

55th Annual DPI/NGO Conference

FINAL REPORT

***Rebuilding Societies
Emerging from Conflict:
A Shared Responsibility***

MIDDAY NGO WORKSHOP SUMMARIES

United Nations, New York
9 to 11 September 2002

These Workshops were organized independently by NGOs in consultation with DPI. The Midday NGO Workshop Committee of the Conference Planning Committee prepared the schedule of Workshops.

The Environment and Conflict Resolution: A Case Study from Cameroon

Sponsored by: Rural Women Environmental Protection Association of Cameroon
Moderator/Speaker: **Rose Mbah**, Rural Women Environmental Protection Association of Cameroon
Participants: Approximately 45

Rose Mbah was the only speaker present at this workshop. The other announced speakers from Cameroon were not able to obtain visas. This particular point was addressed during the question and answer session among other topics such as the current state of affairs in Cameroon.

Rose Mbah explained the political and financial turmoil Cameroon was experiencing in the early 1990's. People wanted a change in government through democratic elections. However, the government would not comply with this demand. As a result, there were mass demonstrations, the State went bankrupt, salaries in the public sector dropped by 70 per cent and young people were dropping out of school. People continued to protest peacefully, and in 1992, the people of Cameroon were granted the freedom of association.

There were many after-effects of the election crisis in Cameroon. AIDS became a major problem in Cameroon because of the accepted practice of polygamy. Moreover, many people suffered diseases due to an unbalanced diet. People got different jobs because they no longer wanted to work for the government and poverty was rampant.

The Rural Women Environmental Protection Association of Cameroon began to raise money so that they could make loans to farmers who were committed to projects that would help the land, the country and the economy. In particular, they gave loans to bee farmers. Honey is a very important product in Cameroon, providing several medical and physical benefits. The organization also provided loans to rice farmers. She noted that, due to the abundance of rivers and the climate, rice is the highest income generator in northwest Cameroon.

Working towards Reconciliation in the Caucasus

Sponsored by:	Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and Armenian Women's Association of Canada
Moderators:	Adrienne Alexanian , Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, NGO Representative to the United Nations Aram Arkun , Zohrab Information Center
Speakers:	Caroline Cox , Deputy Speaker, British House of Lords Paul Crego , United States Library of Congress Khatoune Temisjian , University of Montreal, Center for Ethnic Studies
Participants:	Approximately 75

Speakers used the Azerbaijan/Nagorno-Karabakh and Georgia/Abkhazia conflicts as case studies to discuss steps necessary to mitigate conflict, rebuild regional infrastructures, and strategies to ensure lasting peace and address deeper causes of enmity.

Caroline Cox shared her experience with the Azerbaijan/Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. She discussed the existing conflict between the principles of territorial integrity and self-determination, noting that many international bodies favored the former over the latter. She emphasized that the Armenians of Karabakh, as the people most directly affected by the outcomes of any peace agreement, must be present at the negotiating table and take part in the solution.

Paul Crego addressed the Georgia/Abkhazia conflict. He talked about the historical background of the conflict and enumerated several things that must occur in the future. These included: (1) representatives from the Russian Federation clarifying what Russian citizenship means for the parties involved; (2) distinctions and observance of a federation and confederation; and (3) each party acknowledging its own crimes, rather than just those of the enemy.

Khatoune Temisjian examined the concept of reconciliation in post-conflict societies as well as approaches to achieving peace. She emphasized that there could be no standardized model for reconciliation; rather, the particularities and history of each region must be taken into account.

Making Peace Last: Teaching Peace, Human Rights and Gender Equality

Sponsored by: Hague Appeal for Peace and American Montessori Society

Moderator: Cora Weiss, Hague Appeal for Peace

Speakers: Eileen Ast, American Montessori Society
Betty Burkes, Hague Appeal for Peace
Meg Gardinier, Hague Appeal for Peace
Betty Reardon, Teachers College, Columbia University
Ruth Selman, American Montessori Society

Participants: Approximately 55

The workshop focused on educating the public on ways of rebuilding society after a crisis situation. The speakers discussed methods of promoting peaceful ways of life through daily interactions and activities.

Both Betty Burkes and Meg Gardinier encouraged those attending the workshop to participate in a conversation with one another in order to see how each participant had been inspired to promote peace. Among the many suggestions offered, the two representatives focused on ideas such as forgiveness, determination, social interaction, change of values and perceptions and rethinking what we do presently.

Eileen Ast said that the children are our greatest teachers, and explained how the Montessori classroom is different from other forms of education. She listed and described five main points to achieving a peaceful world: freedom of movement; sense of order; choice/independence; clear limits; and effective conflict resolution.

Ruth Selman also focused on the idea of a peaceful “classroom” as a restructuring of the “American classroom.” She said that the two most important principles were freedom of movement and free choice. Freedom of movement should prevent people from stepping into one another’s territories, while free choice regarding education would help people in understanding conflicts.

Betty Reardon outlined the framework for a good education in order to promote a “culture of peace.” She said that in order to transform human society, the public requires tools of understanding so that we can change ourselves and our relationships as well as the structures and systems that depend on weapons. She also emphasized that peace is unachievable in a patriarchal society and that women play an important role in locating a society’s vulnerabilities.

During the question and answer session, Ms. Reardon was asked what was necessary for the public to stop feeling helpless and vulnerable to the wars going on, as in Iraq for instance. She thought that the public should come together as a concerned community in order to voice a collective opinion and resist a patriarchal society.

The panel was asked how to make economically deprived children, watching their well-off enemies, to believe in peace. The panel suggested that one answer was to give children space to find means to improve their situation and to help them reflect on their situation rather than on that of their enemies.

Peace-Building in the Aftermath of Terrorism: The Role of Media and Mental Health Professionals

- Sponsored by:** Media Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association (APA), International and New York Division of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues and New York Chapter of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies
- Moderators:** **Elizabeth Carll**, President-Elect, Media Psychology Division, APA
Anie Kalayjian: Vice-Chair, Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations Associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information (NGO/DPI Executive Committee)
- Speakers:** **Hamid Abdeljaber**: Chief, Middle East Regional Programmes Unit, Radio Section, United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI).
Lisa Finnegan, Office of Public Affairs, Fordham University
Patricia Kitchen, Columnist on Workplace Issues, Newsday
Melinda Murphy, News, WB11 TV
Michael Powell, New York Bureau Chief, Washington Post
- Participants:** Approximately 120
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Hamid Abdeljaber expressed concern for the lack of attention American journalists devoted to understanding why 11 September 2001 occurred. He emphasized the responsibility that mental health professionals and the media share in their need to devote particular attention to the early and ongoing trauma experienced by children living in societies where terrorism has been prevalent so as to prevent the continuation of terrorist ideals and actions in the future.

Lisa Finnegan said the mass media was a great venue for the dissemination of information about how to recuperate after the tragic events. She explained that mental health practitioners could influence the recovery process by building good relations with the mass media. Some of her recommendations included practices such as returning the calls of reporters, helping reporters find an angle, discretion in selection of topics and reviewing statistics and other background information. She said it was important to simplify the complex ideas and jargon of the psychological profession and to put that information in a way that was accessible and comprehensible for the general public.

Patricia Kitchen spoke about how her coverage of 9/11 was dealt with in the work environment. She spoke about the importance of crisis debriefing sessions in the recovery process. She explained the benefits of open discussion between mental health professionals, employers and employees in a cooperative healing programme. She also described behavioural changes that occurred as a result of the events, such as more hostile work environments, and emphasized the need for employers to become more prepared for other possible crises.

Melinda Murphy said that traumatic events have profound and lasting effects on the journalists assigned to cover them, both personally and professionally. She explained the guilt that many reporters experienced for surviving 9/11 while interviewing persons directly affected by the tragedy. She saw many

journalists struggle in their attempt to both sensitively and accurately report on events, while also coping with the tragedy on a personal level.

Michael Powell described how the unanticipated and unique events surrounding 9/11 created a society that was incredibly impressionable and vulnerable to the influence of the mass media. While acknowledging the responsibility of the media to contribute to the restoration and healing of a society traumatized by such events, he also expressed the difficulty of balancing that role with the responsibility of accurately reporting the facts of the situation.

Anie Kalayjian said that the media and mental health professionals had a collaborative role to play in the recovery and rehabilitation of societies affected by trauma.

