

A Call for Global Survival

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PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

GLOBAL ACTION AT THE SOCIAL SUMMIT

partnership between parliamentarians and women activists has never serious been established.

"Will Copenhagen and Beijing anything about empowerment question asked by"



PARLIAMENTS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

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Parliamentarians stress military reorganization and ethnic reconciliation

Six nations, at Ixtapa, search for arms control measures

YEARS

parliamentarians *for* global action

25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE EDITION



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***for* GLOBAL ACTION**

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25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

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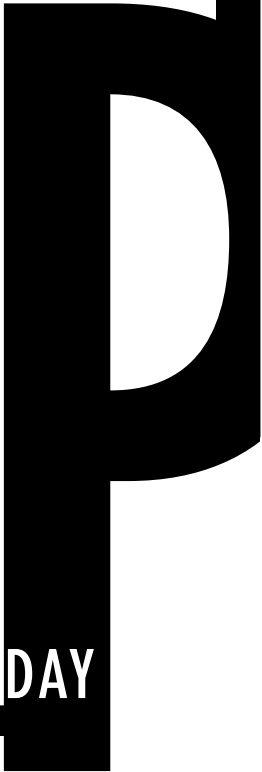
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Today, just as at its founding in 1978, Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) remains the world's only international organization of democratically elected national legislators. Its network includes some 1,350 parliamentarians from 105 countries, drawn from both government and opposition parties. Its concerns encompass a wide range of international issues, from peacemaking and peacekeeping to sustainable development and population, human rights and the rule of law, strengthening democratic institutions, women's empowerment and other gender issues.

Being incumbent democratically elected politicians, PGA's members carry the authority entrusted to them by their constituencies as well as a responsibility to represent them effectively. This enhances the organization's ability to deal with the negotiation and implementation of any successful policy. The structure of the organization allows PGA to work as a link between civil society and executive authority at all levels - national, regional and international - and makes it a uniquely effective partner of other NGOs concerned about the same issues.

Among PGA's members is a concentration of high-level political leaders, including Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Chairs of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Health, and Defense Committees. Many former PGA members have left parliament for higher posts within their governments, among them the Presidents of Iceland, Trinidad and Tobago, Botswana, the Philippines and Côte d'Ivoire, and the Prime Ministers of Canada, New Zealand.

With its headquarters in New York City a short distance from the United Nations, PGA works closely with the UN Secretariat, the entire UN system and other inter-governmental agencies, including the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), International IDEA, ECOWAS and the International Financial Institution.

PGA has always brought an approach to all of its programs and activities that, is focused on achieving results. Its track record over the last quarter-century demonstrates just how effective that approach can be. *



PARTICIPANTS OF PGA ANNUAL PARLIAMENTARY FORUM, US Congress, Washington, DC, 1995

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), the world's only international network of democratically elected national legislators, was created 25 years ago to give parliamentarians a greater voice in international issues. From the organization's earliest days (it was originally named Parliamentarians for World Order) it has concerned itself with such global issues as peace and disarmament, development, environment, international law and human rights. However, during the final decade of the cold war with tensions between the East and West at their most intense, those issues were largely overshadowed by concerns about the risks posed by the nuclear arms race. At that time the United States and the Soviet Union had between them a nuclear arsenal equivalent to one million Hiroshima bombs, and many felt grave concern that unless that arsenal was sharply curtailed, planet Earth had little chance of survival.

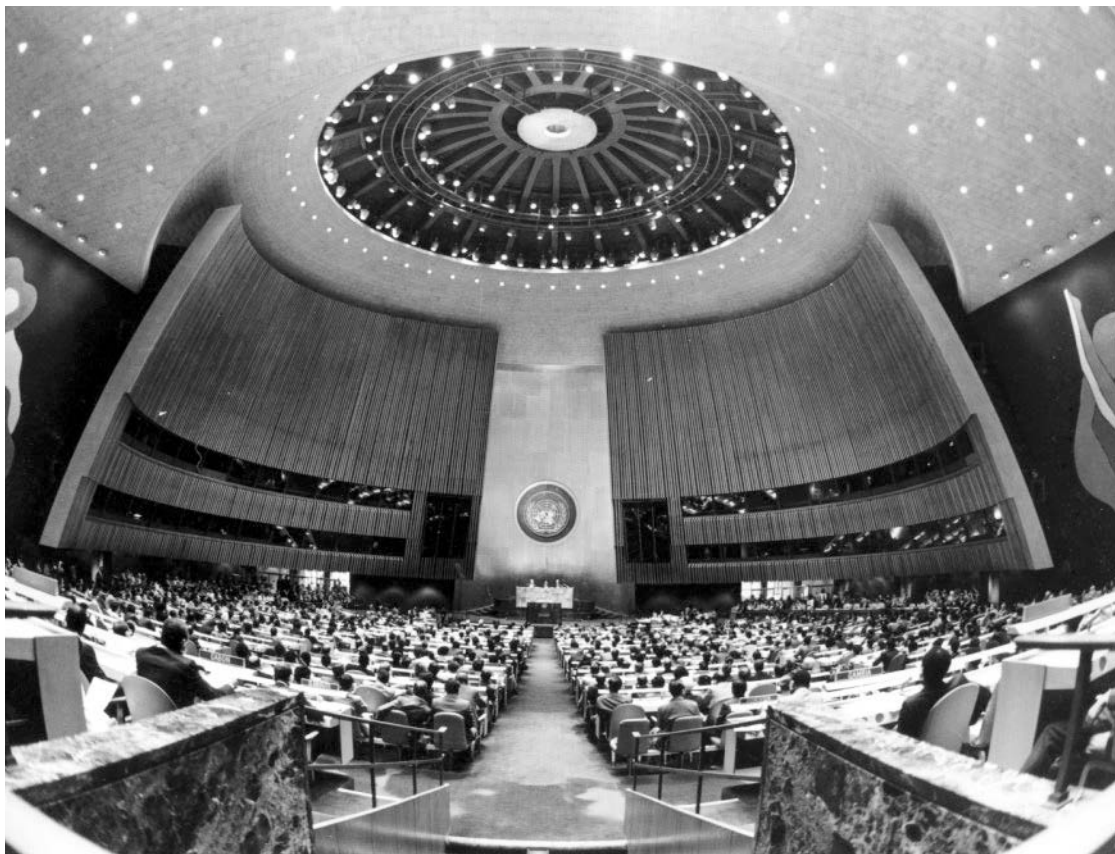
PGA and its members initiated several efforts to compel the superpowers to agree on banning all testing of nuclear weapons, including sending a high-level delegation of legislators from five continents to Moscow and Washington in 1982 to bring a disarmament proposal directly to the leaders in each capital. In 1984 PGA was instrumental in organizing the Six-Nation Peace Initiative, led by heads of governments which is widely credited with making possible the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty 12 years later. For its contribution to the initiative, PGA received the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize in 1986. PGA also promoted the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and the treaty banning chemical weapons

