Report of the Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace

Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance
"Ubuntu in Action"
Cape Town, South Africa
September 30-October 6, 2011

By Tara Ruttenberg and Kelsey Visser
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Summary of the Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace

The Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (GAMIP), formerly known as the Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace, is a worldwide community of civil society campaigns, organisations, committed citizens, and elected and appointed government officials from over 40 countries (so far).

Vision: A world where all people, individually and collectively, embody, promote, and practice a culture of peace for the benefit of all.

Mission: To collaborate with and support governments and civil society around the world working to establish national ministries and departments of peace, and also to support efforts to develop local, regional, and national peace councils, peace academies, and other effective infrastructures for peace.

In carrying out this mission, the Global Alliance enables and facilitates the capacity of its network to share and provide one another with resources, information, encouragement, and support for existing and new national campaigns for Ministries and Departments of Peace as well as efforts to establish peace academies and other peace infrastructure elements in government and civil society. It also seeks, through the combined activities of the Global Alliance and its broader networks, to increase global understanding amongst civil societies and governments around the world of the need for Ministries and Departments of Peace and civil society counterparts at all levels.

The GA began in October 2005 at its First Summit, which was held in London, United Kingdom, and attended by 40 people from 12 countries. The Second Summit took place in June 2006 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, with 60 people from 18 countries in attendance. The Third Summit was held in September 2007 in Kisarazu, Japan, with 50 people participating from 21 countries. In September 2009, the Global Alliance held its Fourth Summit in Brasil de Mora, Costa Rica, where over 100 people were in attendance from over 22 countries.

The Fifth Summit took place on September 30-October 6, 2011, in Cape Town, South Africa and was attended by 45 delegates from 19 countries representing 5 continents.

Why South Africa?

South Africans still suffer from deep trauma and need to continue the process of healing, as the scarring effects of apartheid wounds run deep. For South Africa to establish a sustainable culture of peace, healing needs to take place. The South African Peace Alliance has called for the South African government to establish a ministry or department of peace, and it is envisaged that a South African Ministry of Peace, headed by a cabinet minister, will build a culture of peace, manage peacekeeping efforts, be involved in peacebuilding where there was once conflict, seek to achieve disarmament and convert military facilities to peaceful purposes, lead peace education and training; and ensure that we celebrate peace.

Hosting the Global Alliance Summit in South Africa brought momentum to this initiative and attracted international support. When asked for his thoughts on the movement to establish Ministries and Departments of Peace in governments worldwide, this is what Archbishop Desmond Tutu had to say:

"It's an extraordinary idea and, it fills one with a great deal of excitement and exhilaration, and it sounds crazy, but then I think it was crazy when Gandhi said we're going to work so that eventually India is free. It must have been crazy when Martin Luther King, Jr., also said we're going to make civil rights a real issue in the United States, and maybe when Nelson Mandela and others said one day apartheid will be no more, that we need those like yourselves who dream dreams and say, 'It is possible. It is possible for people to know that war is not natural.'"
COMMUNIQUÉ

School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape
Cape Town ~ 6 October 2011

Global Alliance – A Platform for Infrastructures for Peace

The Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace: Ubuntu in Action was a resounding success, from the Opening Ceremony featuring a keynote address by Sonja Kruse - the Ubuntu Girl, and performances by the Siyazama Cultural Group, to dynamic panel discussions led by expert peace practitioners. The South African Peace Alliance was chosen to host this year’s Summit as a reflection of South Africa’s ability to overcome adversity and civil conflict, an achievement we celebrate as an organization, by which South Africa inspires other nations. With this Summit the Global Alliance expanded its mission to support the establishment of infrastructures for peace at all levels - local to national, regional and global.

The Global Alliance Summit was endorsed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and US Congressman Dennis Kucinich, whose powerful words for peace resounded among those gathered at the Auditorium of the University of the Western Cape.

Representing civil society, academia and government from 19 countries and 5 continents working toward peace infrastructure in their home countries, the Global Alliance Summit delegates and panellists included Ela Ghandi, former member of the Parliament of South Africa and granddaughter of Mohandas Gandhi; Karen Barenché, Executive Director of the South African Peace Alliance; and many other leaders in peacebuilding organisations, peace education, conflict resolution and grassroots activism. Outcomes of the Summit include the formal incorporation of the Global Alliance and the selection of its first Board of Directors – a true turning point in the history of the six-year-old organization. Highlights of the six-day event include a Storytelling for Peacebuilding workshop, meaningful conversations facilitated through World Café methodology provided by Symphonia Leadership Development, the employment of Lekgotla – a traditional form of community dialogue, significant involvement of over 50 inspiring youth, a powerful presentation by the African Alliance for Peace, conversations on peace economics, sharing personal experiences of NGO and government collaboration in peacebuilding, a tour of the Robben Island Mayibuye Archives, and expressions of Ubuntu in action - celebrating local and regional solutions, grounded in traditional ways of dealing with conflict.

The Global Alliance is proud to support the Peace Abbey Courage of Conscience Award presented at the Summit Closing Ceremony to honour Nelson Mandela for his contributions to peace in South Africa, recognizing him as a leader in international peacebuilding.

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Pre-Summit Storytelling Workshop
Centre for the Book, Cape Town, South Africa
Friday, September 30 ~ Saturday, October 1, 2011

The pre-summit training was a two-day storytelling workshop facilitated by Creative Workshops' Dr. Dorian Haarhoff ([http://dorianhaarhoff.com](http://dorianhaarhoff.com)) and guest storyteller Philippa Namutebi Kabali-Kagwa. In this workshop delegates practiced using storytelling as a tool for peacebuilding. The process was a rich and experiential one, with delegates utilising storytelling techniques, which they were simultaneously taught to use with others. Art and music were interwoven through the two days, which culminated in a storytelling celebration.

The Workshop objectives were:

- To demonstrate the power of storytelling
- To teach practical tools for the use of storytelling for peacebuilding
- To show how stories can be used to resolve conflict
- To enable participants to work with story to shift perspectives
- To show how stories can be used to create community and find commonality
- To demonstrate and practice the use of story to hold diversity
- To transfer knowledge of how stories work and how to structure a story
- To explore stereotypes and archetypes
- To explore mythology – African and World
- To evoke lateral thinking and problem-solving through story
- To use deep listening – listening with the ear in our chests.

"As a child I used to listen to stories and fairytales from all the parts of the world and they would spark my imagination and also teach. It would also mean that during that time I would have the pleasure of listening to my grandmother's voice. The storyshop with Dorian was for me a reconnection to myself and a very creative connection to all the other participants present there and the wonderful storytellers that taught us...Moreover, I was able to get people's perspectives on how we can use storytelling to create structures for peace...." – Corina Simon, Romania
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Summit Opening Ceremony
Life Sciences Auditorium, University of the Western Cape
Bellville, Cape Town, South Africa
Sunday, October 2, 2011

The Opening Ceremony of the Fifth Global Alliance Summit was the official welcome event for Summit delegates from 19 countries and five continents. South African Peace Alliance Executive Director Karen Barenché hosted the ceremony, welcoming delegates to Cape Town and introducing guest speakers and performers as Mayra Gomez symbolically lit the Abolition Flame. Then, Saul Arbess, Head of the Global Alliance Interim Leadership Council and Co-Founder of the Canadian Department of Peace Initiative, opened the Summit with a formal welcome and introduction to the work of the GA Interim Leadership Council since the previous Summit in 2009.