Enforcing International Human Rights Law in Societies Emerging from Conflict: A Religious and Ethical Perspective

- Sponsored by:** National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States, World Conference on Religion and Peace, Presbyterian UN Office, Sokka Gakkai International and World Peace Prayer Society
- Moderator:** **Jeffery Huffines**, President, Committee of Religious NGOs and NGO Representative to the United Nations for the Baha'is of the United States
- Speakers:** **Brian Leopard**, University of Nebraska, College of Law
Ibrahim Abdil-Mu'id Ramey, Fellowship of Reconciliation;
Temple of Understanding
John Washburn, Convener, American NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court
- Participants:** Approximately 60
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Brian Leopard described the moral force and importance of religions today, and the importance of turning to ethical principles to help societies emerging from conflict. He said that international law within the sacred texts is essential to assisting such societies. He presented unity and diversity as the foundation principles of enforcing human rights law and followed with three supporting principles: An obligation of humanitarian intervention; the establishment of fair judicial procedures; and the education of individuals in regard to the principles of unity and diversity.

Ibrahim Abdil-Mu'id Ramey stressed the non-violent methods available to humanitarian intervention. He suggested looking at religion for alternative ways of understanding conflict. He underlined the importance of having some historical background to understand the reasons behind a given conflict. He said that justice, compassion, and charity are just as important as piety and that it is the rupture of community that leads to economic, political and gender offenses.

John Washburn explained the multi-dimensional task and character of the process of achieving the International Criminal Court (ICC). He described the formal involvement and commitments of religious groups to the ICC and stressed the Court's role as a major instrument against religious persecution. He hoped that common ways to deal with humanitarian intervention will make it possible for religious groups to work more effectively together to support the ICC.

The audience raised the issue of dialoguing with non-religious and indigenous peoples who have not embraced scriptures, as well as questions concerning the implementation of the key principles described in Mr. Leopard's presentation.

Peace through Travel and Cultural Tourism

Sponsored by: Friendship Ambassadors Foundation and Airline Ambassadors

Moderator: **Patrick Sciaratta**, Friendship Ambassadors Foundation

Speakers: **Lou D'Amore**, International Institute of Peace through Tourism

Nancy Rivard, Airline Ambassadors

Evgenii Vassilev, GUN Co. Travel, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Participants: Approximately 45

Patrick Sciaratta explained the importance of the travel industry, noting that one in nine people work in this industry, making it the largest worldwide. This brings the possibility of shaping diplomatic relations in ways not previously thought. He explained that the Peace through Travel and Cultural Tourism project was initially focused on Africa, but was later expanded worldwide.

Evgenii Vassilev, a native of Bulgaria, discussed many youth programs that promoted ideas of understanding and peace. The Balkan Youth Reconciliation Seminar Series was one of the first programmes on peace to be implemented that directly involved young people. He said the active involvement of young people was especially important because they have a way of thinking to bring about peace. Trails of Peace was formed to bring about understanding among the hostile groups in the Balkans and Turkey.

Lou D'Amore discussed the reasons why airlines participated in spreading the idea of "Peace Through Travel" and cultural tourism. Periods of war, instability and safety concerns on airlines have contributed to the decline of the travel and tourism industry in many parts of the world. The travel and tourism industry plays a vital economic role in much of the world, but in Africa tourism only accounts for 4 per cent of the GNP, and in the Sub-Saharan region it was even less. He said there were several factors that enabled cultures to meet, including business, politics and religion, all of which could be controversial. Travel was different because it was based on fun and links friendship into the equation.

Nancy Rivard, recipient of the award Peace for Airline Ambassadors, said she believes that tourism can lay the foundation for a civilization of love. She added that anyone can make a difference in the world. As a flight attendant, she initially worked alone, helping a child without a pass cross check points in order to get much needed medical treatment. Over time, an increasing number of supporters and followers helped her on her humanitarian journey. She worked in Ecuador and used her influence in the airline industry to provide a little boy with a life-changing operation. Ms. Rivard said her program was different from others in that it is concerned with producing a difference in the long term and building infrastructure.

UN and NGOs: Building Successful Partnerships

Sponsored by:	NGO Section of the Department of Public Information (DPI/NGO Section)
Moderator:	Oleg Dzioubinski , Information Officer, NGO Section, DPI
Speakers:	Hanifa Mezoui , Chief, NGO Section, DESA Leslie Wright , Vice-President, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) Amina Adam , Chief, Coordination and Outreach Unit, Division for the Advancement of Women, DESA Naomi Ando , Public Information Officer, United Nations Relief and Works Agency, Gaza (UNRWA-HQ) Wolfgang Grieger , Political Affairs and NGO Liaison Officer, Division for the Palestinian Rights, Department of Political Affairs Zubaida Rasul , External Relations and Coordination Officer, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) James Sniffen , Information Officer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Margot Szamier , Partnership Development Specialist, United Nations Volunteer Programme Xenia Von Lilien-Waldau , Liaison and Public Information Officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Donald Treimann , Chair, NGO/DPI Executive Committee
Participants:	Approximately 200

Speakers discussed how NGOs can become associated and/or participate in their programmes.

Oleg Dzioubinski encouraged those attending to give their opinions on what should be covered in the next DPI/NGO Conference. He said there were 1,400 NGOs associated with DPI and that the work of the NGO Section was to gather information on the work accomplished by NGOs and to distribute information to other NGOs and the public. He said that communications workshops are organized to help NGOs to market themselves and that an annual orientation programme for newly accepted NGOs was held each spring.

Hanifa Mezoui discussed how NGOs could become affiliated with the UN. NGOs needed to be in operation for at least two years, be a non-profit organization and their members could not be UN delegates. sixty per cent of the budget of the NGO needs to come from the organization's membership, and they need to have activities related to the UN being implemented, already in place or planning to be implemented.

Leslie Wright explained how NGO affiliation with CONGO was beneficial. All people attending the Conference were eligible for membership. CONGO did not take a stance on any particular issue, but rather helped give a stronger voice to NGOs so that each NGO was able to take a position for themselves.

Amina Adam said the Division for the Advancement of Women worked closely with the NGO community for gender equality. Every year, they organized a commission, the next one being in March. Issues that would be raised included information technology, media and trafficking of women.

Naomi Ando said UNRWA was created in 1949 to provide humanitarian services. They launched emergency activities and are financed by the European Union and other organizations. Their mission is to gain support for assisting the Palestinian people.

Wolfgang Grieger worked in the Department of Political Affairs with NGOs to promote the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The major activity of his Division was the organization of international meetings wherein NGOs were welcome to participate. The meetings were to keep people aware of the situation in Palestine.

Zubaiba Rasul talked about UNFPA's work in the field with the poorest Least Developed Countries (LDCs), by working with local NGOs and community groups. She explained that there were three levels of UNFPA projects. The first, and largest, was the work with LDCs at the local level. Second, was the regional level for technical support. Third was the international level, including policy-making.

James Sniffen said that UNEP worked strictly on the environmental policy level, through networking both at the formal and informal levels. He said that cooperation with religious groups was particularly important.

Margot Szamier said that there were strong ties between United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and the NGO community. She said UNV work mostly with local NGOs, but wanted to expand and create a conduit between NGOs and government.

Xenia Von Lilien-Waldau discussed how IFAD provided resources, as well as food to the poor through loans and grants. She said collaboration with NGOs was especially important in the areas of research, technical support, information sharing, awareness raising and establishing networks. IFAD had several goals that coincided closely with the goals of NGOs, including the eradication of world poverty and the implementation and evaluation of projects leading to such. She proposed building a database of world poverty knowledge to facilitate that large goal.

Donald Triemann reiterated the importance of forming partnerships between the UN and NGOs, and a recognition of the work that had been accomplished by working together.

September 11, 2001: Aftermath for Families and Older Persons

- Sponsored by:** NGO Committee on Ageing and NGO Committee on the Family
- Moderators:** **Jessica Frank**, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP),
Member of NGO Committee on Ageing
Mary Miller, International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE),
Member of NGO Committee on the Family
- Speakers:** **Joyce E. Braak**, M.D., Traumatic Stress Expert
Adem Carroll, 9/11 Relief Program Coordinator,
The Islamic Circle of North America
James P. Nyberg, Government Relations Director,
International Longevity Center
Virginia Stern, Volunteer, American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Services
- Participants:** Approximately 35
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Joyce Braak discussed normal reactions to traumatic events, such as those of 11 September 2001, which include re-experiencing the trauma, avoidance of unbearable feelings and hyper-vigilance. In order to heal, one must take joy in the moment, and make realistic dreams. She suggested that those suffering from traumatic events should try and reclaim a real sense of the future in order to keep going.

Adem Carroll said that many Muslim families in America have suffered since 9/11, due to the imprisonment or deportation of Muslims. Mainstream American media ignored the plight of Muslim families who cannot post inflated bail amounts and who lack basic necessities, such as food, but feel too intimidated to seek public assistance.