With the end of the cold war in 1989, PGA broadened its scope and embarked on programs seeking to make a difference in the areas of sustainable development and population, conflict resolution, strengthening democratic institutions, human rights and the rule of law. PGA campaigned effectively for the United Nations to set up courts to bring war criminals to justice in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. It also played a leadership role in the creation of the International Criminal Court, from placing the issue on the international agenda to actively promoting ratification of the court Statute by national parliaments.

To enhance the organization's peacemaking capacity, PGA created, in 1991, a Task Force on Peace and Democracy to help resolve political crises in emerging democracies, mainly focused on Africa. The Task Force parliamentary delegations were dispatched to many countries, including Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Togo, Haiti and the former Yugoslavia, where they helped resolve a variety of disputes, many involving issues of power sharing and the rights of minorities.

PGA members have mobilized parliamentary consensus on controversial issues raised by the United Nations' development conferences of the 1990s - including global warming and other environmental concerns, population policy and women's empowerment - and helped rally support for government efforts to implement the policies endorsed by those conferences. PGA organized programs to build legislative capacity in several African countries in support of the action program of the Cairo Population Conference and created information networks to promote the political empowerment of women.

At the end of its first quarter century, PGA has demonstrated that the concept on which it is based - that a results-oriented global network of legislators can be a powerful and effective force for peace and progress - is both valid and sustainable. It has also shown that the need for the work done by PGA and its members has never been greater. *



UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING, 1985



PGA Executive Committee meets with the United Nations Secretary-General **H.E. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali**, United Nations Headquarters, 1996



PGA's Meeting in Moscow, 1989 with **Mr. Lukianov**, Deputy Chair of Supreme Soviet, **Mr. Petrovsky**, Deputy Foreign Minister (USSR), **Mr. Dobrynin**, Adviser to the Supreme Soviet Chair, **Mr. R. Beek**, MP (The Netherlands); **Mr. Grimsson**, MP (Ireland); **Mr. K. Graham**, Secretary General, PGA

ACTION:

PGA'S FIRST QUARTER-CENTURY

In 1978 the cold war had dragged on into its fourth decade and was showing no sign of coming to an end. There were, however, growing numbers of people voicing concern that the strategy of nuclear deterrence adopted by both sides - with each deploying ever-growing numbers of warhead-tipped missiles aimed at the other - posed a deadly threat to human survival. This strategy went by the name of "mutually assured destruction," or MAD, and its critics argued that it was madness itself. Although the strategy had numerous supporters, the warnings that this massive and deadly arsenal could be triggered as a result of an accident or miscalculation with catastrophic results were becoming more evident. Furthermore, even without such a cataclysm, building and maintaining such a nuclear arsenal was causing serious and irreparable damage to the planet's environment.

Fourteen years earlier, in 1963, the superpowers had agreed to a Partial Test Ban Treaty, which forbade all nuclear weapons tests except those conducted underground. But there was growing pressure from many groups - including physicians, clergymen, women, scientists, educators, and artists - for a test ban that was comprehensive. Some of these groups were also focused on nuclear non-proliferation, seeking to halt the spread of nuclear weapons technology to other countries (the Non-Proliferation Treaty had gone into effect in 1970, but many countries refused to be bound by it). Others were pressing for the superpowers to reduce the size of their nuclear arsenals.