The Cape Town Interfaith Initiative provided multi-faith blessings, offering inspiring words to open the ceremony. Next, in her welcome address, Patricia Lawrence, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Western Cape shared the history of the University in its powerful role connecting South African peace building, equal education opportunities and scholarship programs for youth. As venue host and sponsor of the Global Alliance Summit, the University of the Western Cape’s support was instrumental in the success of the Summit, and Patricia’s words were a reflection of South Africa’s commitment to a peaceful future through higher education.

Keynote speaker Sonja Kruse, also known as The Ubuntu Girl, shared lively and inspiring stories of her nearly year-long journey through South Africa in search of connection and a greater understanding of her native country. With no money, a backpack and a camera, she set off on an adventure that would take her through all walks of life and allow her to share in the spirit of Ubuntu with all of South Africa’s many unique and colourful cultures. Setting the tone for Ubuntu in Action, the theme of the Summit, The Ubuntu Girl helped delegates get a feeling of the true meaning of Ubuntu: I am because you are.

Further highlights of the Opening Ceremony included welcome videos from the Global Alliance Community and previous Summit hosts, namely Dot Maver of the US Peace Alliance, Rita Marie Johnson of the Rasur Foundation, Yumi Kikuchi and Gen Morita of Japan United for a Ministry of Peace, Bianna Paci of the Australian Ministry for Peace campaign, and notably, US Congressman Dennis Kucinich, who offered powerful words of support for the Global Alliance, endorsing the Summit and reiterating the call for the establishment of a Department of Peace in the United States and throughout the world. Kelsey Visser, Secretary of the Global Alliance, shared images and memories from the Fourth GA Summit held in Costa Rica in 2009, providing background information from all previous Summits and creating a frame of reference for GA newcomers.

Finally, Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu’s video of endorsement for the Summit closed the ceremony on a high note of motivation and inspiration for the days to come. The evening would not have been complete without the Siyazama Cultural Group, South African youth song and dance troupe, whose voices, drums and dance had ceremony invitees out of their seats and dancing along to the uniquely South African beat. The Ubuntu Spirit was in the air as the Opening Ceremony came to a close, acknowledging sponsors for their support and offering a final welcome to Summit delegates from around the globe.
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OPENING CEREMONY

Life Sciences Auditorium, University of the Western Cape
Bellville, Cape Town – 2nd October 2011

Welcome
Karen Barensche, Executive Director, South African Peace Alliance

The Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance
Saul Arbess, Head of the Global Alliance Interim Leadership Council
Co-Founder, Canadian Department of Peace Initiative

Blessing by Cape Town Interfaith

Welcome Address
Patricia Lawrence, Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of the Western Cape

Keynote Address
Sonja Kruse, The Ubuntu Girl

Greetings from the Global Alliance Community
Dennis Kucinich, Yumi Kikuehi, Biannea Pace, Rita Marie Johnson and Dot Maver

From Costa Rica to Cape Town
Kelsey Visser, Secretary, Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace

Nobel Peace Laureate Endorses the Global Alliance
Archbishop Desmond Emeritus Tutu

Acknowledgements
Karen Barensché, Executive Director, South African Peace Alliance

—Traditional Entertainment by Siyazama Cultural Group—

With the support of:
Opening Ceremony

Life Sciences Auditorium, University of the Western Cape
Bellville, Cape Town – 2nd October 2011

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~Traditional Entertainment by Siyazama Cultural Group~

With the support of:
Summit Day 1: Gathering and Informing the GA Village Community
Monday, October 3, 2011

I. Welcome by Saul & Karen. Melanie facilitating Peace Café rounds on Country Campaign Progress and Regional Feedback

Saul Arbess (Canada), as Head of the Global Alliance Interim Leadership Council and Co-Founder of the Canadian Department of Peace Initiative, welcomed Summit delegates to the start of the first day of Summit sessions at the University of the Western Cape School of Public Health. Sharing in this welcome was Karen Barendsché, Executive Director of the South African Peace Alliance and this year’s host of the fifth Global Alliance Summit. Karen introduced Summit Facilitator, Melanie Kiley, Associate Organisational Development Consultant for Symphonia Consulting and experienced World Café facilitator. Melanie introduced the World Café methodology – or Peace Café as it was called for our purposes – which would guide the dialogue-based sessions of the Summit.

What is World Café?
The World Café methodology was selected as the facilitation process for Summit due to its ability to encourage collaboration, connection, shared learning, and focused conversation. World Café founder, David Isaacs, defines World Café as “a conversational process based on a set of integrated design principles that reveal a deeper living network pattern through which we co-evolve our collective future.”

Each day, delegates were seated in small groups and then asked to engage in dialogue around carefully crafted questions. After each “round” of conversation, a “host” would remain at each table to provide continuity to the discussion, while other delegates joined groups with new participants. Through this process, delegates were able to delve deeply into relevant questions, share experiences from their own lives, and gain a new global perspective about building peace infrastructure. As each day of the Summit progressed, questions built upon one another culminating in the development of clear personal action steps and a tangible vision for the future of the Global Alliance.

To begin, Summit delegates, arranged café style in groups of four around their tables, discussed progress related to their countries’ campaign for peace infrastructure. This first two peace café rounds sought to build connection and inspire dialogue by asking delegates:

1) “Who are you and why are you in the room?”
2) “What is important to you about Ministries and Infrastructures of Peace and why do you care?”
Summit Day 1: Gathering and Informing the GA Village Community  
Monday, October 3, 2011

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After the break, regional feedback was sought regarding methods of collaboration among country campaigns in specific regional areas of the globe, particularly given the shared realities of common challenges, opportunities and ways to support one another as civil society groups working toward peacebuilding initiatives in general, and peace infrastructure campaigns in particular. The next two peace café rounds focused on the questions:

1) "What is your vision for peace infrastructure in your country and what progress has been made so far?"
2) "What regional opportunities for collaboration are you aware of and how can they contribute to building peace infrastructures like ministries and departments of peace?"

Discussions were rich, as each delegate brought their own life experience and vision for how peace infrastructure could be effectively implemented in their home country and through regional collaboration. Additionally, a theme of looking at other levels in addition to government and embracing more organic means to building peace infrastructures began to emerge in the follow-up harvest session.

II. Jenny Ibbotson and Kirsten Pearson: South African Peace Alliance Toolkit

Jenny Ibbotson (South Africa), Chairperson of the South African Peace Alliance and Kirsten Pearson (South Africa), member of the South African Peace Alliance and consultant to the National Treasury of South Africa, presented the South African Peace Alliance’s Toolkit as a resource for GA country campaigns, especially those just getting started. They set out to answer practical and relevant questions related to the structure and functions of a Department of Peace; how to lobby and advocate for peace infrastructure; the extent to which existing DoPs have fulfilled expectations; what other campaigns are doing and best practices for successful advocacy and project implementation. The Toolkit is a collaborative resource, and GA members are invited to submit reports and information on their country campaigns and experiences to add to existing material contributed by the South African Peace Alliance. Kirsten and Jenny extend the invitation to all GA members to complete the Toolkit survey to support and build upon this ongoing resource initiative. Please fill out the survey here: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R7N9DYQ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R7N9DYQ).