James Nyberg said that efforts to rescue frail and homebound older people were delayed on 9/11. He described the International Longevity Center's (ILC) plan to provide assistance to older citizens in future emergency situations, including a database of people with special needs, maps of community service providers and a hotline.

Virginia Stern said that families can restore equilibrium following traumas by discussing their experiences, sharing their feelings, shifting the focus from trauma to moving forward and re-evaluating themselves individually and collectively. She explained that older people, who have developed coping mechanisms from past experiences, can help younger generations persevere and teach them successful ways of dealing with stress and trauma.

The Role of Civil Society in Making Peace Last

Sponsored by:	Economists Allied for Arms Reduction (ECAAR), Global Action to Prevent War and Hague Appeal for Peace
Moderator:	Lucy Webster , Economists Allied for Arms Reduction
Speakers:	Beshara Ghorayeb , Economists Allied for Arms Reduction Nina Goncharova , Director of Project Earth-3000
Participants:	Approximately 50

Lucy Webster said that civil society groups (NGOs) should work together in areas of conflict by taking into account all the ideas coming out of United Nations conferences. Solidarity can be built as the backbone if civil society groups, with good socio-economic goals, are willing to stand together and act “gently” to move the Security Council against injustices and limit violence by building up the rule of law in pre- and post-conflict situations.

Beshara Ghorayeb explained that action should come from the “earth up” since the meaning of peace in civil society is the making of an international family. Mr. Ghorayeb said that NGOs should reorient their programmes (social, economic, educational and technological) to achieve geographic balance among the various sectors. He elaborated on three issues and objectives in order to prevent war: 1) management training and education; 2) technology transfers promoting trade and change in financial operations, which are necessary in our global world; and 3) technology and professional feasibility studies to extend and create investments and management. He concluded that it was necessary to develop a network with governments and NGOs to produce better communication. He also proposed a focus on projects such as Cross-Related Markets (CRM), a joint venture where the private sector can co-finance community projects.

Nina Goncharova said that the role of civil society in creating peace is through youth and civil education. “We should move from a culture of reflection to a culture of prevention.” She made a few proposals, including: a Youth Movement, organized by youth; Education for World Citizens, in hearts and minds; a “Planet for Peace” project, where people would learn to cooperate. It would create a collective society, unite different types of civilizations (such as mountain civilizations), and integrate civil forces, such as women, children and the elderly. She said that people lived under one common sky, on one common earth, and that despite different nations “the earth (had) no borders.” She said that all problems would be solved when people come together because the most important energy came from people.

Mr. Ghorayeb was asked how to ensure that technology transfers were really the political will of societies who had been reluctant to accept the rapid pace of technology. He said that it could not be all talk and that a legal structure needed to be in place. Technological transfers would also be agricultural and medicinal.

Ms. Webster added that this needed local engagement, interest and willingness to be involved. Another person asked her whether it was part of the mandate of NGOs because governments were not doing it. She replied that NGOs related to communities better than governments did. It was their role to create gimmicks to push toward the betterment of civil society.

Rebuilding Societies Emerging from Conflict: The Social Work Role

Sponsored by: The International Association of Social Work (IASSW)

Moderator: **Janice Wetzel**, Adelphi University

Speakers: **M.C. Terry Hokenstad**, Case Western University

Evelina Pangalangan, IASSW

Mark Rodgers, Monmouth University

Participants: Approximately 16

The International Association of Schools of Social Work is a global network of schools and educators committed to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and operates by identifying and encouraging education, training and research for social service programmes throughout the five regions of Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America.

Evelina Pangalangan highlighted the role of social workers in establishing and supporting peace zones in the Philippines. Peace zones are created when communities declare their areas to be free from conflict - largely using moral persuasion - allowing the inhabitants of the area to focus on community issues rather than the ongoing conflict. Social workers can aid the formation and continuation of these peace zones by helping to organize and empower these local communities, enhancing people's own undertaking through management training, encouraging the fair distribution of resources and incorporating peace education as part of an ongoing curriculum.

Mark Rodgers examined the difficulties encountered when training new social workers in post-conflict communities such as basic pedagogy differences between cultures and the lack of teaching materials. Working in Latvia, Dr. Rodgers developed a programme that encouraged social workers to adapt their own cultural models and apply them to situations encountered in the field. Such adaptation encourages community development rather than "just psychotherapy."

Terry Hokenstad identified six roles social workers play in rebuilding societies emerging from conflict. Besides the development of social services and the building of civil society, social workers also help re-integrate refugees and displaced peoples, organize peace and reconciliation programmes, establish programmes for the training of human service professionals and support community development. Despite a desperate need, there are less than ten schools of social work that offer an international concentration.

The resulting discussion focused on what needed to be taught in the field of social work, and what pedagogical issues needed to be addressed to best prepare social workers to meet the needs of communities emerging from conflict.

Finally, it was suggested that social workers were well positioned and skilled to encourage and deal with nations emerging from conflict. The role of social work educators is to identify what is needed while respecting cultural identity and advocating human rights.

Peace-building through Youth Involvement

Sponsor:	DPI/NGO Conference Youth Committee, Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CONGO), Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Programme on Youth and All Pakistan Women's Association
Moderator:	Patrick Sciaratta , Friendship Ambassadors Foundation
Speakers:	Kevin Ahern , Pax-Romana; Vice-Chair, NGO Committee on Youth John Gagain , Vice-President, United Nations Association, Dominican Republic Bertan Selim , Youth Counsellor, Friendship Ambassadors Foundation Amina Syed , All Pakistan Women's Association Joop Theunissen , Chief, DESA Programme on Youth Leslie Wright , First Vice-President, CONGO
Participants:	Approximately 60

This workshop encouraged youth to participate in NGO activities that try to promote peace in their societies. The speakers shared their own experiences with youth who influenced their insight on working to resolve conflict.

Leslie Wright discussed some of the CONGO committees that recruit young volunteers, both locally and internationally. CONGO had decided to create a system to ensure that the voices of youth are heard and to facilitate a way for youth to be involved in the United Nations.

Kevin Ahern has expressed his concern for the under-18-year-olds. He focused in particular on ways to make participation in CONGO more convenient for the youth who work or go to school. His motto was that children are not the leaders of the future, but rather the "children of today."

Joop Theunissen voiced his concern for the youth primarily because he believes that they have potential to contribute to society's future development and they need to be protected from harmful, outside factors. He encouraged those attending the workshop to become involved by becoming youth delegates for UN conferences.

Bertan Selim described his own experience of discrimination in his youth. He claimed that his work with groups in Kosovo through conflict resolution programs helped him to break "barriers" and discover new information through various discussions and negotiations. He believed that the only way to achieve peace between people was to eliminate feelings of neglect and discrimination and learn from one another.

John Gagain stated that rebuilding society requires active participation among the youth, who are the "stakeholders" for the future. He said that the inadequate living conditions in the Dominican Republic called for youth to voice their concerns to government for the necessary changes.

Amina Syed talked about her life in Pakistan, living among the Taliban. She voiced her concern for the future of her children and denounced the use of terrorism. She claimed that terrorism is not associated with a particular religion or territory, but is rather a default of human nature. She said that in order to preserve the dreams of children, society should not suppress the symptoms of a conflict but instead find a solution.

Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Training in Non-violence and the Culture of Peace

Sponsored by: Anuvrat Global Organization (ANUVIBHA) and Art of Living Foundation

Moderator: **Arvind Vora**, ANUVIBHA

Speakers: **Panna Shah**, ANUVIBHA
Jim Farrow, Art of Living Foundation

Note: Three other speakers from ANUVIBHA (Sohanial Gandhi, Mohanial Jain, and Sanchay Jain) were unable to obtain visas to come to New York to participate in the workshop.

Participants: Approximately 50

Arvind Vora said the acts of 11 September 2001 were carried out by people who were willing to die. These same people had come from a culture that trained in hatred and violence. She said it was important to look at the different roots of violence because a peaceful coexistence could not be achieved without addressing those roots. Teaching people to accept and be understanding of each other was an important part of addressing global violence.

Panna Shah said the efforts of ANUVIBHA and their goal to popularize the culture of Ashima that began in 1988, at the International Conference on Peace and Nonviolent Action (ICPNA) in Ladnun, India. Topics from the second ICPNA included the meaning of non-violence, the need for non-violence training and the content and strategies of such trainings. Education was selected as the most important tool. ANUVIBHA was organizing the Fifth ICPNA, with the theme Seeking the True Meaning of the Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World, to be held at the Peace Palace Rajsamand.

Jim Farrow said there were several different health problems that can arise due to being angry and hateful. These included having stress and coronary problems. Learning to live a life of peaceful coexistence can help one achieve a healthier life. He presented a short training exercise on Yoga to show that even with simple short steps anyone can achieve a more relaxed state of being.