One of the groups concerned about the arms race (among other things) was the World Federalists, and in the mid-1960s it had reached out to like-minded groups of parliamentarians and invited them to its annual meetings. According to Mr. Warren Allmand, a former member of Canada's parliament and later International President of PGA, through discussions at these meetings, two of his fellow Canadian MPs, Mr. David MacDonald, (Conservative) and Mr. Mark MacGuigan, (Liberal), decided to set up an independent parliamentary network. In May 1978, while attending a UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament, they recruited Mr. Nick Dunlop (New Zealand) an expert in disarmament, the two Canadians asked Mr. Dunlop to become the Secretary-General of a parliamentarians' network for peace. The group, originally called Parliamentarians for World Order (PWO), was later changed to Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), to better reflect that it sought not only to advocate for change but also to roll up its sleeves and make things happen. In addition to the three founding members, the articles of incorporation was also signed in Washington, DC in 1979 by Mr. Ioan Evans, MP (United Kingdom), Mr. Tokutasu Fukuda, MP (Japan), Dep. Gabriel Perronnet (France), Mr. Sanford W.



PLENARY SESSION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1986



Prime Minister Olaf Palme, (Sweden)



MEETING OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR WORLD ORDER, CHURCH HOUSE, LONDON, UK, 1985



Dip. Emma Bonino, (Italy)



JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, New Delhi, India, 1985



Rep. Paul Simon (USA)

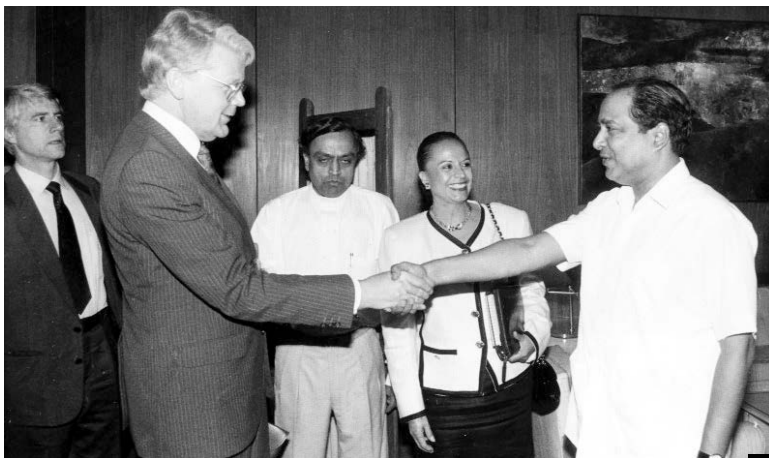
Persons of World Federalists Association and Congressman Paul Simon (United States).

There were several changes that the new organization was to go through in its early years. Mr. MacDonald served as its first International Chairman, but when he became Secretary of State in Canada's Conservative government, he relinquished the job to Mr. MacGuigan. After the 1980 election, Mr. MacGuigan was appointed to External Affairs Minister and Mr. Douglas Roche, MP (Canada) took on the leadership.

In December 1980, at a meeting of the group held in London, it was decided to open an office in New York close to the United Nations Headquarters and the group was granted consultative status as a nongovernmental organization (NGO). The primary goal of the organization was to develop the role of parliamentarians in international politics by organizing a UN Parliamentary Forum at each General Assembly.

The first formal Parliamentary Forum at the UN was held in September 1981, a three-day event that brought together 55 parliamentarians from 17 countries to discuss "The Politics of Human Survival," with the program's focus split between disarmament and development issues. The Forum called for an immediate freeze on the testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons. Participants were also asked in an upcoming North-South Summit to "begin without delay a meaningful dialogue on the new international economic order." Developed countries were encouraged to raise their official development assistance (ODA) to 0.7 percent of GNP, the aid target endorsed by the UN. Participants called on the UN to establish a standing peacekeeping force whose members would be recruited individually rather than provided by national governments and supported the UN General Assembly establishing a UN Parliamentary Chamber, which would be consultative to the GA and meet at least once a year at UN Headquarters. Mr. Brad Morse, a former U.S. Congressman who was Administrator of the UN Development Programme, told the parliamentarians:

"We have to make a great and noble leap in our thinking about profound issues of public policy - from parish to planet; from nation to United Nations; from abject poverty for most of our human family to progress in equity and well-being for all; from the tragic absurdity of armaments to the sanity of peace that can ennoble and enrich all of us. I believe that something has begun to happen here ... that can make a difference in humanity's crushing agenda."



Mr. Kennedy Graham, Secretary General, PGA; **Mr. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson**, MP (Ireland); **Mr. Murli Deora**, MP (India), **Sen. Silvia Hernandez** (Mexico); **Mr. Eduardo Faleiro**, Minister of State for External Affairs (India), New Delhi, India 1986



Meeting of Parliamentarians on Disarmament, Mexico, August 1986

DELHI DECLARATION

Issued 28 January 1985

by

H.E. Mr. Raúl Alfonsín
President of Argentina

H.E. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of India

H.E. Mr. Miguel de la Madrid
President of Mexico

H.E. Mr. Julius Nyerere
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

H.E. Mr. Olof Palme
Prime Minister of Sweden

H.E. Mr. Andreas Papandreu
Prime Minister of Greece



Six-Nation Peace Initiative: Foreign Minister **Dante Caputo** (Argentina), Prime Minister **Andreas Papandreu** (Greece), Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi** (India), President **Miguel de la Madrid** (Mexico), Prime Minister **Ingvar Carlsson** (Sweden), President **Julius Nyerere** (Tanzania).