The Toolkit is available in the Resources section of the GA website, and can be viewed here: [http://www.mfp-dop.org/resources/toolkit/](http://www.mfp-dop.org/resources/toolkit/)

After the presentation of the Toolkit, Summit delegates convened in a large circle sharing group to dialogue on ideas that emerged around the question, "What is possible now that was not possible before?" This sharing session served as follow-up to the morning Peace Café rounds on country campaigns and regional feedback.
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IV. Oliver Rizzi Carlson: Next Steps for the GA

Since the 2009 Summit in Costa Rica, there was a significant amount of effort and research put in exploring the possibility of incorporating the GA and becoming an official nonprofit entity. After receiving approval from the Interim Leadership Council, Oliver Rizzi Carlson, Jenny Ibbotson, and Paul van Tongeren took the formal steps necessary to create the corporation in Geneva, Switzerland. In order to encompass the full spectrum of work being done to build infrastructure for peace, the name has been changed to the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (GAMIP).

Among the advantages of incorporation as a nonprofit NGO is that the GA can now fundraise and some day apply for official recognition by, affiliation with, and access to bodies of the United Nations. All members of the unincorporated Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace will remain members of the newly incorporated Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace.

V. Youth Evening Out at The Hub – Cape Town

Youth delegates of the GA Summit and 25+ youth from Cape Town universities and NGOs met for pizza and drinks at The Hub – Cape Town, a community-style office and shared meeting space for social entrepreneurs. The Hub Director, Nathan Heller, welcomed us to the lounge-style café space where we shared our experiences working for peace and objectives for youth involvement in peacebuilding.

GA youth—Oliver Rizzie Carson, Kelsey Visser, JP Eason, Corina Simon and Tara Ruttenberg introduced themselves to the group and shared insight into how they got involved in the field of peacebuilding and contributions to the GA as staff and members. Youth broke into groups of 3 to discuss the question: “What does Ubuntu mean to you, and how does that shape your vision for peace infrastructure?”

Small group discussions helped lead into the following day’s Summit session, where 50+ youth sponsored by the United Nations Association – South Africa, including those attending the youth evening event, joined Summit delegates to delve deeper into the concept of peace infrastructure.
1. Morning Session Dedicated to Youth Involvement in Peace Infrastructure & Peacebuilding

In response to the worldwide revolution being led by youth all over the globe using social media and challenging old paradigms of governance, this special morning session sought to provide a forum to explore the transformation of social, environmental and economic realities toward the realization of global peace. The Global Alliance Summit presented this unique opportunity to bring together young peace campaigners from Africa, North America, Latin America and Europe, inviting Cape Town’s local and international youth to attend and share in the World Café’s participatory, dialogue-based process to delve into the concepts of a culture of peace and infrastructure for peace, highlighting youth participation for peacebuilding, inner peace and interpersonal peace, plus ideas related to creating a peace economy. As young people passionate about contributing to a culture of peace in their home countries and throughout the world, the session provided a one-of-a-kind opportunity for learning, expressing ideas and engaging with the GA membership.

Youth representatives attended from the University for Peace of Costa Rica, the Culture of Peace Organization (Switzerland), PATRIR (Romania), the US National Peace Academy, University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape, Stellenbosch University, and local civil society groups Novalis, Africa Unite, the Peace Ambassador Project, Face to Face / Faith to Faith, and Heart Capital.

After a brief connection exercise in groups of three, sharing 2-minute responses to the question, “what brought you here, and what do you bring to the group?”, Oliver Rizzi Carlson (Switzerland), youth member of the Global Alliance, presented the concept of infrastructures for peace, relating the work of the GA and the ways youth can engage in peacebuilding to support the creation of a culture of peace.

Facilitated by both Oliver and Melanie, the intergenerational morning session utilized the World Café methodology to allow youth voices to be heard, while sharing with more experienced members of the GA community and international peace practitioners. The 80+ participants in the room worked through three World Café rounds, focusing on the questions: "How can infrastructures for peace contribute to a culture of peace and Ubuntu in your community?" and "What can I practically do to implement an infrastructure for peace in my community?"

The youngest participant at each table was selected as the table host, bridging the dialogue between Café rounds and ensuring continuity among the ideas shared. Finally,
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each table came up with its own ‘tweet’, a note card describing in just a few words the most significant outcome of their table’s discussions. The ‘tweets’ ranged from strategies to promote a culture of peace and create local peace infrastructure, to concrete commitments by youth to engage their communities in peacebuilding efforts through marketing campaigns and ‘making peace normal’. Some examples of tweets included: “Make peace normal!”, “Know and share the benefits of peace”, “Cyber Peace Lobbying”, “Find space for open dialogue and awareness”, and “Planting seeds of peace for the Ubuntu Spring”.

Thanks to the sponsorship of the United Nations Association of South Africa (UNA-SA), nearly 50 Cape Town youth were able to participate in this session of the Summit, and the GA celebrates their encouraging feedback - an inspiring morning indeed.

**Feedback from Youth Delegates to the Summit**

"I thought the summit was thought provoking and opened up a whole world of new possibilities for me."

"What an extraordinary experience, having to sit on the same table with people from multi generations and be heard on the same level. What an inspiration to make peace with myself and those around me, it has most definitely changed my thinking and inspired me to look at life from a different perspectives. It was a privilege being there."

"For me yesterday was phenomenal. I was inspired to start thinking about building peace infrastructures in our different communities. I met some very important people and I was honoured."

"It was an inspiring experience, and helped get rid of my ignorance; when working towards peace really is... cool!"

"I would like to thank everyone involved in the Global Alliance Peace Summit who made it possible for me as well as my fellow UNASA members to join you. I feel so blessed to have been, even a small part, of such an amazing summit and I wish you only the best for the remainder of the week. I often hear of people, like yourselves, who dedicate their lives to bringing peace and love into the world. I am extremely grateful and honoured to have had the opportunity to meet you all and I will take the lessons I have learnt from this experience in order to spread the message of peace to all."
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II. Keynote Address: Ela Gandhi

Ela Gandhi is the granddaughter of Mohandas Gandhi, and has worked as a politician, social worker and peace activist for decades in South Africa. She was a Member of the South African Parliament (1994-2004) aligned with the African National Congress (ANC) party, where she served on the Welfare and Public Enterprises committees and the committee on Surrogate Motherhood. Prior to serving in Parliament, she was a social worker for 20 years and served as an executive member of the Natal Organisation of Women, as Vice President of the Natal Indian Congress, and was politically affiliated with the United Democratic Front and Inanda Support Committee. During apartheid, Ela was banned from political activism in 1975 and placed under house arrest for nine years. She was a member of the Transitional Executive Committee prior to the 1994 elections. Following her career in Parliament, Ela created the Gandhi Development Trust and is on the Religious Affairs Committee. She chairs the Mahatma Gandhi Salt March Committee and the Mahatma Gandhi Development Trust. She is recipient of the Community of Christ International Peace Award and the Government of India’s Padma Bhushan Award. In her presentation, Ela outlined various tangible models for peace by drawing from the capacity-building efforts currently taking place in Columbia. She highlighted the importance of drawing together stakeholders, assessing the needs at all levels of society, and creating holistic strategies that uphold the goal of peacebuilding on all levels. Although each level of society is equally valuable, she pointed out the power of civil society to make rapid, wide-reaching change at a lower cost than it would take to achieve similar results through the government. However, she ended her presentation by reiterating the importance of collaboration, by stating, “just as we make mistakes, the government also makes mistakes, but for us to work, we have to work with government.”