Rebuilding Societies: A New Approach

Sponsored by:	Spiritual Caucus Association of World Citizens, Center for Psychology and Social Change, Findhorn Foundation, Lifebridge Foundation, National Service Conference of the American Ethical Union, Vision for Humanity and World Peace Prayer Society
Moderator:	Patrick McNamara , Spiritual Caucus Association of World Citizens
Speakers:	Nancy Roof , Center of Psychology and Social Change Martha Gallahue , National Service Conference of the American Ethical Union Frances Edwards , Findhorn Foundation John Claussen , Findhorn Foundation Barbara Overly , Lifebridge Foundation Audrey Kitagawa , Vision for Humanity Nickolai Parker , World Peace Prayer Society
Participants:	Approximately 60

Nancy Roof said that when it comes to rebuilding societies, a consensual fusion, such as a group in meditation, allows people to work through their inner realms to acquire wisdom. Through silence one could reach to the inner dimensions that underlie the UN doctrines. She explained how her organization's mission statement is constantly evolving, but their primary purpose is based on a commitment to strengthen the principles of the UN through a balance with inner reflection and silence. She said that individuals following their own spirituality can direct their inner focus toward the UN and its goals of peace.

Martha Gallahue elaborated on how silence is integral to peace, and how there should be a moment of silence before any decisions are made. She divided the audience into groups of seven, with the speakers dispersed among them, and led the various groups in a 25-minute meditation period. The audience was asked to reflect on what they had experienced, in relation to the UN and the work it does. The small groups were asked to share their discoveries with the rest of the audience.

The comments and conclusions drawn included the following: Silence helps ground the energy in people, and this power can help one's work. A "collective silence," can foster the spiritual core within decision-making bodies.

One person said that silence is a very valuable action because it creates a community, as well as unanimity through balance and intention, allowing us to pay attention to what is important. It unites the differences that divide, and it results in careful listening. Silence can also result in the recognition that individuals are spiritual beings with goodness in their hearts.

Patrick McNamara asked the participants how this exercise related with their jobs for NGOs. One participant said that it reminded her of the true and original vision of the UN because it did not take conflict into account; instead it used commonality as its guide.

From Less than Zero: Opportunities in Rebuilding Economies

Sponsored by:	Armenian Relief Society, Inc.
Moderator:	Penelope Giragosian , Armenian Relief Society, Inc.
Speakers:	Sevag Avakian , Clinical Director, ARS Maternal Child Health Clinic, Akourian, Armenia Maral Chalian , United Armenian Fund Fred Kirshnit , Catholic Medical Mission Board Kristina Kazarian , Author, New Philanthropy Benchmarking
Participants:	Approximately 60

Sevag Avakian described the Armenian health care system and its steps towards improvement. He said the most serious problem with the system was accessibility to health care, and indicated the importance of reforming the educational system, the goal of optimization and current privatization methods. He also stressed the value of cooperation between government, local authorities and NGOs in rebuilding the economy and society of Armenia.

Maral Chalian outlined the efforts and achievements of the United Armenian Fund. She said the development of human capital was the key to bolstering economies. Rebuilding the spirit of the people was one of the first steps to rebuilding a depressed society. She outlined some objectives organizations should follow in their own endeavors in assisting societies after conflict.

Fred Kirshnit summarized the Christian Medical Mission Board's goals of creating sustainable, proactive health care programs in developing countries. He explained the socio-economic side of healthcare and described his organization's work on that issue. He said the organization's newest initiative was the integrated management of childhood illness, and he articulated the level of sophistication of the current medical environment in Armenia.

Kristina Kazarian went over her book and outlined steps for creating economic prosperity in rebuilding economies, including the creation of community wealth; drawing on intersectional opportunities; and benchmarking. She stressed the importance of strategic philanthropy and restructuring, described the pace of intersectional changes and the usefulness of established international benchmarks.

The question and answer portion consisted of some questions about coordination with other relief organizations and about relationships between interfaith organizations in Armenia.

Transforming Terror into Healing: The Role of Psychospiritual and Educational Dialogue

Sponsored by:	International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (New York Chapter), Armenian American Society for Studies on Stress and Genocide, One by One, New York State Psychological Association, Karuna Center for Peace Building, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Moderator:	Anie Kalayjian , World Federation for Mental Health & Fordham University
Speakers:	Zella Brown , One by One, United States Gloria Bletter , Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Mary Ann Cejka , Center for Mission Research and Study at Maryknoll Martina Emme , One by One, Germany Paula Green , Karuna Center for Peace Building Erik Grigoryan , Club of Young Diplomats, Armenia Yunus Tuncel , New School University
Participants:	Approximately 120

The topic of this workshop was on how to promote long-term recovery in communities affected by genocide and other mass traumas. Most of the speakers agreed that such work needed to begin at the individual level first, then through smaller groups, and after through mass means of reconciliation.

Paula Green said that intra-communal dialogue was a necessary and highly effective tool of reconciliation. Citing examples in Northern Ireland, and Sri Lanka, among others, Dr. Green detailed some of the methods used to give opposing groups the opportunity to “break through to the other.” This dialogue and exchange, to be most effective, needs also to go beyond age, gender and education.

Erik Grigoryan said there were four different types of dialogue and a role that a facilitator plays in each. While the goal of dialogue is to achieve reconciliation between the groups, the first type is adversarial: both sides still blame each other, yet walk away having met with the other side. This progresses to a sense of mutual disagreement, then to activism - where both sides work for a common goal. Finally, both sides engage in analytical problem-solving to address human rights issues as well as identifying and meeting the community's need. Psycho-spiritual dialogue incorporates elements of forgiveness and educating both sides. One such dialogue group is One by One, represented by co-presenters Martina Emme from Germany and Zella Brown from the United States. One by One brings together descendants of both perpetrators and victims of the Holocaust. Individuals are allowed to tell their stories in a safe environment and have the opportunity to listen to the other side. They concluded that the act of listening and being listened to, had an enormous effect on reconciliation.

Anie Kalayjian and Yunus Tuncel related their experience in organizing a similar group of descendants of the Ottoman Turkish Genocide in Armenia. Their group brought together professionals from both sides in order to start a dialogue and foster understanding in an open community meeting. Dr. Tuncel examined the role of Turkish nationalism as a means of creating and sustaining differences among peoples. Dr. Kalayjian described her own process of forgiveness and transcendence after receiving a death

threat by Turkish authorities. The presenters concluded that it was very challenging to pursue reconciliation while Turkish authorities still negated the genocide of the Armenians after 87 years.

May Ann Cejka described a study that examined peace making initiatives in conflict and post-conflict societies. The study found that grass-roots efforts were not just reactive to the immediate conflict, but called upon cultural history and creativity to foster long-term peace building efforts. These efforts played an integral role in making higher-level negotiations possible. She said that unfortunately these grass-roots experts are often not welcomed at the negotiating tables since they lack official credentials.

Gloria Bletter spoke on the role of tribunals in peace-making mechanisms. Tribunals are a form of restorative justice, operating with no set rules and no set codes of retribution. Each outcome is subjective—the victims are asked what actions need to be taken so that they can best go on with their lives. Since people who are left at the margins are often the most affected by mass trauma, tribunals offer a culturally sensitive method of administering justice.

The workshop ended with questions that ranged from how data was collected for the studies to how the different dialogue groups came to be organized, how to work with governments who continue to deny committing of atrocities. The discussion broke up into various groups for further networking and dialogue at the end of the workshop.

Putting Children at the Centre: How to Restore or Create Sustainable Social, Educational and Health and Mental Services

Sponsored By:	Working Group on the Rights of the Child, Working Group on Girls, Working Group on Education and Sub-Working Group On Children in Armed Conflict of the NGO Committee on UNICEF
Moderator:	Corann Okorodudu , Rowan University; American Psychological Association (APA)
Speakers:	Beverlee Bruce , Social Scientist Maria Green , Child Rights Activist Allison Pillsbury , Project Manager, Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children Cynthia Steel , Child Rights Activist
Participants:	Approximately 85

Maria Green opened the discussion by referring to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These rights include health care, education, food, and social services. She underlined the importance of such a document in promoting reform. Governments of poverty-stricken nations should respect rights by not interfering in access to health, education and other natural entitlements.

Cynthia Steel discussed the importance of involving young people, especially girls, in the reform process. For instance, in 1993, she helped develop a programme on girl power in Nigeria. The programme worked to empower young women in regard to their sexual and reproduction rights. They met once a week and talked about their concerns, learning from each other that it is permitted to question and say no to situations that make them uncomfortable. Along with building self-esteem, this initiative created leadership skills in these young women.

