and the following IASC process to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation, SCHR decided to embark on a peer review process on this particular issue, using OECD-DAC peer review methodology. The first round of reviews will be finished in 2006, and SCHR is currently looking for a new theme in this process of supporting increased quality, accountability and learning within the humanitarian sector. Experiences from the first nine reviews will be shared in a Synthesis Report and through the Humanitarian Practice Network.

Work Focus

SCHR focuses its work on three segments, a field program-led agenda, a proactive quality and accountability agenda and an agenda focused on interaction with the UN, mainly through IASC.

The field program-led agenda looks at "current action" and neglected humanitarian contexts and comprises sharing program information and fostering co-operation, and proposing and taking joint SCHR (or "some of SCHR") action on issues of common humanitarian concern.

The standards and accountability agenda focuses on the peer review process as well as promotion of the Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards, the Code of Conduct in Disaster Relief and other quality and accountability initiatives. This year includes the finalisation and launching of a Commentary on the Code of Conduct in Disaster Relief together with ICVA to give field workers and humanitarian staff at headquarters examples of best practice in relation to the principles of the Code as well as opportunities to reflect on humanitarian issues and dilemmas in a changing humanitarian environment.

The third segment focuses on strategic UN humanitarian issues, currently largely encapsulated in the humanitarian reform vehicle and relating to humanitarian coordination and NGO-UN relationships and responsibilities, capacity issues and clusters, benchmarking, standards and indicators and humanitarian financing, including the new CERF.

Fora

Drawing strength from its diversity, SCHR will continue to debate issues in its bi-annual CEO meetings, inviting other actors to be part of the discussion as appropriate, looking at neutral and independent humanitarian action, civil-military relations, the future of different standards and accountability initiatives, a changing hazardscape or other issues on the frontline of humanitarian action, and supported by its main "mini-think tank", the Policy Working Group, consisting of emergency directors and policy heads.

SCHR has a small office, based in Geneva, led by Eva von Oelreich, who is its executive secretary.

Biography – Dr. Elizabeth Ferris, Programme Executive / Team Coordinator, Solidarity & Diakonia, World Council of Churches

Dr. Elizabeth Ferris is in charge of relief and development work at the World Council of Churches.

Previously she served as Director of the Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program in New York, as Research Director of the Life & Peace Institute in Uppsala, Sweden, as programme officer for refugees at WCC, and as a university professor in the US and Mexico.

She has written or edited 7 books and many articles on refugee and humanitarian issues.



UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

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<http://www.undp.org>

UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges and helping them develop their local capacity. UNDP's network links and coordinates global and national efforts to reach three Millennium Development Goals. Its focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of: Democratic Governance; Poverty Reduction; Crisis Prevention and Recovery; Energy and Environment; and HIV/AIDS.

Within UNDP, the key interlocutor for the humanitarian community is the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) - one of its nine major bureaus. Consistent with UNDP's mission to promote sustainable human development, BCPR focuses on the development dimension of crisis situations. It works to prevent armed conflicts, reduce the risk of disasters, and promote early recovery after crises have occurred. Through UNDP's country offices, BCPR staff support local government in needs assessment, capacity development, coordinated planning, and policy and standard setting.

UNDP's Humanitarian Priorities

Through partnerships with the humanitarian community, UNDP aims to advocate for better integration of longer-term development perspectives (including risk reduction and crisis prevention) into humanitarian action, so as to ensure that short-term relief interventions support - not compromise - development aspirations of host communities (e.g., "do no harm"). Furthermore, working together with humanitarian partners, UNDP aims to promote early start of post-crisis recovery efforts – concurrently with relief – and start laying foundations for longer-term development from early phases of a crisis. UNDP's commitment to these priorities is reaffirmed by the leadership role which it has agreed to take on as the Cluster Lead for Early Recovery.

In each country office, the UNDP Resident Representative normally also serves as the Resident Coordinator of development activities for the United Nations system as a whole. Many of the Resident Coordinators are also serving as the Humanitarian Coordinators, providing the important links to ensure the coherence in the integrated system-wide approach. Through such coordination between the humanitarian and development communities, UNDP seeks to ensure the most effective use of UN and international aid resources.

Strategy for Partnerships with NGOs

UNDP, as the UN global development network, works closely with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at all levels to promote the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and help people build a better life. UNDP encourages policy dialogues between governments, NGOs and donors and advocates for legal and regulatory environments that enable NGOs to contribute to the development process. UNDP also helps NGOs to develop their own capacity by connecting them to knowledge, experience and resources from around the world, including from NGOs in other countries and regions.



Through the engagement in the dialogue on enhancing the effectiveness of humanitarian action, UNDP aims to strengthen partnerships with both UN and non-UN humanitarian organizations in the areas of early recovery (including risk reduction and crisis prevention) and transition from relief to development. In particular, it seeks to advocate for greater understanding of the strong relevance of early recovery to humanitarian relief efforts by NGOs and to establish a dialogue as to how UNDP (and other early recovery actors) could work together with NGOs toward the common goals of assisting post-crisis countries.

Biography - Ms. Kathleen Cravero, Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

On behalf of the Administrator, Mr. Kemal Dervis, UNDP will be represented at this meeting by Ms. Kathleen Cravero, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR).

Ms. Cravero brings over two decades of experience in international development, as well as first-hand knowledge on a range of development issues, from newly emerging democracies to conflict and emergency situations. Before joining BCPR, she built her career with UNICEF, WHO and UNDP. From March 2000 to March 2005, she served as Deputy Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS with responsibilities in the areas of governance, resource mobilization, advocacy and leadership initiatives. In March 2003, Ms. Cravero assumed overall leadership for establishing the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS. This broad-based network of partners and organizations works to mitigate the impact of AIDS on women and girls worldwide. Since 2005, she chairs the Leadership Council of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, a group of prominent personalities who advocate publicly on the issue of women and AIDS. She is also a member of the Advisory Council of UNICEF/USA Campaign on HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Cravero served as UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Burundi (1998-2000); UNICEF Representative in Uganda (1994-1998); External Relations Officer of the World Health Organization Global Programme on AIDS (1992-1994); UNICEF Senior Health Advisor (1988-1992); and UNICEF Programme Coordinator in Chad (1985-1988).