PGA meets the United Nations Secretary-General on Nuclear Test Ban, 1986

"We have to make a great and noble leap in our thinking about profound issues of public policy... I believe that something has begun to happen here ... that can make a difference in humanity's crushing agenda." Mr. Brad Morse, former US Congressman

PGA leaders decided, at least for the immediate future, that the most urgent goal of the organization was to work to eliminate the threat of nuclear annihilation. In the spring of 1982, having drafted "An Action Programme for World Security," PGA sent a parliamentary delegation, whose members were drawn from five continents, to Moscow and Washington to present the leaders of the nuclear superpowers with the document for them to agree to adopt it. It called for an immediate halt by all nations to the production, testing, and deployment of nuclear weapons, negotiations leading to balanced and verifiable arms reductions, the creation of an international monitoring agency, and an international police force. It proposed that the U.S. and USSR should unilaterally declare a six-month or year-long moratorium on testing or deployment and encourage the other party to reciprocate.

In Moscow the PGA delegation met with Mr. Georgi Zhukov, a retired general who was Chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee and a member of the Supreme Soviet. Mr. Zhukov told the PGA delegation, "We are ready to accept any variation of a freeze." Mr. Valentin Kuznetsov, First Vice-Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, told the delegation, "We would be prepared to enter into negotiations with the U.S. on partial or complete disarmament, so long as they are equal and equitable."

In Washington, the PGA delegation met with four officials of the Reagan administration. Eugene Rostow, Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, stated that the U.S. was "not willing to enter into negotiations for an immediate halt." The following day the PGA delegation issued a press release taking note of that rejection but adding: "Whatever the public positions taken by each government, we are convinced that only concerted public pressure for comprehensive arms reduction will stop the present nuclear madness. ... Our delegation considers that the result of this mission is a positive one in the sense that we have communicated an urgent message on behalf of mankind to the leadership of both superpowers. This expression of public opinion must continue, and we pledge our best efforts to this end." After the mission, the key points of the "Action Programme for World Security" were recast as "A Call for Global Survival." Circulated by PGA, it was signed by 910 parliamentarians in 55 countries, representing 110 million constituents.

During 1982 and 1983, PGA continued to grow, not only in numbers but in expertise. Mr. Aaron Tovish, who had been working for the Peace and Arbitration Society in Stockholm, joined the staff as its first research director. Mr. Ólafur



PGA DELEGATION TO VATICAN WITH POPE JOHN PAUL II, 1986



PGA Mission to Pakistan, February 1990



Rep. James Leach (United States)



Ms. Olivia Agbajoh, MP (Nigeria), 1987



Hon. Gerry Wiener, Minister of Information (South Africa); Hon. Eduardo Faleiro (India), Mr. Walter McLean (Canada)



**PGA Meeting on Test Ban, Rome, Italy, 1986
Sen. Silvia Hernandez (Mexico), Dip. Emma Bonino (Italy)**



**Members of PGA Delegation to the United States, 1987
Rep. Estaban Torres, Rep. Tom Downey, PGA Secretary-General Mr. Nick Dunlop**



Ms. Eveline Herfkens, MP (The Netherlands) at PGA Meeting in Ottawa, Canada, 1989

Ragnar Grímsson, a social scientist and parliamentarian from Iceland (later elected President of his country), joined the organization's Executive Committee. Working closely with Mr. Relus ter Beek, MP, of the Netherlands and Congressman Tom Downey of the U.S., they developed new initiatives for this network of parliamentarians, including what Mr. Grímsson recalls as "a daring idea" at the height of the cold war "to try to build bridges between nations." They quickly scored a notable success with what was to become known as the Six-Nation Peace Initiative.

Through connections made possible by its members in almost every national capital, PGA managed to bring together six presidents and prime ministers - all of them high-profile figures - to issue a public statement calling on the leaders of the U.S. and USSR to halt their production, testing, and deployment of nuclear weapons. The six - Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu (Greece), Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson (Sweden), Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (India), President Raul Alfonsin (Argentina), President Julius K. Nyerere (Tanzania), and President Miguel de la Madrid (Mexico) - held three summit meetings to enforce their message. Grímsson recalls that initiative as monumental, "an extraordinary achievement, involving more than 100 scientists and international experts, who were given a hearing by both of the superpowers. It led to intensive dialogue between all nuclear powers [and] had a profound impact on disarmament issues."

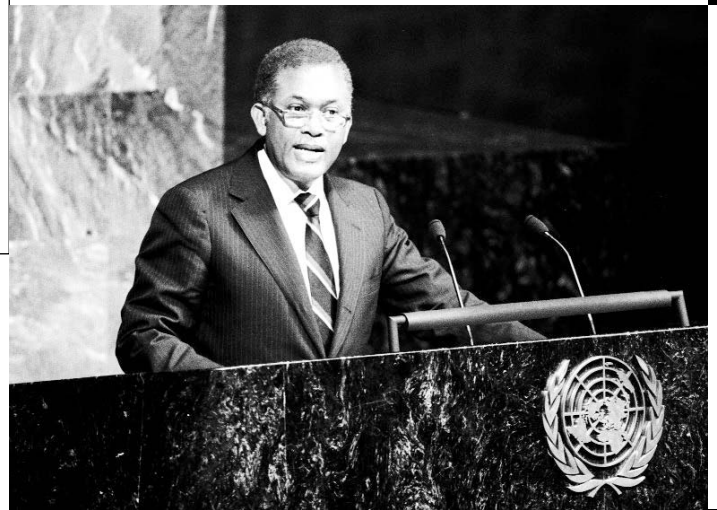
PGA was awarded the 1986 Indira Gandhi Peace Prize "in recognition of their dedicated, dynamic and tenacious espousal of nuclear disarmament, their imaginative efforts to mobilize parliamentary and popular opinion all over the world on behalf of peace, development and international cooperation, and their role in sponsoring the Six-Nation Five-Continent Initiative for Disarmament."