Beverlee Bruce discussed education systems, and noted that in New York City many public schools are struggling. As a result, it could not be expected that high standards would be met in developing countries. She related an experience she had in Sudan when an illiterate woman asked her why the United States did not pay attention to her country like they did to Kosovo. Bruce predicted that if children in unstable countries were given a voice and an opportunity for education, it would do wonders for the country.

Allison Pillsbury touched on other issues dealing with the mental stress suffered by children. She outlined the troubling situation in Northern Uganda as well as Sierra Leone, where children, usually aged between 10 to 19, were abducted to become soldiers or sexual slaves. When those children returned, they suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder because of the horrors they had witnessed. Pillsbury helped develop programmes in which recreation, education, and livelihood skills were provided for children and adolescents alike, educating on AIDS and other diseases.

The consensus the panel reached was the need for children to become the agents of change in their respective struggling nations.

Making Peace Last: Disarmament as an Essential

Sponsored by:	NGO Committee on Disarmament, Inc., Pax Christi International and Common Heritage Institute
Moderator:	Michael Hovey , Pax Christi International; Executive Director, Hague Appeal for Peace
Speakers:	Jayantha Dhanapala , Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) David Robinson , National Coordinator, Pax Christi USA Colleen Driscoll , Common Heritage Institute; Kurtz Institute for Peace
Participants:	Approximately 70

Michael Hovey said that the disarmament of combatants is essential to end conflicts and ensure a nonviolent future. Education is very important in this area, and he noted successful projects in countries such as Albania, Peru and Cambodia. Disarmament is necessary, but there are obstacles. People with weapons have power and selling weapons is a very lucrative business. Consequently, it is hard to replace cultures of violence with cultures of peace.

Jayantha Dhanapala stated that over \$800 billion was spent on war, worldwide. He added that peace will not be achieved by building war machines, and that we need to invest in people. A change in the ways that wars are being fought has changed the way that relief agencies have had to respond. There are more small arms in civilian possession now than ever before in our history. He said there was a need to focus on the re-integration of ex-combatants into civilian life in war-torn areas. Ceasefires and comprehensive peace agreements are only the first step. Too often former soldiers remain unemployed and unsatisfied once the conflict is over. There are 639 million small arms in circulation worldwide and 49 per cent of them are illegal weapons. Countries need to focus on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) once the conflict has ended. The main goal of these countries should be to develop trust and a sense of security in post-conflict communities.

David Robinson has been working with Pax Christi for 11 years. He had just returned from a trip to Afghanistan where he had brought families of the victims of 9/11 to meet families of the victims of the American bombing campaign. He explained the dangers and effects of cluster bombs in Afghanistan, noting that sometimes such bombs do not completely detonate. Children picked them up and got killed as a result. He said the use of these bombs should be discontinued, as the danger to innocent civilians was too great.

Colleen Driscoll spoke about anticipatory peacemaking, and how that may be the most important kind, since it ends conflicts before they even begin. She contended that technology should be used to make peace, not war. Moreover, most people did not realize that the same technology that could be used to hurt people could also be used peacefully. She used the space programme as an example. She also argued in favour of education as a key element of peacemaking, and that war was not a natural condition, while peace was.

The Arts as an Instrument for Renewal and Healing

Sponsored By:	Tribal Link Foundation, International Network of Peace Museums and Cambodia Master Performers Programme
Moderator:	Paul Mayer , Tribal Link Foundation; Cambodia Master Performers Programme
Speakers:	Joyce Apsel , International Network of Peace Museums, Rights Works Arn Chorn-Pond , Cambodia Master Performers Programme Chath pier Sath , Cambodia Master Performers Programme
Participants:	Approximately 40

Speakers explored how Peace Museums promote reconciliation, healing and remembrance, and also how the Cambodia Master Performers Programme supports the revival of traditional art forms and encourages contemporary artistic expression.

Chath pier Sath explained that during the violent conflict in Cambodia, music was prohibited, and that any person who could read, write or speak a second language was killed. He noted the need to resuscitate Cambodia's cultural heritage.

Arn Chorn-Pond said that his family in Cambodia had been slaughtered because they were artists. He transformed a gang into a hip-hop band, observing that as long as they were performing, they were not killing others. The group eventually returned to Cambodia to discover their roots.

Joyce Apsel discussed the attempt of the International Peace Museums to promote peace through art and culture, and to create options other than war.

During the question and answer session, participants and panellists raised concerns that artists are typically targeted for death in troubled societies because that helps facilitate the death of the culture, and artists typically make the most trouble by voicing opinions.

The Cambodia Master Performers Programme web site can be accessed at <http://www.cambodianmasters.org>.

Coordinated Efforts Towards Peace in Kosovo

Sponsored by:	Fraternité Notre Dame, Armenian International Women's Association, World Assembly of Moslem Youth and International Confederation of Midwives
Moderator:	Fadul Soliman , World Assembly of Moslem Youth
Speakers:	Majd Almaz , Ph. D., Executive Director, International Institute for Psychological Development Karine Martirosyan , (OB-GYN) Armenian International Women's Association, "Maternal/Infant Health Project of Doctors of the World (USAID funded) at Gjilan Hospital" Marie Odile , Sister, Fraternité Notre Dame Frances Ventre , International Confederation of Midwives
Participants:	Approximately 30

The severity and gravity of the situation in Kosovo and the extreme difficulties related to rehabilitating a society with complex and multi-faceted problems, in combination with a medical system inadequately equipped to rehabilitate and understand the needs of its people, were the prevailing themes throughout this workshop.

Marie Odile said there was an overwhelming need to provide assistance to this destroyed society and to the traumatized people in Kosovo. She emphasised the necessity for solidarity among nations and organizations devoted to the cause of rebuilding and rehabilitating the society. It was important for all actors involved to work efficiently together to provide relief for the most neglected.

Karine Martirosyan described a Doctors of the World project, co-sponsored by USAID, devoted to restructuring and improving maternal and infant health. She described the need for improved health education and prenatal care and outlined the major objectives of the USAID project to enhance the skills of the doctors, nurses and midwives and to renovate the hospital, enabling the staff to utilize their new skills in the improved facilities.

Frances Ventre said the overall success of the project was evidenced by drastically reduced infant mortality rates and the mortality rate of mothers during birth, and the overall improvement of prenatal and maternal care.

Both women expressed the need for culturally sensitive methods of coping with rape, which was used as a weapon of war by the Serbian soldiers against Muslim women.

Majd Almaz emphasised the overwhelming percentage of rapes in relation to the population, and the extremely limited number of mental health professionals available to heal the victims. He also placed emphasis on the need to provide counseling for the children, many of whom are now orphans and who witnessed their parents' and/or siblings' deaths. He stated that peace could not be established when people are not at peace with themselves. It was important that people heal from the extreme emotional and physical pain before being able to contribute to rebuilding and maintaining a functioning society.

Women, Religion and (In)Security

Sponsored by:	The World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP) Women's Program and Program on Disarmament and Security
Moderator:	Judith Hertz , Chairperson, Inter-religious Affairs, Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Speakers:	Joan Brown Campbell , Department of Religion, Chautauqua Institution Arun P. Elhance , Director, Program on Disarmament and Security, The World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP) Azza Karam , Director, Women's Program, The World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP) Dr. Chung Ok Lee , Won Buddhism, NGO Representative at the United Nations
Participants:	Approximately 50

Judith Hertz observed that while gender and religion were not on the United Nations agenda fifty years ago, today both were significant agenda items.

Women of faith enter areas where politicians cannot or will not. She said that women are the primary victims of today's civil wars and that they can be particularly helpful to other women. Women are the ones who protect children.

Joan Brown Campbell, who facilitated Elian Gonzales' return to Cuba, said women's lack of power in religion did not mean ineffectiveness. Women can "cross" and build bridges between cultures that would not otherwise be built. She suggested that world leaders ask Iraq's women and children how they feel about the possibility of another war.

Arun Elhance said that he would like to see women's issues at the core of United Nations planning, rather than on the periphery. He stressed that violence against women must stop and a larger sense of security must be found.

Azza Karam said that Muslim women currently encounter negative images all around them. However, the term "Muslim woman" is a myth, she explained, because Muslim women are diverse. She said the Taliban used women as symbols of its control and noted that the American media had eliminated the attention it paid to Afghan women after 9/11.

Chung Ok Lee cited the Korean Conference on Religion and the Korean Conference on Religion and Peace as instrumental in building peace between North and South Korea and stressed the importance of trust in the reconciliation process. She said patriarchal values exclude women, and she challenged women's traditional roles in religion.