III. Panel: Working with Governments to Establish a Culture of Peace and Sustainability—Marion Keim-Lees, Paul van Tongeren, Mayra Gomez, Tim Murithi

Following Ela Gandhi’s inspiring words, panelists shared their experiences as civil society leaders working with government in their varying peacebuilding initiatives. Marion Keim Lees (Germany/South Africa), Associate Professor at the University of the Western Cape and Training Advisor for NGO Women for Peace and representing the Interdisciplinary Centre of Excellence for Science, Sport and Development (ICESSD), opened the discussion by presenting her experiences working for peace on the grassroots level through sport as a driver of social change. She began by introducing the origins of the relationship between sport and peace through the example of the Olympics, dating back to ancient Greece and throughout its current history as an institution embodying “equality, fairness, mutual respect, international tolerance and understanding”. She emphasized Nelson Mandela’s words in support of the Olympic Truce, whereby nations and peoples were called upon to observe a cessation of violence during the Olympic Games. Next, Marion discussed the relationship between the United Nations and sport, listing a number of international declarations, civil society working groups and a UN Resolution highlighting the role of sport as a UN World Summit Outcome. By way of conclusion, she presented examples of Liberian community sport programs organized by local NGOs in conjunction with the UN, as well as
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Archbishop Desmond Tutu's support for sport as a step toward peace in South Africa. It is toward this goal that Marion's civil society organization, Kicking for Peace, supports grassroots sports initiatives to bridge the racial divide and provide a productive outlet for existing hostilities within South Africa's post-apartheid transition.

Paul van Tongeren (Netherlands), Co-Director of the Global Peacebuilding Strategy, Former Secretary General of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), and Founder of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP), shared practical knowledge based on his international experience working with government in a number of peacebuilding initiatives, including campaigns to support peace infrastructure in Africa and beyond. His presentation focused on four key points for peacebuilders to consider in order to work more effectively with governments and larger organizations. Paul's first point was that we, as peacebuilders, must recognize the importance of collaborating with civil society groups outside of the peace field and forming global partnerships in order to work with governments and/or large organizations like the United Nations. Secondly, in order to work with government, peacebuilders must demonstrate a capacity and willingness to show a track record of their work. Next, he illustrated the importance of doing our homework as peacebuilders through the mapping and analyzing of conflicts and the various stakeholders that surround it. Lastly, he ended with a question for delegates to ponder, asking us all to ask ourselves if the GA is aiming for a government agency or if we want to look at the broader peace structure involving all stakeholders. These points were meant to spark a discussion in future peace café sessions and at the Infrastructures for Peace Working Group that followed as an optional evening activity.

Mayra Gomez (Bolivia/New Zealand), Vice President of the International Peace Bureau, Member of the Global Council and Coordinating Committee of Abolition 2000, Member of Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), delved into the relationship between civil society and legislators, focusing on collaboration and activism for peacebuilding. Mayra described a specific example from the nuclear abolition movement. She presented reasons for the campaign to divert funds from military spending to promoting development. She began by naming and showing the profits of the 10 largest arms producing corporations and highlighting global data on rising military expenditures with 43 percent of total world military spending by the US alone. She stressed the pressure from grassroots in getting the non-aligned movement to bring the nuclear issue to the forefront, the Costa Rica Consensus’ call for redirecting arms spending toward addressing “narrowing the income gap, education, health and environmental problems”, and presenting the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention to the UN, which resulted in the UN Secretary General's Five-Point plan on disarmament, which includes negotiating a nuclear weapons abolition convention, eliminating all WMD and limiting conventional weapons, missiles and space weapons. She described the collaboration of PNND with Mayors for Peace, now representing 5000 cities around the world. Finally, Mayra emphasized the significance of an engaged and informed citizenry working with legislators who have the responsibility of spending taxpayers’ money in a way consistent with their demands.
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Tim Murithi (South Africa), Head of Transitional Justice in Africa Programme at the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation and Research Fellow for the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Pretoria, presented an optimistic view of the relationship between civil society and government as a catalyst for peacebuilding in Africa. Emphasizing the need for civil society groups to determine their societies’ peacebuilding processes despite the typical role exerted by government and elites in such decision-making, Tim defined peacebuilding to include “the process of rebuilding the political, security, social and economic dimensions of a society emerging from conflict” understood as a bottom-up process to be led by civil society informing and guiding government and larger international peacebuilding organizations. The case study of the response to post-election violence in Kenya in 2008 was presented as an example of civil society exerting a leadership role in calling for third-party mediation under the auspices of the UN and African Union, supporting peacebuilding commissions with on-the-ground expertise and local knowledge, leading relief efforts for IDPs, and with an ongoing role to play in the implementation of the peace agreement and promoting ethnic coexistence in post-conflict Kenya. Next, Tim applauded the creation of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), yet pointed to the significant need for institutionalizing the participation of civil society in PBC initiatives to be sure that peacebuilding efforts are a reflection of local demands and realities. He stated that "Africa continues to be plagued by the echo effect of ineffective peacebuilding", calling for a fundamental rethinking of the relationship between civil society and peacebuilding institutions and calling on all of us as a human race to take an active interest in ensuring that peacebuilding processes succeed, holding the UN system accountable to overcome global politics of national interest in order to prevent the ills of non-state violence, piracy, and spillover effects of conflict into neighboring countries.

IV. Playing Mantis connection exercises led by Bergert Kirsten

Bergert Kirsten of the improvisation group Playing Mantis brought a dose of energy to the afternoon Summit session, inviting delegates to participate in a series of connection exercises to challenge patterns of behaviour and get the group moving on their feet. Delegates explored simple practices of leading and following, humility and humour inherent in celebrating the mistakes in life, and understanding unspoken group dynamics of shared leadership and responsibility. Laughing and smiling, delegates returned refreshed for the afternoon presentations on Ubuntu values, peace education and empathic civilizations.


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V. Presentations on the Role of Civil Society in Promoting Ubuntu Values: Barbara Nussbaum and Marion Keim-Lees.

**Barbara Nussbaum** (Zimbabwe / South Africa), Author of *Personal Growth African Style*, is a gentle but powerful voice for *ubuntu*, and its relevance to South Africa and the world. Her articles on *ubuntu* have been published internationally, first in 2003, by the World Business Academy in California - where the concept was recognized by its founders and fellows as key to the evolution of our planet. Barbara's book, *Personal Growth African Style* (2010) co-authored with Palsule and Mkhize, celebrates the promise of Africa's gift to world leadership - communally expressed humanity.

She began her talk on *Ubuntu* with a quote from the South African philosopher Leopold Sangor “I feel the other, I dance the other, therefore I am.” This quote captures the essence of the definition of *Ubuntu* in that we become more human through the other. Through this lens of *Ubuntu*, she discussed the roots of humanism, how different societies view their relationship with themselves and others, and how that impacts our concept of community. To illustrate this point, Barbara utilized graphic models showing how our perception of "I" and "the other" shapes our reality and impact our ability to engage meaningfully and creatively with others. Barbara offers *Ubuntu* is a model for right relations and offers it as a philosophy to practice as we grow together as a human family. She left delegates with a closing wish, stating, "may we all find salvation within each other, and may *Ubuntu* become a part of your peacemaking efforts..."