Ms. Cravero is also a Board Member of the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and a Masters in Public Health.



UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund

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<http://www.unfpa.org>

Working in Humanitarian Response

Working Together to Improve Reproductive Health for Refugees

UNFPA works with governments, other UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to meet the emergency reproductive health needs of refugees, the internally displaced, and others affected by crisis. Since 1994, UNFPA has supported emergency projects in more than 50 countries and territories.

From contingency planning to post-conflict reconstruction, UNFPA strives to make every birth safe, every pregnancy wanted, and every girl and woman treated with dignity and respect.

Preparedness

UNFPA believes that preparedness saves lives and prevention and mitigation are essential to ensure human lives and rights are protected. To that end UNFPA enjoys an ever-expanding network of partnerships and has signed MOUs with various UN and NGO humanitarian partners for service provision, training or surge capacity. Ultimately, when calm returns, these partnerships will contribute to stronger reproductive health services in the future.

UNFPA works with national and international implementing partners in the field to ensure that supplies and trained staff are present on the ground when disaster strikes. UNFPA coordinates Reproductive Health (RH) and Gender Based Violence (GBV) programming and provides technical guidance while government bodies and other agencies implement activities on the ground. Contingency planning greatly reduces response time, pre-positioning kits, medical supplies and training of health workers in areas where disaster or displacement flows are expected.

Quick response saves lives, which is why UNFPA ships pre-packaged supplies directly to emergency situations. The Fund stocks emergency RH kits, which can be pre-positioned and deployed anywhere in the world within hours of request.

Humanitarian Response

Women are the fabric that holds families and communities together especially during crises. To respond to women's unique needs, UNFPA focuses on the following:

- UNFPA works to implement the **Minimum Initial Service Package** (MISP), which is a set of objectives and activities for achieving certain minimum requirements in an emergency. The MISP was developed by the Inter-Agency Working Group for Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations, of which UNFPA is a founding member.
- **Hygiene kits** help to ensure women's comfort, dignity and mobility. UNFPA also works with partners to ensure that **gender considerations** are factored into the design of displacement camps and overall humanitarian assistance.



- **Safe motherhood** programming includes prenatal care, safe child delivery including emergency obstetric care, post-partum care and family planning.
- **HIV prevention** is available in health facilities through IEC, the provision of free condoms, and treatment of other STIs and prevention of Mother-to-Child-Transmission (MTCT).
- **Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)** includes prevention, protection of survivors, medical treatment and counseling and support. **Psychosocial Care** includes trauma counseling and support for victims of sexual violence, within conflict and natural disaster settings.
- UNFPA programmes reach out to address **Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH)**, especially through IEC activities and life skills education offered in adolescent-friendly corners in IDP and refugee camps.
- UNFPA supports **training** to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to protect reproductive health in emergencies. In many cases, those who receive training will then train others, multiplying the positive impact.
- UNFPA's **advocacy** efforts increase awareness of the need to protect reproductive health in emergencies, and have led to increased support by governments, UN agencies and international NGOs for making reproductive health a higher priority in national policies, laws and humanitarian assistance programmes.

Recovery & Transition

UNFPA work continues during the most crucial times for communities when they move towards transition and recovery whether from Natural disaster or conflict to build back their communities better and forge into peace building and development.

UNFPA provides education, RH services and counseling for ex-combatants in **Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)** processes. The Fund offers comprehensive HIV programming, raising awareness of HIV/AIDS and STIs while promoting reproductive health among peacekeepers, police, survival sex workers and other destitute women. Psychosocial support and skills training also aid ex-combatants and their communities in healthy reintegration and income generation.

Data collection and census participation provides population information crucial to shaping development policies and programming strategies. UNFPA works in the rehabilitation of entire statistical systems to enable assessments, sector surveys, and other data collection critical to humanitarian and development planning by all actors.

Building capacities for Ministries of Health allows UNFPA to better cooperate with governments to link IDPs to national health systems, rehabilitate maternal health services in disaster-affected countries, create successful referral systems, integrate services into primary and secondary healthcare, and build partnerships for the wellbeing of those with limited access to services.

Prevention and treatment of sexual violence is a central concern of UNFPA in post-conflict situations, as security and social systems break down and abuse intensifies. The Fund works to educate, prevent and treat victims of SGBV, offering RH services, psychosocial counseling and advocacy campaigns to stem the spread of violence.

UNFPA assistance begins in the initial phase of an emergency in the form of humanitarian assistance, and extends through rehabilitation and beyond – to help meet the long-term goals of development assistance. From airlifts of life-saving supplies to ongoing advocacy, UNFPA support for reproductive health and rights takes many forms.



Biography – Ms. Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director



Thoraya Ahmed Obaid is the Executive Director of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, and the world's largest multilateral source of population assistance.

Ms. Obaid was appointed head of UNFPA, effective 1 January 2001, with the rank of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations.

From 1998 to 2001, Ms. Obaid was Director of the Division for Arab States and Europe within UNFPA.

Before joining the Fund, Ms. Obaid was Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) from 1993 to 1998. She was the Chief of the Social Development and Population Division, ESCWA, from 1992 to 1993, and Social Affairs Officer, responsible for the advancement of women, from 1975 to 1992. A central focus of Ms. Obaid's work at ESCWA and UNFPA has been to cooperate with governments to establish programmes to empower women and develop their capacities as citizens with rights and responsibilities. She has also worked with women's non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to advocate for women's equality.



UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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UNHCR's global strategic objectives

UNHCR's overall mandate is to provide international protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and persons of concern while working to find durable solutions to their situation. In order to fulfil its mandate the Office has established ten Global Strategic Objectives (GSO):

1. Advocate for and support governments in the creation and maintenance of an international protection regime and the provision of protection and assistance, pursuant to the *Agenda for Protection (AfP)*.
2. Promote refugee self-reliance in stabilized situations as a critical step in the pursuit of durable solutions.
3. Pursue voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration, resettlement or local integration for refugees, with a special focus on those in protracted refugee situations, and with particular reference, where applicable, to the strategies, mechanisms and tools developed in the *Framework for Durable Solutions* and Convention Plus initiatives.
4. Strengthen UNHCR's preparedness and response capacity to assist States in responding to emergencies.
5. Strengthen UNHCR's support for collaborative efforts to comprehensively address situations of internal displacement.
6. Build effective partnerships through participatory planning involving all stakeholders, comprehensive assessment of needs, and formulation of strategies that utilize the full range of resources available.
7. Advocate for the inclusion of persons of concern to UNHCR in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular, the initiatives for a global partnership for development (MDG8).
8. Enhance the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of UNHCR's operations, in particular by institutionalizing results-based management.
9. Enhance UNHCR's oversight and accountability framework in order to improve compliance with UNHCR's policies and standards.
10. Continue to develop a flexible, genderbalanced workforce that can meet the challenges of the future, including enhanced capacity to operate in situations of insecurity.



UNHCR's strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Non-governmental organizations are an integral component of UNHCR's *modus operandi* with whom the Office continues to forge effective partnerships in order to achieve its core priorities of advocacy, providing protection and assistance, and finding durable solutions.

In 2005, the Office channelled some USD 268.2 million – over one fifth of its annual budget – through partnerships with some 645 NGO partners, of which 480 are national NGOs. More than 82 per cent of the funds channelled through NGOs covered seven main sectors: agency operational support; education; legal assistance/protection; health and nutrition; shelter/other infrastructure; community services; and transport/logistics.

In order to encourage a common understanding and approach to operations and to identify the resources that partners bring, it is important to involve NGOs from the initial assessment and planning phases of an operation through to the implementation and evaluation phases. A specific example includes calling on NGOs to participate in the annual Country Operations Plan so as to determine the needs of the operation and identify the gaps.

To strengthen and build upon UNHCR's approach to partnership, the organization is reviewing its management of the sub-project agreement (grants management) process and the current levels of UNHCR's contribution to NGO headquarters' overhead and expatriate salaries. This review is in response to an initiative spearheaded by a group of UNHCR partners in the InterAction membership who undertook a survey in order to provide UNHCR with concrete data on gaps that existed in the sub-project agreement process. Recommendations from this review should be presented to UNHCR's senior management in September this year.

Furthermore, the Office is currently testing a project in four countries – Jordan, Liberia, Malaysia and South Africa – to strengthen UNHCR's management of its partnership with national NGOs and to integrate strategies to build their capacity into operational programmes. The project comprises tools for the selection and assessment of national NGOs against the key competencies of an operation; a second one designed to support effective and efficient joint practices; and a third tool for self-assessment of the management of implementing partner arrangements. Whilst the project focuses primarily on national NGOs, the tools can be replicated for international NGOs. The results will be evaluated next year.

As cluster lead in the clusters on protection, emergency shelter and camp coordination and camp management, UNHCR actively sought input from NGOs to map the capacities existing and lacking in each of these clusters. Bilateral consultations are also taking place with key NGO operational partners, such as the Norwegian Refugee Council, to discuss more formalized arrangements to facilitate cooperation in the delivery of protection in IDP operations. To this end, a Memorandum of Understanding on Strategic Partnership was signed between UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council in May 2006.

To enhance UNHCR's capacity to respond to emergencies through the deployment of qualified staff in the areas of refugee protection, resettlement, community services, field security, child protection, engineering, telecommunications, and other vital sectors, the Office has established several standby arrangements with NGOs, such as the Danish and Norwegian Refugee Councils, RedR Australia, and Save the Children Norway and Sweden. Some of these arrangements have existed for ten years and new ones are being explored. For example, UNHCR has recently entered negotiations with Oxfam GB to establish a more dependable partnership in water and sanitation at the beginning of an emergency operation, especially in situations with no or limited capacity on the ground.



UNHCR promotes and provides technical and financial support to NGO and UNHCR/NGO focused initiatives, which yield results for the protection of persons of concern. Specific examples include UNHCR's support to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre and the NGO Focal Point to the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement; NGO participation in UNHCR's Protection Learning Programmes; and involving NGO partners in revising various guidelines as well as in reporting on the results of pilot projects, such as on age, gender and diversity mainstreaming.

There is a very active NGO participation in the work of UNHCR's governing body, the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (ExCom). This includes joint NGO statements on each agenda item at formal and informal meetings, and the possibility to contribute, through the Rapporteur, to the intergovernmental consultations on the drafting of ExCom decisions and conclusions, particularly those conclusions that deal with international protection. For the past two years, there has also been NGO participation in the ExCom Chair's annual mission to the Field, which provides opportunities for dialogue and greater engagement of NGOs with ExCom. It also provides the potential for a positive impact on protection and operational partnerships between UNHCR and NGOs, as well as for improving UNHCR's coordination role with NGOs. ICVA (representing the NGOs) accompanied the Chair to Burundi in February 2006 and to Chad and Sudan in January 2005.