Achievements were made by PGA's initiative toward peace despite the diplomatic paralysis engendered by the tensions of the times. Mr. Grímsson noted that the people of PGA were "the guys who can afford to lose face, the ones who are in the business of being turned down. ... We accepted the role that monks played in the Middle Ages. We could speak to the princes who couldn't speak to each other." Mr. Philip G. Schrag the author of "Global Action: Nuclear Test Ban Diplomacy at the End of the Cold War" noted that PGA avoided all the formalities of protocol. "Its officers chaired the early meetings of the six world leaders," he wrote, "so that they didn't have to decide which of them would be the leader of leaders."

Tovish pointed out that PGA also had special credibility because of the scope and



Mr. John Langmore, MP (Australia). Ms. Christine Stewart, MP (Canada). Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney former Prime-Minister of Canada at G-7 Summit, London, 1989



Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson (Trinidad and Tobago) introducing an ICC resolution to the UN General Assembly, 1989



PGA Mission to Nicaragua, 1990



Rolus ter Beek, MP (The Netherlands); Mr. Frank Von Heppel, MP (The Netherlands); President Edward Shevardnadze (Georgia); President Olaf Grimmson (Iceland); Mr. Nick Dunlop (New Zealand), 1986



Mr. Theo Mayer, MP (Switzerland) on a mission to Burundi, 1996

PGA were “the guys who can afford to lose face, the ones who are in the business of being turned down. ... We accepted the role that monks played in the Middle Ages. We could speak to the princes who couldn’t speak to each other.” **Mr. Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, MP (Iceland)**

diversity of its membership - as well as the members’ power as lawmakers. “The Six-Nation Initiative opened the door on the test-ban issue,” he said, and helped build support for disarmament, especially in the United States. He added that PGA members in the U.S. Congress spearheaded a vote to cut off funding for nuclear testing in 1991. “There has been no U.S. nuclear testing for more than 10 years and PGA has made a considerable contribution to this,” Tovish said. He also noted that it was PGA that offered Mikhail Gorbachev an opportunity to “prove he was a different type of Soviet leader” - one who was, among other things, willing to give disarmament proposals serious consideration.

In 1984, though, neither of the superpowers was willing to declare a moratorium on testing, and so PGA kept up the pressure. During his research, Tovish discovered that, under the terms of the Partial Test Ban Treaty, a conference to consider a proposed change would be convened if requested by one third of the states parties. That might be a way, he thought, of amending the treaty to make it comprehensive - banning all nuclear tests, including those conducted underground. PGA quickly organized a campaign to win support for such an amendment conference. That campaign was to stretch over several years and ultimately resulted in having the amendment conference convened. In addition to work on nuclear weapons non-proliferation, PGA campaigned successfully for a treaty banning chemical weapons, did succeed - and PGA helped write the manual for the treaty’s implementation.

As the 1980s came to an end, the focus of such pressure was changing, along with the political map of the world. As a result, disarmament issues were being eclipsed by other concerns that demanded attention. The cold war was ending and the international community found itself having to deal with long-neglected issues such as the deteriorating global environment and the distressingly slow pace of development, which left so many millions of people mired in abject poverty. The crucial international dialogue was no longer the one between East and West, but rather the one between North and South. And just as the United Nations scheduled an unprecedented series of conferences on development during the early 1990s, PGA also broadened its mission. In 1989, the year in which the Berlin Wall came down, PGA was already addressing the problems of the heavily indebted poor nations and was planning a workshop on global warming. PGA member A.N.R. Robinson (later elected President of Trinidad and Tobago) placed the issue of the International Criminal Court on the international agenda, proposing the creation of such a court in a speech to the UN General Assembly. He was joined by five colleagues who submitted similar bills in their national parliaments.



PGA Peacekeeping Mission to Cyprus, 1990



Prime Minister Hon. Josef Koffigoh (Togo) reads PGA's "Parliamentary Appeal for a Return to the democratic Process in Togo" presented by delegation leader Dip. Emma Bonino, (Italy), 1991



Participants of PGA United Nations Parliamentary Forum, 1990



PGA Delegation to Belgium, May 1990



PGA Congressional Tour, Washington, November 1990

Dr. Kennedy Graham, the New Zealand diplomat who became PGA's Secretary-General in 1989, recalls that time as "years of change and hope ... a time of huge idealism." PGA expanded the role of its global network to include issues of the environment, development, peacekeeping and democracy, and gender equality, creating subcommittees of its Executive Board to deal with each issue. This was a natural evolution, Graham said, adding that the organization proved to be even more effective at achieving its goals as the world became less polarized and more globalized. The rationale behind PGA "is just as strong now as it was then," he said, with "a global approach to issues not confined to national interests."