**Marion Keim-Lees** (Germany/South Africa), Associate Professor at the University of the Western Cape and Training Advisor for NGO Women for Peace continued the Ubuntu discussion by presenting about Ubuntu and how sports allow people to feel and experience Ubuntu. Through her work with youth, she has found that sport is a universal language that creates a positive space to bring people together and experience teamwork and tolerance.

Marion's academic and professional careers are multi-disciplinary, combining her passion for sport, peacebuilding, community development and social transformation. She holds a D Phil in Sport Science from the University of Heidelberg, Germany and a LLB degree from the Law Faculty of the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. She is certified in Sports Law and Mediation and is an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa. In addition to her work as Associate Professor in the Institute for Social Development/School of Government and coordinator of the Social Transformation and Peace Programme at the University of the Western Cape, she co-coordinates a provincial network of 32 NGOs, the Western Cape Network for Community Peace and Development, with its very successful Kicking for Peace Programme.
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VI. Mike Abkin: Peace Education

Mike Abkin (USA), Secretary-Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors of the National Peace Academy presented on the role of peace education in peacebuilding toward a culture of peace by examining the concept of positive peace as the presence of right relationships, as defined by the Earth Charter, in order to avoid the “dark abyss of annihilation” predicted by Martin Luther King Jr. if humanity does not break the “chain reaction of evil”. Mike explained that we find ourselves in an epochal moment: the transition from a culture of violence (direct, cultural and structural violence, as defined by Johan Galtung’s triangle illustration of violence) toward a culture of peace, resulting from the paradigmatic shift away from separateness and fear, competition and win-lose relationships toward oneness and hope, cooperative interdependence, and win-win peace.

With the recognition that old systems are creating violence and instability, new strategies have begun to emerge in their place, including infrastructures for peace, such as peace studies programs at universities, community peacebuilding projects, campaigns of the Global Alliance, as well as business principles including corporate social responsibility and social entrepreneurship. Drawing on Betty Reardon’s understanding of the role of peace education to “promote the development of authentic planetary consciousness that will enable us to function as global citizens and to transform the present human condition by changing social structures and the patterns of thought that have created it”, Mike explored the elements of peace education, including subject matter and pedagogy, to draw forth practices of peace through student-centred learning, understood as ‘peacelearning’, which includes elements of self-reflection, critical inquiry, and cooperative, transformative problem solving. He also shared existing examples of peace education centres and discussed the programs and courses of the National Peace Academy. Mike concluded with a humorous video highlighting the importance of acknowledging the oneness of all: http://globalcommunity.org/flash/wombat.shtml.

VII. Saul Arbess: Empathic Civilisations

Saul Arbess (Canada), Head of the Global Alliance Interim Leadership Council and Co-Founder of the Canadian Department of Peace Initiative, began his talk with a 10-minute animated video called The Empathic Civilisation, which featured the voice of Jeremy Rifkin (Author of the book Empathic Civilizations): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7AWnFRc7g

After the video, Saul brought out key points that related to Ubuntu, and the role of peacebuilders in fostering the kind of empathic civilization Rifkin illustrated in the video. With all of the crises that are happening in the world, he stated that “the real crisis is the set of assumptions about human nature that govern the behaviour of world leaders—that humans are irrational, materialistic, autonomous individuals that act to maximize their own interests...” He went on to state that the truth is that, as evidenced for example, by our body’s “mirror” neurons, we are driven to be social animals and pushed to breakdown boundaries that keep us from allowing our sense of community to encompass all people and all living things. To end his presentation, he spoke of the potential of the times we live in right now with our interconnection through the Internet and the role that infrastructures for peace can have in creating a more peaceful, empathic world.
VI. Mike Abkin: Peace Education

Mike Abkin (USA), Secretary-Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors of the National Peace Academy presented on the role of peace education in peacebuilding toward a culture of peace by examining the concept of positive peace as the presence of right relationships, as defined by the Earth Charter, in order to avoid the “dark abyss of annihilation” predicted by Martin Luther King Jr. if humanity does not break the “chain reaction of evil”. Mike explained that we find ourselves in an epochal moment: the transition from a culture of violence (direct, cultural and structural violence, as defined by Johan Galtung’s triangle illustration of violence) toward a culture of peace, resulting from the paradigmatic shift away from separateness and fear, competition and win-lose relationships toward oneness and hope, cooperative interdependence, and win-win peace.

With the recognition that old systems are creating violence and instability, new strategies have begun to emerge in their place, including infrastructures for peace, such as peace studies programs at universities, community peacebuilding projects, campaigns of the Global Alliance, as well as business principles including corporate social responsibility and social entrepreneurship. Drawing on Betty Reardon’s understanding of the role of peace education to “promote the development of authentic planetary consciousness that will enable us to function as global citizens and to transform the present human condition by changing social structures and the patterns of thought that have created it”, Mike explored the elements of peace education, including subject matter and pedagogy, to draw forth practices of peace through student-centred learning, understood as ‘peacelearning’, which includes elements of self-reflection, critical inquiry, and cooperative, transformative problem solving. He also shared existing examples of peace education centres and discussed the programs and courses of the National Peace Academy. Mike concluded with a humorous video highlighting the importance of acknowledging the oneness of all: http://globalcommunity.org/flash/wombat.shtml.

VII. Saul Arbess: Empathic Civilisations

Saul Arbess (Canada), Head of the Global Alliance Interim Leadership Council and Co-Founder of the Canadian Department of Peace Initiative, began his talk with a 10-minute animated video called The Empathic Civilisation, which featured the voice of Jeremy Rifkin (Author of the book Empathic Civilizations):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7AWnFrC7g

After the video, Saul brought out key points that related to Ubuntu, and the role of peacebuilders in fostering the kind of empathic civilization Rifkin illustrated in the video. With all of the crises that are happening in the world, he stated that “the real crisis is the set of assumptions about human nature that govern the behaviour of world leaders—that humans are irrational, materialistic, autonomous individuals that act to maximize their own interests...” He went on to state that the truth is that, as evidenced for example, by our body’s “mirror” neurons, we are driven to be social animals and pushed to breakdown boundaries that keep us from allowing our sense of community to encompass all people and all living things. To end his presentation, he spoke of the potential of the times we live in right now with our interconnection through the Internet and the role that infrastructures for peace can have in creating a more peaceful, empathic world.
Summit Day 3: Developing Ubuntu
Wednesday, October 5, 2011

I. Infrastructures for Peace (I4P) presentations by Paul van Tongeren and Oliver Rizzi Carlson

Paul van Tongeren (Netherlands), Co-Director of the Global Peacebuilding Strategy; Former Secretary General and Honorary Chair of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC); and Founder of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP), began the presentation with a story of the peace structure in South Africa, which he called “a success story, which is not known and does not exist anymore”. When Mandela was released from Robben Island, the government was aware that there needed to be an election but with the level of tension there was a question about how to do that peacefully. Violence began to increase in the country and in 1991 stakeholders together to create the national peace accord, which created a peace structure with a national, district and local peace councils. Eleven peace secretariats representing different areas of the nation were created to prevent and deal with violence, as well as build trust. It functioned well to manage the violence and served as a stabilizing platform for stakeholders to meet leading into the potentially violent elections. Despite its success, the peace structures were dismantled once the ANC came into power and no longer exists today.