Biography – Mr. António Guterres, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Mr. António Guterres started as UN High Commissioner for Refugees on June 15, 2005, succeeding Mr. Ruud Lubbers of the Netherlands. A former Portuguese prime minister, Mr. Guterres was elected by the UN General Assembly to a five-year term and is the UN refugee agency's 10th High Commissioner.

As High Commissioner, he heads one of the world's principal humanitarian agencies. UNHCR has twice won the Nobel Peace Prize and its 6,500 staff members currently work in over 100 countries providing protection and assistance to 20.8 million refugees and others of concern. More than 80 percent of its staff work in the field, often in difficult and dangerous duty stations. The agency's total budget for 2006 is more than \$1 billion.

Before joining UNHCR, Mr. Guterres spent more than 20 years in government and public service. He served as the Portuguese prime minister from 1996 to 2002, during which he spearheaded the international effort to stop the atrocities in East Timor. As president of the European Council in early 2000, he co-chaired the first EU-Africa summit, which led to the adoption of the so-called Lisbon Agenda. He also founded the Portuguese Refugee Council in 1991, and was part of the Council of State of Portugal from 1991 to 2002.

From 1981 to 1983, Mr. Guterres was a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, as well as chairman of the Committee on Demography, Migration and Refugees. In addition, he has been active in Socialist International, acting as the organisation's vice-president from 1992 to 1999 before taking over as its president until June 2005.

Mr. Guterres was born on April 30, 1949, in Lisbon and educated at the Instituto Superior Técnico, where he is an invited professor.

He is married and has two children.



UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund

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Summary of UNICEF’s humanitarian priorities

UNICEF’s mandate: The UNICEF mandate in emergencies is to protect the rights of children and women, ensure the rigorous application of international standards while providing protection and assistance to meet their needs, both in natural disasters and complex emergencies. UNICEF has identified elements of a “minimum package” of interventions -- or Core Commitments for Children in emergencies (CCCs) --in Health and Nutrition; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Child Protection; Education and HIV/AIDS and operational support that constitute UNICEF minimum response to save and protect children in conflict situations. The revised CCCs were approved by UNICEF’s Executive Board in 2004. UNICEF humanitarian response is also an essential element of the UNICEF Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) 2006-2009.

Adapting and expanding to the changing needs: Since its creation, UNICEF has worked with other UN agencies, non-governmental organizations and national and regional partners to ensure that emergency assistance and protection is reliable, effective and timely. However, UNICEF humanitarian priorities are also shaped by the expanding demand for humanitarian action and changing nature of crises. The numbers of natural disasters has increased substantially in the past ten years. Protracted conflicts in many have created enormous challenges for addressing needs on large scale in insecure environments. The globe is faced with existing and emerging pandemics such as HIV/AIDs and Avian Flu. Moreover, globalization, climate change and the growth of mega-cities create new challenges for the humanitarian community. By 2003, UNICEF was responding to humanitarian crises in at least one third of the countries in which UNICEF was operating. By 2003, approximately 25 to 30 percent of UNICEF income was dedicated to emergency funding (from \$116 million in 1998 to \$443 million in 2003). When UNICEF’s own regular resources are included, emergency expenditures in 2003 amounted to approximately 40 percent of total expenditure.

Investing in Improved Humanitarian Preparedness and Response: Since 1998, UNICEF has implemented an internal emergency preparedness and response capacity-building process supported by some key donors. This programme seeks to enhance the organization’s ability to ensure a coordinated, rapid response that is coherent with its priorities and with interagency coordination. The approach adopted to achieve this goal focuses on five broad areas:

- Strengthened knowledge, skill and capacity to fulfill UNICEF’s mandate, including the CCCs.
- Strengthened early warning and preparedness activities.
- Strengthened emergency response, performance and monitoring
- Strengthened contributions to interagency humanitarian response
- Strengthened humanitarian advocacy and communications



Supporting the Wider Humanitarian Reform Agenda: UNICEF is committed to strengthening the wider UN system; in line with its principles of multilateralism, the fulfillment of human rights and the value of cooperation and partnerships. UNICEF is exploring the wide variety of possibilities afforded by UN reform for their potential of securing concrete and measurable results for children. As a key humanitarian partner in the UN system, UNICEF is an active member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). As per IASC decision of September 2005 and in order to improve the overall predictability, effectiveness and quality of the international humanitarian response, UNICEF has accepted to provide leadership in the nutrition, water and sanitation and data communications clusters while continuing its substantive role in education, health and protection.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

Public oriented from the beginning, UNICEF was instructed in its founding resolution to work with relief and child welfare organizations. NGOs sought and acquired a strong relationship with UNICEF, including with the Executive Board. NGOs joined UNICEF in advocacy efforts, shared information, raised funds and made inputs into Board decisions. Part of the purpose of establishing National Committees for UNICEF was that they would work closely with civil society in support of UNICEF's work with children.

As UNICEF grew, the first review of UNICEF-NGO relationships was undertaken in 1957 and the then Executive Director considered the findings a "landmark" and "a framework for strengthening the relationships through a progression of gradual and evaluated experiences". Between 1960 and early 1990s, a number of reviews were undertaken to further strengthen the relationship between NGOs and UNICEF, specifically around global initiatives such as the Child Survival and Development Revolution (1980s/90s), campaign to eliminate polio and the World Summit for Children in 1990. During the 1990s, UNICEF worked closely with civil society, including NGOs in preparation for the UN Special Session for Children. The scale, scope and effectiveness of civil society partnership culminated in the "Global Movement for Children", a global multi-agency initiative which continues today. The 2002-2005 MTSP referred to an explicit strategy for "Partnerships for shared success", noting that strengthened partnerships would allow UNICEF to gain greater progress towards its organizational priorities. In 2002, under the coordination of a Task Force on Civil Society Partnerships, UNICEF prepared Guidelines for Collaboration with NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs). The Guidelines describes the values of partnerships, forms of collaboration, provides guidance in identification of a partner and evaluating its capacities.