As PGA's work expanded, its membership did as well, growing from about 400 in 1989 to 1,000 in 1995, when Mr. Graham stepped down as Secretary-General, to be replaced by Ms. Shazia Rafi, a national of Pakistan and the United States. The number of countries represented had grown from 30 to 90.

During the early 1990s PGA's members took steps to create more transparency within their organization. As former British MP, Mr. Allan Rogers said, "We rewrote the constitution and imposed term limits on the organization's officers." He added that in his view PGA's greatest challenge today is "to continue to inspire people and to maintain its shape as a place where parliamentarians can come together and discuss issues without government pressure."

This was a time when old empires were crumbling, when many countries that had been subjugated were able to declare their independence, to rid themselves of autocratic rulers and embrace democracy. But this was also a time where new problems emerged in the international community. "We thought that there would be peace when the cold war ended," said Mr. Moses Katjiuongua, of Namibia, International President of PGA (1996-1998), "but there were new local wars instead, as warring factions emerged along with democracy."

PGA's Task Force on Peace and Democracy, started in 1991 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire by Sir David Steel, MP (United Kingdom) has sent teams of PGA members out on peace-making missions with notable results. Among the countries that have benefited from these missions are Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Tanzania, Togo and the former Yugoslavia. According to Ambassador Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for West Africa, the Task Force was "very effective in helping me address conflict situations ... most helpful."



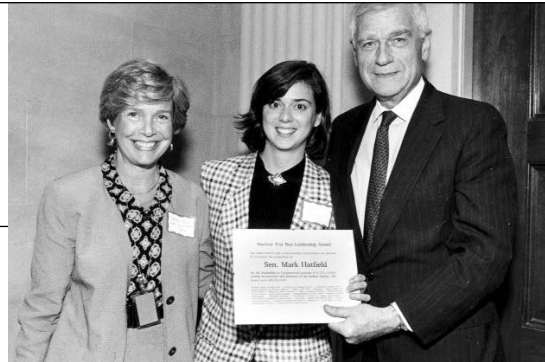
PGA Roundtable Conference on North-South Relations, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, 1991



Members of Polish Parliament with Mr. Kennedy Graham, Secretary General (PGA) and Mr. Bert Koenders, MP (The Netherlands), Poland 1992



Launch of the PGA Task Force on Peace and Democracy, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, 1991



**Nuclear Test Ban Leadership Award, 1992
Ms. Suzy Kear (Council for Livable World), Ms. Julie McGregor (Sen. Hartfield Staff), Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-OR)**



Mr. Kogi Kakizawa, MP (Japan); Rep. B. Green (USA); Mr. Lloyd Axworthy, MP (Canada); 1991



**Nuclear Test Ban Leadership Award, 1992
Monica Greed, Rep. Mike Kopetski (D-OR)**

PGA's greatest challenge today is "to continue to inspire people and to maintain its shape as a place where parliamentarians can come together and discuss issues without government pressure." Mr. Allan Rogers, MP (United Kingdom)

Mr. Gilbert Martin, a consultant to PGA who has been on several Task Force missions, noted that such delegations are "at their best when providing peer-to-peer sympathy, understanding, acting as a sounding board, and offering experience-based advice. They often go to listen, learn, and react based on similar experiences, whether it has to do with doing parliamentary work in dangerous conditions or overseeing the military when the military doesn't feel that a constitutional responsibility to do so is adequate reason to cooperate." Ambassador Kristina Svensson, a former Swedish MP and current Ambassador of Sweden to Zimbabwe, recalls taking part in a Task Force mission to Burundi after President Ndadaye was killed. "Parliament was the only democratic institution in the country," and was thus "crucial that the mission included parliamentarians from Northern countries who had contacts with parliamentarians in Africa."

Amb. Peter van Leeuwen, now the Dutch Ambassador to Kazakhstan, had a chance to observe the PGA Task Force in action when he was stationed in Côte d'Ivoire from the end of 1999 through 2001, during the time when the country's fragile democracy was in danger of collapse. He recalls that the Task Force members, including some parliamentarians from his own country, "contributed in a concrete way" to restoring peace. "PGA really has the potential to bring about change," he said. Its advantage, he added, is that it includes "people from all different countries," including neighbors and others that have gone through similar problems. PGA, in his opinion, might also be able to play a similar role to help strengthen the fledgling democratic institutions of Central Asia's countries in transition.

Katjiuongua, who has led many Task Force missions, says its members, all volunteers, "worked very hard, all of us together, for a very good cause." He recalled taking part in a three-day workshop in Sofia, Bulgaria, to make peace between bitterly divided parliamentarians from the former Yugoslavia just after the Dayton Accords. As the meeting ended, he recalls, he knew it was a success when he saw the participants, after three days of tough negotiations, joining hands and "singing old songs of camaraderie."

The Task Force and its work have been praised by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and by his predecessor, H.E. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Professor Stephen Marks of Columbia University hailed it in 1999 as "one of the most valuable, integrated and professionally run preventive diplomacy and conflict management programs that exist in the nongovernmental sector." "In fact," he added, "it has in a sense defined a new stage of preventive diplomacy." Ambassador Daudi N.