Reconstruction of Criminal Justice Systems to Promote Humanitarian Objectives and Security

Sponsored by:	International Association against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking
Moderator:	Peggy Ritchie , International Community Corrections Association
Speakers:	Ronald Brinn , International Association Against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking Jennifer Oades , International Corrections and Prison Association
Participants:	Approximately 25

Peggy Ritchie described changes in the global community that affect the prevention and monitoring of crime. She highlighted predictions of increasing international crime threats and introduced new and developing technologies to try to control such threats. She stressed the lessons learned in humane policing, in association with international peacekeeping, that included addressing the difficulties of transition between military police and local police, as well as the importance of collaboration, coordination and training.

Jennifer Oades described the manual Practical Guidelines for the Establishment of Correctional Services within United Nations Peace Support Operations. She outlined the new role of international civilian corrections professionals in UN peacekeeping operations and emphasized the value and necessity of capacity building, teamwork and unity within the corrections system as well as between all sectors of aid and development involved in the reconstruction process of a society.

Ronald Brinn began his presentation by describing the global narcotics trade as consisting of issues of corruption, organized crime, political subordination and money laundering. He emphasized the importance of establishing worldwide political and economical stability, as well as restructuring standards to be preventive measures against conflict, as opposed to rebuilding societies after conflict has already occurred. He highlighted the significance of the UN as the place where new standards can be crafted to achieve the key goals of stability, transparency and create a positive synergy to maintain global human security.

In the question-and-answer session, participants raised concerns of technology being abused and questions of global ethics. The panel answered that technological advancements are difficult to control and that the focus of the global community should be on how to obtain and maintain global ethics.

Rotary International Projects: Children of the Dump and Rotary Hunger Project

Sponsored by:	Rotary International
Moderator:	Donald Treimann , Rotary International
Speakers:	Dennis Adams , Rotary International Marco Dessy , Rotary International, Roman Catholic Missionary Steve Harris , Chair, Rotary International Hunger Committee Frank Huezo , Rotary International Ludwig Venegas , Director, Getsemani Children's Choir
Participants:	Approximately 50

Speakers discussed Rotary International's project to rescue children living on a dump in Chinandega, Nicaragua, and provide them with food, primary schooling, vocational training and micro-farming skills.

Dennis Adams recounted how Marco Dessy invited the children of Chinandega to school, yet they would not go because they had to search for food. However, when they were told that they would be fed, they went to school.

Frank Huezo and Father Dessy explained that trade schools were partly funded by Rotary International, and homes were provided for families. Each family received land, tools and seeds, permitting them to feed themselves, allowing children to attend school and giving the families dignity. Father Dessy emphasized that the greatest goal and success was in getting several organizations to work together on this and other hunger projects.

The Getsemani Children's Choir performed two songs and three dances, which were designed to demonstrate the culture of Chinandega and illustrate the life that children can have when they are not suffering from hunger and lack of education.

Steve Harris recommended the continued supply and exchange of food for education. He noted that there are three benefits to such a system: malnutrition ends, education occurs and children pass these benefits on to their own children.

Promoting Reconciliation and Peace-Building: NGO Roles and Experiences

Sponsored by:	Fellowship of Reconciliation, Women's Federation for World Peace International and Conflict Transformation Working Group
Moderator:	John Kim , Fellowship of Reconciliation (United States)
Speakers:	Peter Davies , Saferworld William Tolbert III , Reverend, Inter-Religious Council of Liberia Lan Young Moon , Women's Federation for World Peace International Scott Matthew , Community Council for Peace and Tolerance in Kosovo
Participants:	Approximately 60

John Kim opened the workshop with a minute of silence in memory of the victims of 11 September 2001.

Peter Davies talked about the importance of not only reacting to conflicts, but also of preventing them. He spoke about conflict transformation, helping communities and groups transform anger and distrust into something positive. He said that NGOs have advantages over larger institutions, such as the UN, in conflict resolution because they have longevity, access to communities, and a low profile in most cases.

William Tolbert III began by thanking the conference organizers and reading a quote by the former president of Liberia, assassinated in 1980. He told the audience a little bit about Liberia, whose population was made up of 85% Muslims and Christians. He said that it was important to let injured civilians out of conflict areas, and that peace is more powerful than war. He concluded by stating that Liberia continued to strive for a lasting peace.

Lan Young Moon said that the September 11 attacks reminded her of the fear she felt during the Korean War. She spoke about the role of materialism in conflict situations. The Women's Federation for World Peace International believes that all humans constitute a global family and that they are all here for each other. In 1995 and 1996, the Federation brought together 20,000 pairs of American and Japanese women as part of a reconciliation project. She said that since women often bear the consequences of conflict, they should play a larger role in conflict resolution and prevention.

Scott Matthew is a school principal in Kosovo. The Community Council for Peace and Tolerance in Kosovo has been working in recent years to bring together Albanians, Bosnians, and Serbs. They received a lot of support from the international community, and the situation in Kosovo is much better than it has been in the last few years. The key goal for the Council is that everyone in the region lives together in peace.

During the question-and-answer session, people in the audience asked the speakers questions about specific activities of their NGOs and the decision-making process within such NGOs.

Rebuilding Society: The Role of Civil Society in Cooperative Security

Sponsored by:	The Fund for Peace
Moderator:	Richard Winfield , Board Member, The Fund for Peace
Speakers:	Pauline Baker , The Fund for Peace Loretta Bondi , The Fund for Peace
Participants:	10

Richard Winfield said the dilemma that the international community currently faces is the widening gap between legality and legitimacy, especially in the context of terrorism. Several nations have violated the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state and acted outside international law, but their actions have been widely considered legitimate. He said the main issues that need to be discussed are: justification of preemptive action; creation of effective legal instruments and mechanisms to combat terrorism; and accountability for those who commit atrocities.

Pauline Baker said the impossibility of conceiving of an abstract, universal definition of terrorism, was an impediment to the creation of effective legal instruments and mechanisms to combat terrorism. She said there was a possibility of consensus within the international community that would allow for case-by-case discernment of terrorism. Notions of accountability that change across cultural, ideological and geographical divides complicated the establishment of standard responses to atrocities. Notions of reconciliation and healing, for example, were valued more in some societies than others. She introduced Ms. Bondi's work as an innovative strategy for peace in conflict resolution.

Loretta Bondi emphasized the expanding role of civil society in creating a new framework to guide future actions. She said some of the special abilities of civil society were special awareness to the community; intelligible translation of sentiment and wishes of community; influence over shaping of public opinion; intuitive perception of emerging conflicts; and building constituencies. Unlike state actors, civil society had the luxury of seeing the 'big picture', that is, the long-term effects of a policy or action. She addressed the immediate question of preemptive use of force in self-defense against Iraq in connection to terrorism. She envisioned the possibility of the international community arriving at a common understanding of what constitutes terrorism and emphasized the need for civil society to be integrated in this dialogue.

Promoting Mutual Understanding and Outreach in a Diverse Society Through a Multi-Level Health Care System

Sponsored by:	Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organisation of America
Moderator:	Rita Avramov , Director of the Department of Social Services
Speakers:	Bonnie Lipton , National President, Hadassah Esti Galili-Weisstub , Director, Unit of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Hadassah Medical Organization Estelle Rubenstein , Deputy Director, Social Work Services, Hadassah Medical Organisation
Participants:	Approximately 80

Bonnie Lipton gave a synopsis of the history of Hadassah from its founding in 1912 by Henrietta Szold to its current strength of Hadassah affiliates in 34 countries, under the aegis of Hadassah International. The Hadassah University Medical Centers at Mt. Scopus and Ein Kerem in Jerusalem is a result of the work initiated in Palestine with the establishment of Hadassah Israel in 1913.

Multiple speakers emphasized that, from its inception, Hadassah has extended its healing hand to all, without regard for race, religion, political persuasion or ethnic origin. Ms. Lipton also mentioned Hadassah relationships with different countries related to specific medical problems, such as Camp Hadassah in Africa where eye ailments are treated and bone marrow transplants in Argentina. She explained how health care personnel from all over the world, including Palestine, were trained in Jerusalem, and how trauma specialists from Hadassah Medical Center went to Turkey and other disaster areas.

Esti Galili-Weisstub gave an overview of her work there with children, youth and their parents. Children suffer just as much as adults do from the effects of trauma. Psychological damage is worse than physical damage, she said. The ability of children to cope often depends on their parents' own coping ability. She mentioned for instance the archetype of the Hero, how the concept of that myth has changed, and how there are positive and negative aspects to all archetypes including that of the Hero. She said that the educated person was a new hero in the Jewish diaspora and that now for Israelis the fighter would also be a hero.