In 2004, UNICEF re-established a global focal point, the Office of Public Partnerships (OPP) to "strengthen, expand and monitor the effectiveness of strategic partnerships with a broad range of CSOs and influential leaders", including with NGOs. During 2004-5, the OPP concentrated on six constituencies that play a critical role in achieving the Millennium Declaration. These included international children's organizations under the auspices of the Global Movement for Children, faith-based organization (FBOs), the Alliance of Youth, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, international sports organizations and inter-regional and inter-governmental organizations. Through these partnerships, important advocacy and action have been taken regarding child trafficking, sexual exploitation of children and harmful traditional practices, education for all and girls' education, maternal mortality reduction and HIV/AIDS.

UNICEF recently undertook a review of civil society partnership which will further inform UNICEF's strategy to work with NGOs. The review has reaffirmed that UNICEF recognizes that equal, strong and consistent relationships with its NGO partners are fundamental to achieving its priorities, both in terms of policy and implementation. UNICEF is working to develop and strengthen global Standby Agreements with a number of NGOs. Through the Cluster Approach, UNICEF aims to gain greater collaboration with NGOs through systematic dialogue, shared standards, best practices and guidelines. UNICEF recognizes that NGO ownership is crucial to the success of the humanitarian reform agenda.



Biography – Ms. Ann M. Veneman, Executive Director



Ann M. Veneman assumed the leadership of UNICEF on May 1, 2005, becoming the fifth Executive Director to lead UNICEF in its 60-year history.

As the children's agency of the United Nations, UNICEF works on the ground in 157 developing and transitional countries to help children survive and thrive. The world's largest provider of vaccines for poor countries, UNICEF works to advance the Millennium Development Goals by supporting child health and nutrition, quality basic education for all boys and girls, access to clean water and sanitation, and the protection of children from violence, exploitation and AIDS.

At UNICEF Veneman directs a global agency of 10,000 staff and an annual budget of more than \$2 billion, funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of governments, businesses, foundations and individuals.

Prior to joining UNICEF, Veneman served as the 27th Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, managing a department of 111,000 employees; a program level of \$113 billion that would rank sixth-largest if it were a U.S. corporation; and one of the most diverse and challenging missions in government.

She has been a leader in international trade and development, and has championed programs to reduce world hunger and strengthen the food-producing capacity of developing nations.

During her tenure at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Veneman directed major international programs that included the \$300 million Global Food for Education Program, which reached 4,000 schools and saw enrollment rise among both boys and girls by nearly 12 per cent. She also directed major initiatives in nutrition assistance and nutrition education, foreign food aid, and agriculture development assistance both at home and abroad.

Much of Veneman's career has been focused on child nutrition, public health, and alleviating hunger, including major initiatives to help fight malnutrition around the world.

She actively promoted science and technology in the developing world as a means to accelerate agricultural productivity and help meet the World Food Summit goal of reducing global hunger by half by 2015. She led the U.S. delegation to the World Food Summit meeting in 2001, where she called for a global ministerial-level conference on how to reduce hunger and poverty in the developing world.

Organized and led by Ms. Veneman, that Ministerial Conference took place in 2003. It addressed the links between hunger and poverty, bringing together government ministers from 120 nations representing a broad cross-section of portfolios, from finance to agriculture to health. The ministerial meeting spawned follow-on regional conferences in Africa and Central America, and helped lead heads of state in several African nations to endorse new scientific approaches to feeding the hungry.

Veneman has also been a strong advocate for healthy lifestyle choices. Her obesity-prevention initiative spawned a scientific conference that has helped establish a research agenda. She directed improvements in the consistency and effectiveness of public nutrition education messages. She also oversaw the reauthorization of food assistance and child nutrition programs.

Strong, transparent management is another hallmark of Veneman's career. During her tenure at USDA, the department for the first time received a clean financial audit, a status it then attained three years in a row. USDA also implemented numerous far-reaching management improvements, such as the eGovernment Initiative to provide more programs and services electronically.

Ms. Veneman has also taken a keen personal interest in fostering the next generation of young leaders, establishing USDA's "Leaders of Tomorrow" initiative to strengthen education programs, particularly those involved with mentoring youth. She increased the number of internships at USDA, and encouraged young people to seek career opportunities in government and across the agricultural spectrum.

Veneman has traveled extensively in developing countries, meeting with heads of state and visiting field projects in every region of the world. Over the years she has worked closely with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Program, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and numerous charitable groups and community organizations.

Veneman previously served in various positions at USDA and in state government. From 1991 to 1993, she was USDA's Deputy Secretary, the Department's second-highest position. She also served as Deputy Undersecretary of Agriculture for International Affairs and Commodity Programs from 1989 to 1991. Veneman joined the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service in 1986 and eventually served as Associate Administrator until 1989. From 1995 to 1999, she served as Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). She began her legal career as a staff attorney with the General Counsel's office of the Bay Area Rapid Transit District in Oakland, California, in 1976. In 1978, she returned to her hometown of Modesto, where she served as a Deputy Public Defender. In 1980, she joined the Modesto law firm of Damrell, Damrell and Nelson, where she was an associate and later a partner. She practiced law with the Washington, D.C., law firm of Patton Boggs from 1993 to 1995 before returning to California to serve as the state's Secretary of Food and Agriculture, where she managed agricultural programs and services in the largest and most diverse agriculture-producing U.S. state. Before her appointment as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Veneman was with the California law firm of Nossaman, Guthner, Knox and Elliott. Veneman earned her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Davis; a master's degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley; and a juris doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law. She has also been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (2001); Lincoln University of Missouri (2003); and Delaware State University (2004). In a personal capacity, she serves as a board member of the Close Up Foundation, a nonpartisan civic education organization, and has served previously on a number of advisory councils and committees, particularly those involving higher education. Veneman has received numerous awards and distinctions, including: Outstanding Woman in International Trade Award (2001); UC Davis Outstanding Alumna of the Year Award (2001); Food Research and Action Center Award (2001); National 4-H Alumni Recognition Award (2002); Dutch American Heritage Award (2002); Junior Statesman Foundation Statesman of the Year Award (2002); Goldman School of Public Policy Alumnus of the Year Award (2003); American PVO Partners Award for Service to People in Need (2004); U.S. State Department U.S. Afghan Women's Council Honorary Membership (2004); and the Richard E. Lyng Award for Public Service (2005).