PGA's Parliamentary Symposium on the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Paris, France, January 1993



PGA's Global Dialogue on the New World Order, Washington, D.C., September 1991



Dip. Emma Bonino, (Italy); Hon. A.N.R. Robinson, President (Trinidad & Tobago); Mr. Kennedy Graham, Secretary General (PGA) at briefing on the ICC, 1992



PGA meeting on CWC with Foreign Affairs Committee members, Parliament of Uruguay, June 1992



PGA Delegation with Vice President of Uruguay, Aguirre Ramirez, June 1992



PGA International Council meeting, Ottawa, Canada, November, 1992

Mwakawago, Tanzania's former Permanent Representative to the UN, said that PGA "has been able to address sensitive issues, election issues, and has championed the cause of those not so well represented." He added that the organization has also helped build up the institution of parliament and helped African MPs develop skills. "It's one thing to be elected to parliament," he said, "another to become an effective parliamentarian." In his view, in the future PGA "needs to address the development of values such as tolerance and fair play, significant attributes of the election culture, especially in developing countries."

"PGA's role in helping to resolve conflicts anywhere in the world" said Ambassador Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Ethiopia and Eritrea, "that is valuable work." Donald McMaster, who was able to observe the work of the Task Force when he was Canada's Ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire, said its members "made a strong impression" and that people in the diplomatic community there "were quite favorably impressed." Mr. Adrien Sibomana, MP of Burundi, who has worked with several PGA missions in his country, said that PGA has been successful because its members come as individuals, not as representatives of their government or party, and are very free to speak and act. But while peacekeeping and political freedom are certainly important for Africa, he added, in the future he expects that PGA will be playing an even larger role in development issues.

PGA has "a unique role in addressing North-South issues, including those with a racial component," said Mr. David Coltart, MP, of Zimbabwe. Ambassador Lansana Kouyate, former Executive Secretary of ECOWAS, pointed out that the political stability that PGA has helped bring to parts of Africa, by strengthening the institutions of democracy, is of critical importance to the development process.

When the UN turned its attention to sustainable development issues with its series of conferences starting with the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, PGA was actively involved, with a particular interest in the often neglected aspect of implementation - helping national legislatures translate the verbiage of conference documents into laws and policies. Around the time of the Cairo conference on population and development in 1994, PGA expanded its Sustainable Development Program to include population issues and became, according to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney of the U.S., "a critical force in the development of the Cairo Program of Action." Dr. Fred Sai, a longstanding advisor of the program and world renowned expert on population who serves as the presidential advisor on HIV/AIDS in Ghana had then chaired the Preparatory Committee for the Cairo



Special Report on the Partial Test Ban Treaty, United States Congress, Washington, D.C., 1993.
 l-r: **Mr. Aaron Tovish**, former PGA Deputy Secretary-General; **Sen. Joe Kennedy, Jr.**; **Rep. Mike Kopetski**; **Rep. James A. Leach**; **Sen. Jim Jeffords**



Rep. Mark Hatfield (USA), **Sen. George Mitchell (USA)**, **Ms. Cottom**, **Mr. John Isaacs**, October 1992



PGA Conference in Windhoek, Namibia, August 1993



Mr. Akiba Tadatoshi, MP (Japan) at PGA 14th Annual Parliamentary Forum on Agenda 21, November 1992



PGA Task Force on Peace and Democracy meeting in Windhoek, Namibia, August 1993



Dip. Emma Bonino (Italy) and **Dip. Andres Palma (Chile)** at PGA 14th Annual Parliamentary Forum on Agenda 21, November 1992

conference. He said that PGA provided not only strong advocacy at the grassroots level but also a “good vision” of the linkage between population and development. According to Mr. Steven Sinding, President, International Planned Parenthood Federation, then in charge of population programs at the Rockefeller Foundation, “PGA mobilized quite a lot of support” for the Cairo program among its own members, who “became leaders on the issue in their own parliaments.”

In 2001, PGA’s Peace and Democracy Program sponsored a forum for parliamentarians from two countries that have been long-standing rivals, Greece and Turkey. Although the event was without precedent, the participants found they were able to work cooperatively on a range of issues including tourism, environmental protection, and economic cooperation. That same year a similar initiative was undertaken by PGA between parliamentarians of Armenia and Azerbaijan. The initiative has become a long-term collaboration and has mainly focused on watermanagement issues common to both countries.

In 2000 with the help of Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) PGA also started a pilot program in parliamentary capacity building to deal with population issues in West Africa. After three years of work in Ghana and Senegal, the project was deemed so successful that it has been expanded to include Nigeria and Mali. Ms. Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), said her agency has worked closely with PGA and its members on several projects and calls PGA “a leading actor” on population issues. PGA “brings a global vision to regional meetings, as the people of PGA are respected - and they are heard.”

Ms. Margaret Catley-Carlson, former head of the Population Council and current Chair of Global Water Partnership has worked with PGA for more than 15 years, said the organization performed a great service by simply making population issues “discussible” at a time when many parliamentarians, particularly in Africa, would not even talk about them. These discussions, she added, also helped people see the connections between population and other aspects of development, such as concerns about clean air and water.

