

NGO Committee on Financing for Development Second Annual Report (2006-07) New York

The current Officers for the NGO Committee on FFD were elected October 2005 at the monthly meeting. The full Committee met 10 times during the year, meeting every month, except the summer months of July and August 2007. The Executive Committee met 11 times during the year. The Annual Meeting took place in October 2006. During the year two members were appointed to the Executive Committee to replace two members who had to leave New York at the end of their terms in their organizations, respectively.

During the year, Ambassador of Norway, Ambassador of Egypt, Ms. Marion Urban, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN, Mr. Hazen Fahmy from Secretary General's Office, Mr. Oscar de Rojas, Director, Dr. Manuel Butch Montes and Daniel Platz from UN FFD Office, Elisa Peter of NGLS and Mr. Lyne Nielson of IMF briefed the NGO Committee members. Lobbying and advocacy work was done with the delegations of Pakistan presiding G-77, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Thailand. A meeting was also arranged with the President of ECOSOC along with other FFD groups and also met Ambassador of Norway. In April a meeting was arranged with G-77 members and International Trade Finance Linkages group.

The Second FFD Civil Society Forum took place in New York on April 15th 2007 just prior to the Annual ECOSOC meeting, which was well attended. The committee nominated four participants for the four round tables of ECOSOC meeting with BWIs and also had two Civil Society Spokespersons for the concluding Plenary of the ECOSOC. Point Persons were also named for the six sub-committees. The sub-committees worked and came up with 'talking points' for each of the topic of the round tables at the Annual ECOSOC meeting with BWIs, WTO and UNCTAD. A briefing for DPI NGOs on the 'Road to Doha' took place 17th May 2007 and Dr. Margaret O. Blamberg was the NGO speaker.

Philo Morris, as Chair of the Committee was a panelist for the First Civil Society Forum that took place in Suriname and spoke on 'Eradication of Hunger and Poverty through Partnership for Development' in May. Was one of the organizers of the FFD Workshop during First Civil Society Development Forum 2007, organized by CONGO and UN Millennium Campaign Office in June in Geneva. Also organized an Action Session at the 'International Women's Peace Colloquium' at Barry University, Florida on 'Why Poverty... Causes ... Solutions and Systemic Change' related to FFD topics. Was a panelist on 'Climate Change and the MDGs' the event organized by MDG Global Watch and sponsored by Commonwealth of Dominica. Counselor of Suriname was also one of the panelists. A brochure of the Committee listing the full Committee members got printed during the year. The committee also has its own letterhead, which is used for inviting Ambassadors and other delegates for briefings. In August 2007 the Committee also has created its own web site www.ngosonffd.org

The Committee has drawn up a proposal for the New School students, a project the outcome of which will be used in the preparation process for the Doha Review Conference in 2008. The NGO Committee worked very closely with FFD Office. The Committee has a total membership of 57 organizations.

Philo Morris
Chair – NGO Committee on FFD

October 3, 2007