VOICE – Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies

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VOICE stands for Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies. It is a network representing some 90 European non governmental organisations (NGOs) active in humanitarian aid worldwide (see list below).

Seeking to involve its members in information, training, advocacy and lobbying, VOICE is the main NGO interlocutor with the European Union on emergency aid, relief, rehabilitation and disaster preparedness. As a European network, it represents and promotes the values and specificities of humanitarian NGOs, in collaboration with other humanitarian actors. Based in Brussels, VOICE has been active for the last 12 years and is an independent organisation under Belgian law since 2001.

VOICE main activities

Authority vis-à-vis the European institutions and the wider humanitarian community

VOICE aims at influencing the European Parliament on humanitarian aid issues. It participates to the strategic dialogue with EC DG Humanitarian Aid. It also works towards recognition in other EU institutions. It builds alliances with other NGO bodies and liaises with relevant humanitarian aid actors.

Monitoring of humanitarian policies and procedures

VOICE monitors EU policy issues in humanitarian aid delivery and explores lobby opportunities in this field. It initiates strategic policy thinking within the network.

Support to the VOICE members

VOICE assists its members with donor requirements (EC DG Humanitarian Aid). It profiles the network internally and seeks to increase high quality membership. It promotes quality and standards, and provides training support.

Information relevant to the meeting

VOICE is not operational and thus leaves to its operational member organizations to give input to specific field related issues, such as field coordination and operational efficiency. In addition to the specific field expertise of individual NGOs, NGO networks have an added value through their input in relation to the promotion of humanitarian principles and horizontal issues such as quality, accountability and transparency, which are essential to an effective and responsible aid delivery.

Today, the humanitarian space is composed of three main pillars: Intergovernmental actors (UN agencies), NGO actors and the Red Cross. This diversity is an asset in the provision of humanitarian aid, through complementarity between the different actors. For VOICE, the UN-led humanitarian reform should not lead to one sole humanitarian response format.

Finally, taking into consideration the recent UN report on the Integrated approach, one should take into account the Integrated approach in the reform process, since it automatically impacts on the humanitarian principles, security in the field and the overall performance of the humanitarian response system.



VOICE members

- Accion contra el hambre
- Action Against Hunger
- ACF – Action contre la faim
- ACT – Action by Churches Together
- ACTED – Agence d'aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement
- ActionAid
- ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency – Denmark
- ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency – Germany
- ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency – UK
- AMI – Fundacao Assistencia Medica Internacional
- ASB – Arbeiter Samariter Bund –D-e.V.
- ASF - DANSK FOLKEHJÆLP
- Ayuda en Accion – Spanish ActionAid
- CAFOD – Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CARITAS)
- CARE Deutschland
- CARE France
- CARE Nederland (ex-DRA)
- CARE Österreich
- CARE UK
- CARITAS España
- Caritas France (Secours Catholique)
- CARITAS Sverige
- CARITAS Dansk
- CARITAS Deutschland (DCV – Deutscher Caritasverband)
- CARITAS Luxembourg
- CARITAS Österreich
- CARITAS SECOURS INTERNATIONAL – B
- CESVI – Cooperazione E Sviluppo
- Christian Aid UK
- CONCERN WORLDWIDE
- CORD (EU CORD)
- CORDAID (ex-MEMISA)
- DanChurchAid / Folkekirkens Nodhjælp
- Diakonisches Werk der EKD / Diakonie Emergency Aid
- DRC – Danish Refugee Council / Dansk Flygtningehjælp
- DWGG – Deutsche Hungerhilfe e.V. – German AgroAction
- FIDA International
- Finnchurchaid
- Handicap International Belgium
- Handicap International France
- HealthNet – TPO
- Health Unlimited
- Hilfswerk Austria
- ICCO – Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (Dutch Interchurch-Aid SOH/DIA, DOG)
- Intermón Oxfam
- IAS – International Aid Services Sweden (EU CORD)
- IRC – International Rescue Committee UK
- JUH – Johanniter Unfall Hilfe e.V. – Bundesgeschäftsstelle
- Lutheran World Federation / WS (World Service Department)
- Lutherhjälpen Church of Sweden Aid
- Malteser Hilfsdienst e.V. – Abt. Auslandsdienst
- Médecins du Monde Belgium
- Médecins du Monde France
- Médecins du Monde Greece
- Médicos del Mundo Spain
- Médicos del Mundo Portugal
- MEDAIR (EU CORD)
- MEDICO INTERNATIONAL – e.V.
- Mercy Corps Scotland
- Merlin
- Mission Øst – Mission East (EU CORD)
- MPDL – Movimiento por la Paz, el Desarme y la Libertad
- Norwegian People's Aid
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- NOVIB – Oxfam Netherlands
- OXFAM GB
- OXFAM SOLIDARITE / SOLIDARITEIT EN BELGIQUE
- Plan UK
- PMU Interlife – Sverige
- Première Urgence
- SCF – Save the Children UK
- Secours Populaire Français
- Solidarités
- SOS Kinderdorf International
- Star of Hope International
- TEAR Fund UK (EU CORD)
- Télécoms sans Frontières
- TRIANGLE 'Génération Humanitaire'
- TROCAIRE – the Catholic Agency for World Development (CARITAS Ireland)
- World Vision Finland (Suomen World Vision)
- World Vision Ireland
- World Vision Nederland
- World Vision UK
- ZOA Refugee Care (EU CORD)

Biography – Dr. Paul Grossrieder, VOICE President



Dr. Paul Grossrieder was Director General of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) from 1998 until 2002. He began his longstanding career at the ICRC in 1984 with field assignments in the Middle East and Africa, and held various positions at the headquarters in Geneva. He has served as Delegate-General for Asia, Deputy Director of the Department of Operations and Director of General Affairs, as well as on several diplomatic missions for the ICRC.