Paul discussed the need for infrastructures for peace and the drastic cost of violence in relation to the cost of sustained peace, stating “It is timely and urgent to set up such structures since most countries lack structures, capacities and mechanisms to deal well with the potential of violence and conflicts in their countries.” He then touched upon the peace structures in Ghana and Kenya and highlighted how successful peace efforts emerged from the bottom up, not the top down. He particularly wanted delegates to see how powerful civil society leaders were to stop the violence in Kenya, which in his words was “on the brink of collapse.” By standing up and declaring a need to stop the violence, these leaders were able to develop early warning systems to calm the violence and stabilize the country. He ended his presentation by asking delegates to consider whether or not it is appropriate to have a campaign for a ministry for peace in African countries when we know that through experience that seven African countries within the GA have decided to work instead for building peace infrastructure outside of the government.

Oliver Rizzi Carlson (Switzerland), Culture of Peace Organization; Global Campaign for Peace Education, began his presentation by summarizing the points that came out of the after-hours discussion on Infrastructures for peace the night before. The first main point that came out of the discussion was a question about the GA’s role in developing peace infrastructure. He then read the current mission of the GA which is within the statutes and stated that there was a request to add a statement that the GA’s mission is “to create an enabling framework, a menu of options for countries to review respecting their cultural, historical, national, regional and local contexts and include an analysis of pros and cons, advantages and disadvantages of different models of peace infrastructure.” An additional clarifying point was that the GA can serve in collecting various peace models in existence and also encourage stakeholders within countries to develop their own national models knowing that those will be most effective.
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Important issues that came up during the I4P meeting:

1) **Focus on what works, not the strategy itself:** The GA needs to recognize that local context is very important since infrastructures for peace will look very different in every country. We need to support peace infrastructure in whatever form it takes in various countries since it is peace we are looking for, not the infrastructure itself. There are many things that are not called “ministries for peace”

2) **Research:** It is important to do research on how ministries are created and to learn from these examples. It may be helpful to do S.W.O.T. analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) on existing and proposed infrastructures for peace for a particular country.

3) **Do we go for a governmental ministry for peace or a civil society infrastructure for peace?** The modern state system works in different ways in different places, and this is a kind of infrastructure and it really depends on the culture. It is important to think about the effectiveness of a type of peace infrastructure for the people in a particular country.

4) **Sustainability:** How do we provide for sustainability of an I4P? Is it through a strong civil society? Is it through the involvement of many stakeholders, and how do you do that? We were reminded of one of the roles of the GA, which is to increase the understanding among all stakeholders about the importance of having an infrastructure for peace.

**What are the functions of infrastructures for peace?**

- Peacemaking
- Dialogue
- Trust-building
- Gathering of effected communities and stakeholders
- Training and capacity building
- Restorative justice
- Nonviolent peace force
- Flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances

Following this summary, the peace café portion of the session engaged delegates with the question “what do we need to consider when establishing a ministry for peace in the government, and what do we need to consider when we are establishing I4P outside of the government?” Delegates were asked to write the three most important insights that came out of their group’s discussion on an index card. Similar insights began to emerge across groups, including:

- A need to have a deep understanding of the local context, issues and stakeholders.
  - Recognizing that every context will be different, we do need to recognize patterns, practical themes and specific indicators that may bridge many contexts.
- We need to know what funding is available and what the funders’ agendas are.
- We need to identify points of entry in various communities and know what is currently being done.
- Emphasize sustainability in any peacebuilding effort.
- We provide a menu of options as the GA to help connect other groups who are dealing with similar problems.
- We need clarity and ask about where we want to go and develop strategies to get there.
- As an organization, we do not have to choose between Ministries for peace OR infrastructures for peace, it can be both and very well will be in many contexts around the world.
- We need to develop a flexible system that allows for peace.
- We need to expose children to peace in order to develop a new generation who will make the changes that need to happen in the future.
- We as the GA can have a role as convener.
II. Gerry Eitner: Communities of Peace and the Children’s Cloth of Many Colors

Gerry Eitner (USA), Founder and President of Communities of Peace, shared with Summit delegates her decade-long journey working with Dennis Kucinich and the US Department of Peace campaign, the Children’s Cloth of Many Colors, and the nonprofit Communities of Peace, whose mission is to create peace communities locally and around the globe. Communities of Peace initiatives include community peace forums where neighbors share their vision for a peaceful community, emphasizing a strong connection to nature and practices of inner peace. There are 10 US communities of peace with outreach into six other countries. The Children’s Cloth of Many Colors, Gerry’s flagship project, began at a peace ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington DC and has grown to over 1/3 mile long, with contributions from thousands of children in 27 countries. Gerry brought a few sections of the cloth to show Summit participants, including sections from the Ethiopian Embassy, expatriate children in the Sudan, orphanages in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Rwanda, and a section from South Africa, supported by the organization Tomorrow Trust, whose representative Kim Feinberg joined delegates at the Summit and presented on the work of her youth-focused NGO. Gerry closed her presentation by inviting delegates to view life as a miracle, sharing Albert Einstein’s quote, “There are only two ways to live one’s life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.” More information at www.communitiesofpeace.org

III. Cultural Tour of the UWC Robben Island Museum Mayibuye Archives

Summit delegates enjoyed fresh air and a short walk to the Robben Island Museum Mayibuye Archives, housed in a special center and library at the University of the Western Cape. Archives’ guides led the group through rooms of visual multimedia commemorating the long and inhumane decades of apartheid, the struggle for freedom, life at Robben Island prison, and Nelson Mandela’s historic and symbolic role in the anti-apartheid movement. After a brief tour, delegates viewed an emotional documentary of brutality against children during the apartheid-era and shared reflections on South Africa’s ongoing need for reconciliation after such an extended period of apartheid violence and ruthless discrimination. Afterwards, Kelsey Visser-Eason led delegates in a HeartMath Quick Coherence Technique exercise to re-center mind and heart.
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IV. African Alliance for Peace (AAP): Presentations and Panel discussion featuring Jean de Dieu Basabose, Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza, Jenny Ibbotson, and Oseremen Irene

Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza (Democratic Republic of Congo), began his presentation recounting his peacebuilding efforts in the DRC amidst the current violent conflict. He outlined the scope and severity of the conflict while discussing the difficulties he has had working with the government to establish a ministry of peace. Although his lack of traction on the government level was frustrating, this pushed him to shift his strategy and began working on the grassroots level. Despite the risks of conducting peacebuilding work in some of the most dangerous areas of the DRC, Jean-Pierre started peace committees and trainings in conflict transformation in rural communities and has already witnessed positive results. He told a powerful story about a man who approached him with a hug after one of his peace trainings to tell him that the information in the course saved his wife's life. The man's wife had been raped by a relative, and he had planned to kill her that evening because he could not live with the pain it caused him to see her alive after this incident, sharing that “going through this training has made me change all of my decisions”. He ended his presentation by sharing his belief that a strong peace foundation on the grassroots level can be the most effective violence prevention mechanism for nations in conflict.

Jean de Dieu Basabose (Rwanda), then presented about the next steps for the African Alliance for Peace. He started by sharing the history or the AAP and then reviewed the vision and mission of the organization. Key areas where the AAP is currently working to create a culture of peace in Africa are:

1. Promoting the establishment of ministries and departments of peace and other such structures in government;
2. Providing an umbrella organization for country campaigns for governmental infrastructures of peace;
3. Networking for synergy among the country campaigns;
4. Providing practical support for country campaigns, including resource mobilization and sharing skills and experiences;
5. Creating a platform for civil society organizations working for peace to interact and harmonize their approaches for peace-building; and
6. Sharing best practices and lessons learned related to furthering the mission of AAP.