Rita Avramov has a range of experience, including dealing with oncology patients and victims of hostile acts. The Social Work Department at Hadassah University Medical Center, founded in 1965 by a Holocaust survivor Greta Fischer, delivers social as well as medical services.

There have been approximately 2,200 wounded people treated in the last past two years. The Social Work Department continues to work with the most recent victims in providing long-term individual and community care, and with community agencies. Staff debriefing takes place after each incident and compassion fatigue is monitored. There are Arabic speaking professionals at the hospital to ensure that there is no discrimination regarding access to treatment.

Estelle Rubenstein talked about the problem of dealing with immigrants that have HIV/AIDS. After arriving in Israel, all immigrants get a health screening as well as health insurance. When HIV/AIDS is diagnosed, the problem of treating the disease is compounded by the timing of the discovery, i.e., dealing

with the stress and the status of being an immigrant, fear of disclosure and facing the stigma and challenge of dealing with HIV/AIDS. A team of health care providers, including doctors, nurse, mental health professional/social worker and cultural mediator/translator (usually a person from the same cultural background as the client, and preferably someone who is successfully managing the challenge of HIV/AIDS) works with the HIV/AIDS victim. Estelle concluded that the issue of adherence to a medical regimen was particularly problematic in multi-cultural setting.

Weaving Threads of Reconciliation

Sponsored by:	Congregation of St. Joseph, Dominican Leadership Conference and Long Island University/Brooklyn Campus
Moderator:	Carol Zinn , Congregation of St. Joseph
Speakers:	Yasmine Sherif , Long Island University/ Brooklyn Campus, United Nations Graduate Certificate Program Eileen Gannon , Dominican Leadership Conference
Participants:	Approximately 30

Yasmine Sherif began by asking, “Why is it so difficult to achieve reconciliation between two adversaries?” She said that reconciliation requires individuals to change. In her opinion, it is not practical for NGOs to go to places and tell people to reconcile. She said that it is not expected of both victims and survivors to reconcile with their perpetrators, unless justice has been done. Using September 11th as her prime example, she said that things had become worse; bigger gaps in the world existed, leading to an increase in the number of wars. With regard to reconciliation, she indicated that people try to change the world rather than themselves. True reconciliation comes from the heart of individuals, not through systems such as elections and working groups.

Eileen Gannon shared her experience as part of an international order of Dominican Sisters in Iraq. She was pleasantly surprised by the warm welcome of the local people, even though she could be perceived as an enemy. She said that a non-violent expression of anger was important to ease tensions and allow for reconciliation and the building of friendships to occur. Months after her visit, those same Iraqis wrote her a letter expressing their sorrow for the tragic events of September 11th. She said that her experience showed that beyond national citizenship there is a greater force that unites people. Moreover, steps toward reconciliation are small and gentle.

Carol Zinn asked the audience what conclusions could be drawn on the subject matter. The group said that reconciliation requires someone from the outside to come in and help change human interactions. Additionally, a major problem lies in lessons of militarism and vengeance taught by our societies. Instead, society needs to develop peace stories and make them known. Finally, each person needs the moral courage to change ourselves and the world. The group generally agreed that the UN, NGOs and individuals should live up to their own standards, and not just agree with the moral rhetoric being thrown around; that politics can be combined with spirituality, forming the idea one participant expressed as a “spiritual renaissance.”

Post-Traumatic Stress: UN/NGO Partnerships in Recovering Societies

Sponsored by:	NGO Section of the Department of Public Information and the International Psychoanalytic Association.
Moderators:	Paul Hoeffel , UN Department of Public Information, NGO section Afaf Mahfouz , International Psychoanalytic Association.
Speakers:	Paul Arés , World Food Programme Lynn DeLisi , Disaster Psychiatry Outreach, Inc. Yael Danieli , International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Deena Harris , International Psychoanalytic Association Harvey Rich , International Psychoanalytic Association David M. Sachs , International Psychoanalytic Association
Participants:	Approximately 60

Post-traumatic stress disorders did not only affect individuals living in post-conflict areas, but also affected the people trying to provide assistance. This workshop explored various ways that NGOs and the United Nations could address mental health issues for their field agents. Although there was not time for an extensive question and answer session, each one of the speakers emphasized in his/her presentation the need for psychoanalysts to be involved in mainstreaming field workers/trauma victims back into society.

Lynn DeLisi defined post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a chronic, debilitating disorder that prevents normal life after trauma. Dr. DeLisi co-founded Disaster Psychiatry Outreach, a group of psychoanalysts who made their services available during times of crisis and trauma. After 11 September, the group provided twenty-four-hour emergency psychiatric care for field workers.

Deena Harris identified several ways that psychoanalysts could contribute in post-traumatic situations. Psychoanalysts not only advised governments and aid organizations, but also provided individual assistance. She explained that while tending to and identifying the victims is the first priority immediately after a traumatic event, psychoanalysts are still needed during the clean-up, rebuilding and the final memorialization phases of the event.

Yael Danieli advocated the need for organizations to always focus on victim support. United Nations publications assist the collaboration effort between the UN and NGOs in the field. Although there are problems in all four areas, NGOs and the UN need to collaborate, coordinate, communicate and cooperate.

Paul Arés spoke to the group as an individual affected by post-traumatic stress disorder, relating his own experience as a manager with the UN World Food Programme. While field workers are driven by the need to help others, there is a price to pay by taking on the suffering of those you are helping. Mr. Arés raised the question of how to best help managers, stress counsellors and field workers deal with their chosen profession.

David Sachs responded by identifying some of the unique capabilities of psychoanalysts and examining how these qualities could be applied in the field. He suggested, among other things, that before being assigned to a field position, a psychoanalyst should interview potential workers and determine who would

most likely be at risk for post-traumatic stress disorder. Furthermore, besides dealing with immediate trauma, psychoanalysts should also educate people about what it means to be vulnerable to post-traumatic stress disorder.

Harvey Rich agreed with Dr. Sachs, adding that psychologists are ideal when intervening right after trauma. Psychoanalytic response must be tailored for individuals, for no one reacts to the same traumas in the same ways.

Media: Who Shapes the News in the Post-Conflict World?

Sponsor:	International Association of Educators for World Peace and the Armenian Assembly of America
Moderator:	Rita Cosby , Senior Correspondent, Fox News Azim Mian , President, United Nations Correspondents Association
Speakers:	Florence Avakian , United Nations Correspondent, Armenian Radio William Dowell , Editor, Global Beat Internet Magazine; Center for War, Peace and News Media, New York University John Fund , Columnist, Wall Street Journal Adrian Karatnycky , President, Freedom House Tony Karon , Time Magazine Hannes Siebert , Director, Appeal of the Nobel Peace Laureates Foundation; Director, Media Peace Center Jean-Louis Turtin , Editor, United Nations Correspondent, France-Amerique
Participants:	Approximately 250

The speakers discussed ways in which the media conveyed information to the public, and how this shapes public opinion of affairs abroad.

Azim Mian said that the media follows a code of professional ethics without discrimination or racism; it can play a significant role in awareness and promote democratic resolutions for rebuilding society.

William Dowell argued that objectivity in the press is crucial in getting the facts. He said that business publications are beginning to care less about in-depth analysis and more about corporate interests. He believed that the Internet was the only hope for better awareness because there was access to unlimited information not necessarily found in the newspapers or any other media outlet.

Hannes Siebert said that the local news plays the most important role in people's understanding of events. He explained how local radio stations from South Africa, Macedonia and Serbia had illustrated how local media could change people's perspectives on world issues. He said it was only when the people from one's own country were suffering that media changed their attitude towards the significance of news.

John Fund said that objective journalism, although favourable, was non-existent. Only fair journalism could exist because it allowed for understanding another's perspective with the absence of bias and one-sidedness. He stated that the quality of international news relied on whether or not consumers chose to care about international affairs.

Tony Karon said that in a conflict objectivity can exist on both sides of a particular issue. Through his own experience he had learned that one side should try to understand the other side's beliefs, articulating them and strive to establish where each one stands.

Adrian Karatnycky said that post-conflict resolution depended on knowing when to achieve results. She claimed that the instruments of violence and propaganda were fused with the media in order to deceive the public opinion.

Florence Avakian, a native Armenian, found that the majority of Americans knew little to nothing about her country and chose to ignore what went on overseas. She expressed her disappointment that the problems of her people were of little concern to the American media and that her own country's supply of newspapers had been curtailed, contributing to even less knowledge about Armenian affairs.