Dr. Grossrieder holds a degree in theology and a PhD in international politics from the *Institut Universitaire des Hautes Etudes Internationales* in Geneva and has written numerous articles on humanitarian affairs. Mr. Grossrieder is a Swiss national and has a strong interest in EU affairs.

Over the last twenty years, Dr. Grossrieder has gained exceptional executive, diplomatic and operational field experience. Retired in 2002, he continues to be highly active in humanitarian affairs as lecturer at various international high-level gatherings as well as in journalism. In addition, he is the founding member of a hospital in Nepal and a foundation supporting cardiac surgery. On a more local level, Dr Grossrieder is the president of the Tourist Board of Charmey, Switzerland, where he currently resides.



WFP – United Nations World Food Programme

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Summary of WFP's humanitarian priorities

The core programme goal for 2006–2009 is to contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goals through food-assisted interventions targeting poor and hungry people.

In order to attain this goal, WFP operations will focus on five Strategic Objectives:

- save lives in crisis situations;
- protect livelihoods in crisis situations and enhance resilience to shocks;
- support the improved nutrition and health status of children, mothers and other vulnerable people;
- support access to education and reduce gender disparity in access to education and skills training; and
- strengthen the capacities of countries and regions to establish and manage food-assistance and hunger reduction programmes.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

It is WFP's first management objective in current strategic plan is to "Build strong partnerships to end hunger with particularly non-governmental organizations in order to combine resources in hunger-reduction efforts". This implies not just looking for partners to implement WFP activities; WFP must seek out partners where food assistance might add value to their plans and programmes. It is, furthermore, WFP's policy is to associate its work wherever possible with that of NGO partners and to leverage mutual strengths and complementarities.

As such, it is the Programmes main partnership goal to increase the involvement of NGO partners in the design of an intervention and to benefit from the provision of mutually complementary inputs and services.

WFP, furthermore, aims at intensifying the dialogue with NGOs at global, regional and local level on how to jointly enhance awareness on hunger issues. WFP is specifically seeking to increase NGO involvement in the IASC-approved logistics cluster, which is led by WFP.

Additional Information

In 2005, WFP collaborated with about 2300 NGO partners – 2019 local and 255 international NGOs - in 72 countries in 208 projects. All NGOs together handled about 40 percent of WFP's food aid.

In emergency situations, WFP collaborated in 49 of the 60 Emergency Operations with 310 NGO partners. While 44% (112) of WFP's international NGO partners collaborate with WFP in this area only 10% (207) of the local NGOs engaged in a partnership in an emergency. The collaboration takes mainly place in Total Free Relief Food Assistance, Food for Work, Mother Child Health and Food for Training activities and in about one third of the partnerships WFP benefits from complementary inputs of its partners into the project.



Biography – Mr. James T. Morris, Executive Director



James T. Morris became the tenth Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme at the beginning of April 2002. In July 2002, Mr. Morris was appointed UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's Special Envoy for Humanitarian Needs in Southern Africa, a region which continues to be gripped by a major food emergency.

For over 36 years, Mr. Morris has combined a distinguished career of business, philanthropic and humanitarian leadership with a personal life of public service. Both his career and his voluntary activities have reflected a commitment to improving the lives of others with a special interest in young people at risk and giving something back to his city, his country and the international community.

Mr. Morris earned his BA in Political Science from Indiana University and an MBA from Butler University. He has received 11 honorary degrees including the most recent from the University of Notre Dame in May of 2005.

Mr. Morris is married to Jacqueline Harrell Morris. They have three children and six grandchildren.



WHO – World Health Organization

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Summary of WHO's humanitarian priorities

WHO's key functions in a crisis are¹:

1. Promptly assess health needs of populations affected by crises and measure ill-health, identifying priority causes of ill-health and death.
2. Support Member States in coordinating action for health.
3. Ensure that critical gaps in health response are rapidly identified and filled
4. Support restoration of essential public functions.
5. Revitalize health systems and build up their capacity for preparedness and response.

WHO 's emergency work will focus during the coming years on the following²:

- Providing technical assistance for the development of comprehensive, multi-sectoral emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.
- Developing and updating norms and standards in various technical areas including health emergency planning, legislation, risk mitigation and management approaches, human resource development and partnership building.
- Strengthening coordination and synergy with other UN agencies and programmes as well as other international humanitarian actors.
- Building on the expertise available in other WHO technical programmes in order to address the needs of communities and populations affected by crises. In other words, WHO will build on its strength and comparative advantages and make them available to its Member States and other international health partners.

Strategy for partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

WHO has a track record in involving health related NGOs at all stages, from policy setting (they are members of many WHO expert panels) to programme implementation. This could get as far as implementing entire operations through a group of credible and accountable NGOs.

WHO has been designated to lead the IASC Health Cluster. Many NGOs are already part of the Health Cluster; many more are interested to do so.

WHO and InterAction co-chair the IASC Taskforce on Mental Health and Psychosocial support. WHO and OCHA co-chair the IASC Taskforce on Gender and Humanitarian Action. Many NGOs are part of these taskforces.