Areas where the AAP could improve its own infrastructure include formal incorporation of the organization, a website, an elected leadership structure, and sub-regional structure in Africa. Areas he perceives that are hindering the AAP to date are a lack of funding and minimal individual commitment and support by AAP members.

He then introduced panel members Oseremen Irene, Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza, and Jenny Ibbotson. The first discussion point that emerged had to do with fundraising and inquiring about how the AAP will survive without financial backing. Oseremen spoke about the goal of getting incorporated like the GA in order to be a formalized organization to support fundraising and grant-making efforts.

Additionally, the AAP has agreed to seek funding in order to develop a powerful project for addressing pre- and post-election violence in African countries. In order to do so, it was expressed that, although it is important to seek leadership on a regional, or sub-regional level, global support for these initiatives should not be discounted.
What we heard from the AAP was a clear intent for collaboration, a drive to find regional solutions and models that speak to African realities, and a commitment for following through with these initiatives through regional leadership.

The key outcome that emerged from the AAP meeting that took place during the GA summit in Cape town include the resolution:

1. To incorporate AAP as Africa Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace (AAMIP) in South Africa
2. To have a website for AAMIP
3. To have Rwanda host AAMIP 2012 peace summit
4. To pursue in 2012 project on preventing election violence in Africa

Additionally, the meeting had Jean de Dieu Basabose of Rwanda emerge as President, the Secretariat of AAMIP moved to Nigeria in order to be anchored by Prince Oseremen Irene, and Jenny Ibotson is now in charge of AAMIP Treasury/VP.

GA delegates expressed a great deal of support for the AAP, and emphasized the enormous potential of the AAP to contribute to lasting peace infrastructure in Africa.

From left: Jean de Dieu Basabose, (Rwanda), Head of the AAMIP, Co-founder/ Executive Director of Shalom Educating for Peace; Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza (DRC), Founder and Executive Director of Central Africa Conflict Prevention Association (CACOPA); Prince Oseremen Irene (Nigeria), Chairman and Director of the Nigeria Alliance for Peace; Jenny Ibotson, M.Phil (South Africa), Chairperson, South African Peace Alliance.
Saul Arbess, Ph.D. (Canada), led delegates through the Guided Imagery process, which is a meditative experience that allows for a way of accessing the creative imagination, in this instance, to enhance the work for the GA related to infrastructures for peace.

Directly following the guided imagery process, delegates remained as a large group and shared some of the images and insights they received about infrastructures for peace during the activity. Then, delegates were broken into two groups in order to take the visions they had received on an individual level and create a shared vision of the future with creative materials. Each group then presented their shared vision creations and delegates were struck by the similar imagery shared between both groups. Takahiro Katsumi (Japan) shared, “it was a very powerful experience.”
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Summit Day 4: Growing Ubuntu
Thursday, October 6, 2011

I. Panel: Peace Economics for Local and Global Sustainability. Panel Chair: Dhiresh Ramklas. Panelists: Geoff Harris and Jenny Ibbotson

Geoff Harris (South Africa), Professor of Economics at the University of KwaZulu Natal began the dialogue with a presentation analyzing the relationship between economic systems and peace, focusing mainly on the contradictions of the capitalist global economic system and its contributions to a culture of violence. Emphasizing the social realities and implications of a capitalist system based on profit-seeking enterprise, Geoff’s presentation identified strengths and limitations of capitalism, highlighting innovation and motivation for business and growth on the one hand, in contrast to the tendency toward socio-economic inequality, monopoly, environmental damage, and the reality that many necessary goods and social services are not profitable and remain precarious and underfunded as a result. Next, Geoff presented the opportunities and challenges associated with socialist systems, whereby the state controls market failure by serving as the principal economic arbiter, albeit recognizing the limitations of lack of incentives for motivating individuals to work and innovate, along with bureaucratic inefficiencies. Finally, Geoff’s conclusions pointed to the needs of populations to reconsider their economic system, treating it as a good servant but a bad master. He also described the negative externalities associated with the reality that socially detrimental activities are profitable; namely war, whose profiteers have a vested interest in maintaining a culture of violence despite the social impact on human capital, infrastructure, government services and systems, as well as damage to social capital and distrust among a society.

Jenny Ibbotson (South Africa), M.A. in Economics and Chairperson of the South African Peace Alliance continued the theme by presenting a number of intriguing conclusions offered by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IE&P). First, she dispelled the myth that war is profitable, citing IE&P research that all economic indicators decline in times of war, and that post-war recovery is generally driven by public spending funded by government debt. Jenny presented staggering numerical statistics on the economic benefits of a more peaceful world, noting that if the “world could be 25% less violent, the total additional or redirected economic activity would equal an additional US $2 trillion in 2010”. This would provide enough global funding to pay for the budgets of the Millennium Development Goals, EU climate change, Japanese Tsunami and Earthquake relief, and repay Greece, Portugal and Ireland’s debt - with an additional $1 trillion left over in change. Jenny concluded her presentation by providing IE&P’s recipe for the structures of peace, an “eight-part taxonomy” for peace and resilience, as indicated in the graphic below.
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The strength of these elements and connections between them are based on contextual factors, recognizing that causality flows both ways and is nonlinear in nature. The example of Norway was cited as a success case, whereas developing countries provided a contrast to the practical reality of attaining these lofty aims.

Panel Chair, Dhiresh Ramklass (South Africa), Managing Member of Blue Planet Consulting and Consultant to the National Treasury, welcomed distinguished panelists and fielded questions from the Summit plenary. He closed dialogue by encouraging panelists and delegates to consider a challenging question: "What happens when the U.S. defaults on debt, and what is it that the Global Alliance should be thinking about in relation to peace when that actually happens?"
The structures of peace - an eight-part taxonomy [IE&P]

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II. Organizational Structure – Future of the Global Alliance as an International Organization

We are now at a very historic moment in the history of the GA, we have over the years discussed various forms of organization, how we would be together, how we would work together, and now we have reached a place where we are ready to move forward with a formal incorporation of the Global Alliance.

Oliver Rizzi Carlson, Jenny Ibottson and Paul van Tongeren in Geneva, Switzerland, completed the provisional incorporation of the GA. The new Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (GAMIP) statutes and principles were reviewed and approved by all of the delegates present at the Summit. All members who were members of the GA prior to incorporation will remain members unless anyone wishes to opt out and a detailed explanation of the changes will be sent out to all members not present at the Summit and will include both the GAMIP statutes and principles.

The GA Interim Leadership Council was retired at this time and all members were asked to stand to be acknowledged for their leadership and hard work over the last two years.