Rita Cosby described her involvement in the September 11th memorial the morning of the workshop and stressed how conflicts always seemed to shed new light on a particular culture. While she thought that images from the television did not lie because they showed you what was happening, she also found that television tended to attract attention and exposed atrocities through picture illustrations that affected the public emotionally.

Coming Out of the Dark: The Role of Faith in Recovering from Conflict

Sponsored by:	Temple of Understanding, New York City College of Technology of the City University of New York (CUNY), World Peace Prayer Society, Pathways to Peace and the United Religions Initiative at the United Nations
Moderator:	Joan Kirby , Temple of Understanding
Speakers:	Kenjitsu Nakagaki , Venerable, New York Buddhist Church Nickolai Parker , World Peace Prayer Society
Participants:	Approximately 35

This panel openly discussed the role of faith in helping people in the context of diversity. The role of religion, as agreed on by all of the panel members, was often used for healing purposes in the wake of tragedies.

Kenjitsu Nakagaki described some of the central tenets of the Buddhist faith, including the need for individuals to know who they are. He stressed the importance of ordinariness, which he defined as striving to embrace good qualities and avoiding evil. In Buddhism, an outsider learns that conditional goodness and respect for oneself and others are of value.

Joan Kirby and Mr. Nakagaki both elaborated on the role of faith in the healing process when recovering from a conflict, and on how people could come together and show compassion for one another. Peace and hope were among their concerns for helping the global community as a whole. The significance of the International Day of Peace was discussed, this being a 24-hour day devoted to prayer and unifying people around the world. They explained that the purpose of the 24-hour cease-fire was to enable many more days of peace.

Much of the discussion came from questions and comments from guests attending this workshop. One person asked about the difference between organized religion and each individual's path to spiritualism. A guest tried to answer her question by explaining how factionalism creates problems because people hold on to different ideas. He believed that such conflict could end by letting go of set beliefs and living life with an open mind. If one "lets go" of his notion of religion, he would gain a personal understanding. Discussions on hope and the power of prayer were also topics of this panel.

The panel ended with a prayer reading. The speakers presented their proposal of a monument to be built in the financial district. It has the inscription "May peace prevail" and is written in 12 languages. The monument would be hollow and have a slot for people to put their prayers inside.

Psychosocial and Structural Elements of Conflict Resolution, Forgiveness and Healing: An Interactive Forum

- Sponsored by:** American Psychological Association (APA), Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), International Council of Psychologists (ICP), Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR), and Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence (SSPCV)
- Moderator:** **Peter R. Walker**, Ph.D., NGO Representative at the United Nations, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
- Speakers:** **Eileen R. Borris**, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist & President of Peace Initiatives
Thema Simone Bryant-Davis, Ph.D., American Psychological Association, Coordinator of the SHARE Program, Princeton University
Roger A. Hart, Ph.D., Professor of Environmental and Developmental Psychology, Co-Director of the Children's Environment Research Group, Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York
Vlasta Ratkovic, Ph.D., International Association of Intercultural Education-speech presented in absentia by Joseph DeMeyer, Ph.D., NGO Representative at the United Nations, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
Michael Wessells, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Randolph-Macon College, Consultant, Christian Children's Fund
Florence L. Denmark, Ph.D., Robert Scott Pace Distinguished Professor, Pace University
- Participants:** Approximately 35
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Eileen R. Borris suggested that forgiveness is a choice that is at the core of reconciling relationships and personal healing. During war, people become blinded by anger and heartless by fear. Without forgiveness, a person's capacity to bring pain to the self and to others increases. For her, forgiveness is crucial to survival.

Thema Bryant-Davis recited her poem about war in Liberia. In the context of war, the act of rape is a tool of humiliation. She discussed challenges to a female survivor's recovery and offered clinical recommendations towards the restoration of a victim's sense of safety and trust.

Roger Hart noted that the international community pushes for children's education but does not define what should be included. He called for education that incorporates democratic principles, human rights and social justice, among other things. He said children need to express themselves on issues that concern them.

Joseph DeMeyer presented Vlasta Ratkovic's speech, "Role of Mediators: Matching the Solutions Aspired to by the Conflicted Parties with the Acceptable Reality." For Vlasta Ratkovic, Americans who intervene in war-torn countries in crisis must respect other cultures and also help people to operate outside the frames within which they developed.

Michael Wessells said that the media's portrayal of child soldiers as "tough soldiers" wrongly creates the impression that people cannot change. He described the processes by which former child soldiers had been successfully reintegrated into their communities, citing the example of rehabilitated child soldiers in Sierra Leone.

Florence L. Denmark stressed that persons of all ages affect change and that children as well as older persons can be involved in education for peace. She asked how the panellists might go beyond talking among themselves, noting the importance of people serving as community change agents.

Building Sustainable Livelihoods in Post-Conflict Countries

Sponsored by:	International Federation of Training and Development Organization and Institute for Reconstruction and International Security through Education
Moderator:	Annette Hartenstein , International Federation of Training and Development Organization; RISE Institute
Panelists:	Eugenia Date-Bah , International Labor Organization (ILO) David Waugh , People-to-People International
Participants:	Approximately 30

This workshop discussed the importance of going beyond giving aid and helping to educate people in post-conflict areas in skills that are needed for their economy. If this is not done, problems could again arise as they had before the conflict.

Annette Harenstein shared an article in Business Week that described essential elements of the reconstruction of El Salvador's economy. These "building blocks" in education and skills training, helped to revitalize the economy. She said this provided a good example of how the process can work and be replicated in other countries.

Eugenia Date-Bah said the ILO specialized in all areas of work and human rights. She said human resources development and productive jobs were important in the recovery of people affected by conflict. When aid is given with the help of the UN and other organizations employment issues should be taken into account, even if that was not the primary mandate of the organization. Everyone needs to work together to rebuild weak institutions. The implementation of skills training and job promotion should start early, with the observance of basic rights in international labor standards. When implementing these programs, there should be flexibility, as well as international and local media coverage to promote the programmes.

David Waugh praised the hard work that NGOs and other organizations accomplish in post-conflict regions. He stressed the need for workforce development by organizations that do not normally do that. He suggested a practical plan for such implementation, that he would post on the RISE Institute web site. He gave the example of an aid project. When supplies were sent in, there had to be a process put into place so that all items were stored and sent to the right locations. Local people were hired to help implement this. The objective was to go a step further than administering the necessary aid, but to teach the local people how to keep this process in place once the external aid is no longer available.

Consultation with Conference Participants from Latin America and the Caribbean

Sponsored by:	Conference of NGOs (CONGO) and Programa de Integración con Latinoamérica, el Caribe y la Península Ibérica (PILAC) Task Force of CONGO and NGO Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
Moderator:	Leslie Wright , First Vice-President, CONGO
Speakers:	Renate Bloem , President, CONGO Orlando Rodriguez , Chair, PILAC Task Force, CONGO
Participants:	Approximately 25

The workshop discussed the needs of NGOs from Latin America and the Caribbean as well as the possibility of a CONGO-hosted consultation for the region. The meeting was conducted in Spanish.

Leslie Wright opened the meeting with greetings and introduced Renate Bloem. Ms Bloem said that she was very happy to see everyone and outlined the work of CONGO, describing the Asia Consultation that would take place in Bangkok in December 2002. She complimented the work of PILAC, noting that outreach to Latin America and the Caribbean was one of four outreach programs for CONGO, others included Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa.

Ms. Wright described the framework of the proposed Consultation for Latin American and the Caribbean. She pointed out that it would address the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the UN, give NGOs more information about how to work with the UN, and work to develop new partnerships among NGOs, governments, the UN system and businesses/donors. Ms. Wright discussed the ways in which participants might work with CONGO, including through a new Youth Advisory Committee, and emphasized the importance of giving NGOs from the region access, participation and voice so that their concerns might be addressed by the UN Member States. Ms. Wright noted that the UN, governments, the private sector and NGOs need to pull together in new ways in order to make the Millennium Goals a reality. She said that she hoped that the organizations at the meeting might begin to work together to make the Consultation a reality, and to bring the Millennium Goals into the mainstream of the development agenda.

Orlando Rodriguez described the work of the task force. Mr. Rodriguez, who represents the Universal Great Brotherhood founded by Dr. Serge Raynaud de la Ferriere, noted that PILAC is the outreach task force for CONGO for the Latin America/Caribbean Region. The group has about a dozen members who provide translation/interpretation for CONGO, logistical information and sometimes even housing for attendees of UN meetings from the region. In addition, the group researches grant possibilities for the region and provides assistance for NGOs from the region seeking funds.

At the end of the meeting the representatives agreed to assist CONGO with the consultation, including promotion, participation and funding and to work in thematic areas in relation to the MDGs. Attendees agreed to remain in touch with each other through email.