¹ WHO - Health Action in Crises **annual report 2005** © World Health Organization, 2006. **annual report**

² WHO - **Reducing the Impact on Crises on Health** © World Health Organization, 2006.
REDUCING IMPACT CRISES



Other relevant information

The IASC Health and Nutrition Clusters³ are proposing to the IASC Working Group in July 2006 the setting up of a "Humanitarian Health and Nutrition Tracking Service" (HNTS) as a common data service initiative for the entire humanitarian community.

It is proposed that the Steering Committee includes rotating NGO representatives nominated by the major NGO networks, and bilateral partners.

Biography – Dr. Ala Din Alwan, Representative of the Director-General

Ala Alwan, Representative of the Director-General, Health Action in Crises, graduated in Medicine from the University of Alexandria.

He practiced medicine in Scotland and obtained his postgraduate training and qualifications from the United Kingdom. Following return to his home country, Iraq, he held several positions in clinical and academic medicine and public health. He was Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Mustansiriya University, Baghdad.

He joined WHO in 1992 initially as Regional Adviser, Noncommunicable Diseases, EMRO, then WHO Representative in Oman, and Director, Division of Health Systems Development, EMRO. In 1998 he was reassigned to WHO headquarters as Director, Noncommunicable Diseases Prevention and then Director, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases Management. In 2001, he became WHO Representative in Jordan. He was also Minister of Education and Minister of Health in the Interim Government of Iraq.

³ The final project proposal has been endorsed by an inter-agency meeting organized in Geneva by the Health and Nutrition Clusters on 22-23 June 2006. It builds on previous inter-agency meetings organized in collaboration with the IASC.



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THE WORLD BANK

<http://www.worldbank.org>

Summary of The World Bank's humanitarian priorities

The Bank's Articles of Agreement stipulate that the Bank shall not engage in humanitarian/relief activities. However, this does not mean that we are oblivious to humanitarian situations, whether due to disasters, conflicts or other causes. In particular, after approval of a Bank policy on conflict and development cooperation in 2001, the Bank has a set of strategies to engage with countries prone to conflict, in-conflict or emerging from conflict. For post conflict situations, in consultation with United Nations and with other key stakeholders, the Bank develops reconstruction programs. In recent years, we have taken advantage of operational tools such as the joint post conflict needs assessment, which have improved reconstruction planning process. Also, multi-donor trust fund arrangements have helped collaboration and harmonization efforts. We are mindful that a grey zone exists making a clear distinction difficult between humanitarian/relief and rehabilitation/reconstruction activities. The prevailing practice is that the Bank starts with its areas of competency, such as economic management and infrastructure. At the same time, we are increasingly carrying out community development programs. In each case, Bank programs are the result of Bank country teams' consultations with the stakeholders. We continue our on-going dialogue with UNDG supplemented by as needed-basis with UN Departments such as the Peace-keeping Operations Department to address work areas of mutual concern to further improve activities on the ground and to further mutual understanding in general.

Strategy for Partnerships with NGOs in humanitarian action

The Bank does not have strategy with NGOs carrying out humanitarian actions.

Additional Information

Relevant websites related to conflict and disasters are as follows:

- <http://www.worldbank.org/conflict>
- <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTURBANDEVELOPMENT/EXTDISMGMT/0,,menuPK:341021~pagePK:149018~piPK:149093~theSitePK:341015,00.html>



Biography – Mr. Joseph K. Ingram, Special Representative of the World Bank to the United Nations and World Trade Organization - Europe



Joseph Ingram, a Canadian, joined the World Bank's Middle East and North Africa region as Loan Officer/Economist in 1976. In 1979, he was transferred to Lagos, Nigeria where he served as Deputy Resident Representative. In 1981 he returned to Washington as Senior Loan Officer for the former Yugoslavia. From 1986 to 1992 he served as Principal Country Officer and Deputy Division Chief for the Sahel group of countries in the West Africa Country department. In 1992, Mr. Ingram became the Bank's Resident Representative in Cameroon. In 1996, he returned to the World Bank Institute in Washington as its Program Manager and Deputy Director. From May 2000 until August 2003 he was Director of the World Bank Bosnia and Herzegovina Country Office in Sarajevo.

Effective September 1, 2003, Mr. Ingram moved to Geneva, Switzerland, as the World Bank's Special Representative to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Mr. Ingram worked for the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in Beirut as its Regional Representative for the Middle East and North Africa, as Program Officer in Health and Population Sciences and as personal Assistant to IDRC's President in Ottawa, Canada. Previously, as a volunteer with the Services Universitaires Canadiens Outre-mer (SUCO), Mr. Ingram taught for two years at a private college in the Ivory Coast. He also served for 6 months as SUCO's Interim Director for the Ivory Coast.

Mr. Ingram holds bachelors and masters degrees in political economy from McMaster University in Canada. He has also completed the Harvard University Executive Development Program.

In addition to English, Mr. Ingram is fluent in French and Spanish and has a working knowledge of Italian and Serbo-Croatian.



Guest Speaker – 12 July 2006

Biography – Mr. James Darcy, Group Coordinator and Research Fellow, Humanitarian Policy Group, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK



James Darcy is head of the Humanitarian Policy Group at the Overseas Development Institute in London.

Trained as an international lawyer, he worked for eight years with Oxfam Great Britain in a management capacity, coordinating humanitarian responses in Central Africa (Rwanda crisis) and Eastern Europe before becoming Oxfam's humanitarian programme coordinator for South and East Asia.

He played a lead role in the conception and drafting of the Sphere Humanitarian Charter, and in the development of inter-organisational policy relating to civilian protection. His current areas of research include needs and impact assessment, and the security and protection of civilians and displaced people.