An official selection process for the board took place and the following individuals stepped forward to serve as members of the board in the following roles:

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From left: Oliver Rizzi Carlson, Karen Barenché, Saul Arbess, Corina Simon, Mike Abkin, Takahiro Katsumi, Oseremen Irene, Mayra Gomez, Binnie Degli Innocenti, Kelsey Visser-Eason

III. Sixth GA Summit – Proposals for Hosting the Sixth Global Alliance Summit

In this closing session, informal proposals to host the Sixth Global Alliance Summit in 2013 were submitted by delegates Judy Grosch (Germany), Oseremen Irene (Nigeria), and Oliver Rizzi Carlson (Switzerland). In upcoming weeks, formal proposals will be submitted by these delegates and other Global Alliance members interested in hosting the next Summit. A decision will be made by the Global Alliance board of directors, at which time the next international Summit Planning Team will convene to begin the planning and coordination process.
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The GA Summit Closing Ceremony began with words from Summit Host, Karen Barendsché with her affirmation that “we, together, have experienced Ubuntu in Action during our time together at the Summit.”

The GA Summit Communiqué was delivered by Corina Simon from Romania and the newly elected GAMIP Board was introduced and acknowledged.

Mayra Gomez (Bolivia/New Zealand) then gave a brief presentation summarizing the Summit and also sharing an email addressed to the GA from the peace walk in Australia, which reminded delegates of those who are doing work around the world for peace. She closed by temporarily extinguishing the Abolition Flame in order to join it with the nuclear abolition walkers in Australia and stating, “we are all threads in this great weaving, but somebody needs to do the weaving.”

Following Mayra’s presentation, Dot Walsh (USA), shared about the Peace Abbey, the September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, and the Courage of Conscience Award. The Courage of Conscience Award, presented in the form of a peace dove statue (pictured right), has been given to people who are recognized internationally and also to the local grassroots unsung heroes. Well known recipients of the award have included Mother Theresa, Mohamed Ali, The Dalai Lama, Rosa Parks, and most recently, Denis Kucinich.

When sharing the reason for honoring Nelson Mandela at this time with the Courage of Conscience Award, Dot stated “this is a very special moment for me, this is my dream.” Nelson Mandela’s life has inspired not only the people of the world but also the people he met and loved in the prisons, in the realization of a dream. Accepting the award on behalf of Nelson Mandela was Sean Johnson, Executive Director of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation. Joining Dot in presenting the award was our youngest delegate, Tammy Lee who read a prayer for peace. The following text was written on the award:

“The Peace Abbey Courage of Conscience Award, presented to Nelson Mandela for his extraordinary courage, commitment, and love for his people, sacrificing his own freedom for 27 years to bring freedom to Africa. Global Alliance Summit, Cape Town, South Africa.”

Sean Johnson, from the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, then spoke about the honor of the award and how much it means to Nelson Mandela. He then shared about Nelson Mandela’s life and his continued legacy for peace through the Mandel Rhodes Foundation.
Closing Ceremony  
Life Sciences Building, University of the Western Cape  
Bellville, Cape Town, South Africa  
Sunday, October 2, 2011

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Lastly, all the people who helped to make the summit happen were thanked, and Karen Barenchê was honored for her hard work in successfully hosting the 5th Summit of the Global Alliance.

In addition, our generous donors were thanked, which include:

The University of the Western Cape, Western Cape Network for Community Peace and Development, Biosopihical Institute, Symphonia, UNA-SA, Kwa-Zulu Natal University, NovalisUbuntu Institute, Villas and Hotels for Africa, Sirdar Group, Australian Ministry for Peace Campaign, Siyazama Cultural Group, South African Peace Alliance.
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IV. African Alliance for Peace (AAP): Presentations and Panel discussion featuring Jean de Dieu Basabose, Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza, Jenny Ibbotson, and Oseremen Irene

Jean-Pierre Mfuni Mwanza (Democratic Republic of Congo), began his presentation recounting his peacebuilding efforts in the DRC amidst the current violent conflict. He outlined the scope and severity of the conflict while discussing the difficulties he has had working with the government to establish a ministry of peace. Although his lack of traction on the government level was frustrating, this pushed him to shift his strategy and began working on the grassroots level. Despite the risks of conducting peacebuilding work in some of the most dangerous areas of the DRC, Jean-Pierre started peace committees and trainings in conflict transformation in rural communities and has already witnessed positive results. He told a powerful story about a man who approached him with a hug after one of his peace trainings to tell him that the information in the course saved his wife's life. The man's wife had been raped by a relative, and he had planned to kill her that evening because he could not live with the pain it caused him to see her alive after this incident, sharing that "going through this training has made me change all of my decisions". He ended his presentation by sharing his belief that a strong peace foundation on the grassroots level can be the most effective violence prevention mechanism for nations in conflict.

Jean de Dieu Basabose (Rwanda), then presented about the next steps for the African Alliance for Peace. He started by sharing the history or the AAP and then reviewed the vision and mission of the organization. Key areas where the AAP is currently working to create a culture of peace in Africa are:

1. Promoting the establishment of ministries and departments of peace and other such structures in government;
2. Providing an umbrella organization for country campaigns for governmental infrastructures of peace;
3. Networking for synergy among the country campaigns;
4. Providing practical support for country campaigns, including resource mobilization and sharing skills and experiences;
5. Creating a platform for civil society organizations working for peace to interact and harmonize their approaches for peace-building; and
6. Sharing best practices and lessons learned related to furthering the mission of AAP.

Areas where the AAP could improve its own infrastructure include formal incorporation of the organization, a website, an elected leadership structure, and sub-regional structure in Africa. Areas he
COMMUNIQUÉ

School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape
Cape Town ~ 6 October 2011

Global Alliance – A Platform for Infrastructures for Peace

The Fifth Summit of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace: Ubuntu in Action was a resounding success, from the Opening Ceremony featuring a keynote address by Sonja Kruse - the Ubuntu Girl, and performances by the Siyazama Cultural Group, to dynamic panel discussions led by expert peace practitioners. The South African Peace Alliance was chosen to host this year’s Summit as a reflection of South Africa’s ability to overcome adversity and civil conflict, an achievement we celebrate as an organization, by which South Africa inspires other nations. With this Summit the Global Alliance expanded its mission to support the establishment of infrastructures for peace at all levels - local to national, regional and global.

The Global Alliance Summit was endorsed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and US Congressman Dennis Kucinich, whose powerful words for peace resounded among those gathered at the Auditorium of the University of the Western Cape.

Representing civil society, academia and government from 19 countries and all 5 continents working toward peace infrastructure in their home countries, the Global Alliance Summit delegates and panelists included Ela Gandhi, former member of the Parliament of South Africa and granddaughter of Mohandas Gandhi; Karen Barensché, Executive Director of the South African Peace Alliance; and many other leaders in peacebuilding organisations, peace education, conflict resolution and grassroots activism. Outcomes of the Summit include the formal incorporation of the Global Alliance under its new name, (Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace), and the selection of its first Board of Directors – a true turning point in the history of the six-year-old organization. Highlights of the six-day event include a Storytelling for Peacebuilding workshop, meaningful conversations facilitated through World Café methodology provided by Symphonia Leadership Development, the employment of Lekgotla – a traditional form of community dialogue, significant involvement of over 50 inspiring youth, a powerful presentation by the African Alliance for Peace, conversations on peace economics, sharing personal experiences of NGO and government collaboration in peacebuilding, a tour of the Robben Island Mayibuye Archives, and expressions of Ubuntu in action - celebrating local and regional solutions, grounded in traditional ways of dealing with conflict.

The Global Alliance is proud to support the Peace Abbey Courage of Conscience Award presented at the Summit Closing Ceremony to honour Nelson Mandela for his contributions to peace in South Africa, recognizing him as a leader in international peacebuilding.

Website: www.mfp-dop.org

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