

**Twenty-Eighth  
Planning Committee Meeting  
59<sup>h</sup> Annual DPI/NGO Conference (6-8 September 2006)  
Thursday, 10 August 2006  
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
Conference Room B**

**Minutes**

1. Pre-meeting comments

- a. The chairwoman introduced the Japanese ambassador to the committee. She announced that it had been confirmed that a Japanese representative would speak at the conference.
  - b. The Japanese ambassador apologized for the intrusion to the meeting. He requested, on behalf of the Japanese foreign minister, to be invited to address the conference on human security. He noted that Japan has taken the lead at the UN in human security, and that the themes of the conference resonated loudly with the Japanese.
    - (i) If invited, the ambassador said that the foreign minister would make a presentation on human security, and how the human security trust fund tries to promote partnerships with NGOs and other organizations.
    - (ii) A document on Human Security and Civil Society was passed out to members of the committee, explaining the core concepts and themes of what the Japanese foreign minister would address. There was also a document passed around on the Human Security Trust Fund. The ambassador spoke about these documents and the Fund briefly.
    - (iii) The ambassador briefly outlined the contemporary paradigm shift from state security to human security, and the concepts surrounding this change.
    - (iv) The ambassador said that the concept of human security was relatively new to the UN. A document highlighting the relevant UN language on the matter was passed out.
    - (v) The ambassador stressed his understanding that this was not an opportunity for the Japanese government to advertise to their NGO colleagues what they were doing.
    - (vi) The chairman presented the ambassador with an official invitation to the conference, for the foreign minister.
1. There was a question regarding the environmental projects of the Human Security Trust fund. The ambassador said that 146 projects had been approved so far, and that poverty and health projects dominated the Fund's attention. He said that there were also a lot of environmental projects underway. He also said that

20-30% of all projects had direct links to NGOs and civil society.

2. The chairwoman said that she hoped, with the foreign minister's participation in the conference, that the 20-30% double.
  3. There was a question regarding public health training and infrastructure initiatives in the Fund. The ambassador said that the Fund tries to promote inter-agency cooperation and coordination.
  4. There was a question regarding gang-related issues and human security.
2. Adoption of agenda
    - a. The agenda was adopted.
  3. Adoption of the minutes
    - a. The minutes were adopted.
  4. Discussion of Plenary and Roundtable themes
    - a. A representative from DPI expressed some concern about speakers and their time constraints on Roundtable 4. There was some discussion on this.
      - (i) There was a suggestion to put someone from the Human Security Trust on this roundtable, once the other speakers had left.
    - b. There was a question regarding Roundtable 2, and a speaker that had not yet been confirmed. There was concern that the roundtable did not have any youth representative, and too many from the US.
  5. Subcommittee Reports:
    - a. Multigenerational
    - b. Internet
    - c. Trouble Shooting
    - d. Midday Workshops
      - (i) The committee reported that they had finished all of its write ups regarding speakers and moderators. This would be up on the website after review by the DPI. There would be a training for the interns in the resource centre, following the planning committee meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. They also announced that they had 4 openings for people who might like to write reports.
    - e. Networking
      - (i) There was a request for various signs and name plates made up for various networking events.
      - (ii) The committee had received roughly 5 proposals regarding best practices.
    - f. Media
      - (i) There was some discussion regarding collaboration between the media committee and the midday workshops committee, in terms of interviews and various contact information.
    - g. Events and Fund raising
      - (i) There were 55 organizations, and 40 some-odd individuals who had donated to the conference. \$50,000 had been raised. 129 people had paid for the reception.
      - (ii) Regarding entertainment, the Secretary General and Madam Annan would be honored on the first night at the reception. The second night would entail a benefit concert outside. On Friday, excerpts from three films would be shown.

- (iii) There was some discussion regarding who should be invited the reception and who should pay for it.
  - h. Resource Centre Support
    - (i) 1920 participants had registered. 396 participants were youth, of 531 NGOs. 48 were from Eastern Europe; 63 were from Latin America; 25 from Middle East and Arab countries; 948 from North America and the Caribbean; 329 from Eastern Europe; 181 from Africa; 239 from Asia/Pacific; with 65 countries represented.
    - (ii) There was some discussion regarding what percentage of registrants would actually come.
- 6. Recommendation of speakers
  - a. There were 8 total requests from speakers for funding. 4 had only requested travel expense, while the rest asked for travel and accommodation. 5 were from Africa.
- 7. Other business
  - a. The chairwoman expressed concern about the concern regarding youth involvement that had been brought up at the last meeting. These concerns were repeated for the edification of the chairwoman, who was not present when they were brought up last meeting.
    - (i) The chairwoman reminded the committee that she agreed to chair the conference only with these youth quotas. She also said that it was very late in the game to be bringing up these concerns. She also said that the only rule that had been agreed on was the 1/5 youth from each organization.
    - (ii) The chairman said that it did not make sense to address these concerns so late in the game, because they regarded such sweeping changes.
    - (iii) There was some discussion regarding these protocols, when they were agreed on, and what they meant in terms of inclusion and exclusion of people and NGOs at the conference. The chairwoman said that we had talked about all of this before, and repeated what had been said in the past.
    - (iv) There was a comment that, with the number of youth registered, it would not be possible for the youth to take over the conference. Moreover, the commenter also said that if the youth did take over the conference, it would probably be a good thing.
    - (v) A commenter, who happened to be youth, said that youth should be included because they were just getting started. She also said that age-division concerns had created an artificial divide of overarching concerns for the world; ie. that young people and old people aspire toward different ideals.
    - (vi) This debate lasted the whole meeting.
  - b. In the vein of diversifying participation, there was some discussion regarding sponsoring people from the developing world to come to the conference, and restructuring protocols regarding how many members could come from developing world NGOs. There was a seconded motion to send out an alert to these NGOs, outlining this request.
  - c. The chairwoman said that she was offended by the negativity surrounding the planning committee roster that would go into the program, and all the difficulty regarding that issue.
    - (i) There was some discussion regarding this.
  - d. The chairman said that Ms. Anan would host a luncheon for speakers on the first day of the conference, as it has happened in the past.