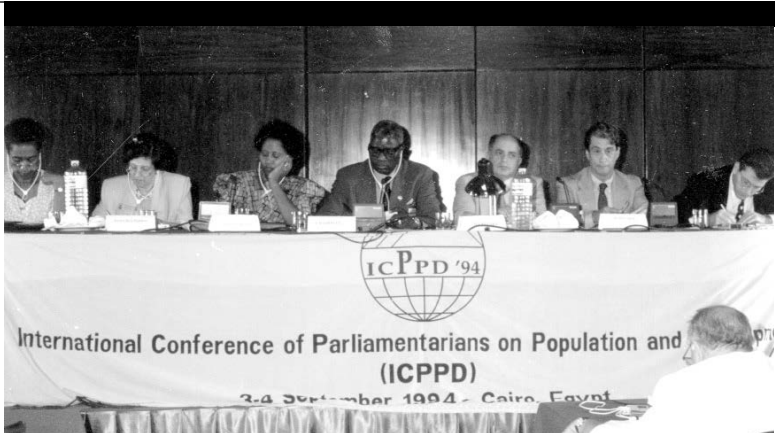
PGA and its members participated actively in the UN’s Women’s Conference held in Beijing and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in August of 2002. As Ambassador Kamallesh Sharma, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative for East Timor, said, the social agenda agreed upon at these conferences, and encapsulated in the Millennium



Opening Ceremony of the Signing of the Chemical Weapons Treaty, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. January 1993



Meeting of parliamentary delegation from Haiti, Miami, 1994



ICPD Conference, September 1994



Rep. Patricia Schroeder; Ms. Hawa Yakubu, MP (Ghana); Rep. Connie Morella at the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, Egypt, September, 1994



Dr. Mahbub-ul-Haq, UNDP presenting at PGA Parliamentary meeting on social development, 1994



**PGA Delegation to Haiti, 1994
Sen. Elie Plancher (Haiti); Mr. Karl Goran-Bjorsmark, former MP (Sweden); Pres. Jean Bertrand Aristide, former President of Haiti; Mr. Samuel Madishin, former MP (Haiti); Mr. Gary Guiteau, former MP (Haiti); Mr. Kennedy Graham, PGA Secretary-General**

PGA “brings a global vision to regional meetings, as the people of PGA are respected - and they are heard.” **Ms. Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director, UNFPA**

Development Goals adopted by the UN, represents “the minimum charter of human dignity to be realized in the shortest time possible as a global objective.” PGA, he said, has “a crucial role in promoting political ownership of these objectives the world over.” Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Afghanistan, says that PGA is “a useful complement to the discussions that take place in the UN,” adding that it “is run by a very imaginative group of people.”

“Multilateralism is the only way of getting peace in the world,” said Ms. Maj-Britt Theorin, MEP, Sweden and longstanding member of PGA. “We’ve always worked with the United Nations. Now we need to support and protect it.” She added, “women are the real victims of conflicts and PGA has been effective in getting more women involved in decision-making in politics.” This is why PGA made a gender rule at the Board elections that requires a 40/60 gender equality ratio and is the first international organization to be run by a woman secretary-general.

To help deal with and prevent such crimes, PGA organized support for the special war crimes tribunals that the UN established for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. The organization also stepped up its efforts on behalf of an International Criminal Court, holding a series of conferences and workshops at the regional and global level. It helped organize the NGO Coalition for the ICC that participated actively in the process leading up to the Rome Statute calling for creation of the Court, and was instrumental ensuring that the Statute was ratified by enough national legislatures for the Court’s formation in 2002.

PGA’s contribution to this effort was, according to Mr. Richard Dicker, Legal Counsel of Human Rights Watch, “very special and greatly important; a crucial factor, an extraordinary role.” Dip. Emma Bonino, (Italy) said the outcome shows that “an effort combining organized civil society and parliamentarians can be very effective. Normally NGOs do not have this global perspective.” Hon. Lloyd Axworthy, former Prime Minister of Canada and PGA member, said the effort on behalf of the Court was so successful because of PGA’s unique ability “to develop a political constituency worldwide. For something like this to work, there has to be real partnerships, real synergy, linkages - that is, political will.”

An example of how such political will is applied can be seen in the work of Dip. Margarita Stolbizer from Argentina and current chair of the PGA International Council, who has been working in support of the court since becoming a member of PGA in 1999. With the support and expertise of PGA, she brought the issue to



H.E. Boutros-Boutros Ghali, United Nations Secretary General meeting members of PGA Indian National Group, 1995



Ms. Shazia Rafi (PGA); Dep Nephtali Ndikumana (Burundi); Dep. Nicolas Mayugi (Burundi); January 1995



PGA Parliamentary Meeting, January 1995



PGA Staff, 1995



PGA Members meet the Prime Minister of India, Social Summit, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1995



**Ms. Takako Doi, MP (Japan); Dr. Maj Britt Theorin, MEP (Sweden)
If Women Ruled the World, PGA Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark 1995**

the attention of her fellow parliamentarians, media and the public by writing articles and giving speeches in support of the Court. She worked with three successive governments in Buenos Aires to build support for the ICC. When the vote came for ratification of the statute, it passed unanimously in both houses of Argentina's legislature. According to Senator Raynell Andreychuk of Canada, Convenor of PGA's International Law and Human Rights Program, the lesson that PGA has learned from such efforts is the need for patience. "We tackled a very complex legislative issue that's politically driven," she said, "really an issue of political will," and were able to prevail in the end. Senator Andreychuk also noted that PGA is "the only NGO made up of parliamentarians, so we are uniquely able to build coalitions, not only with our own members but with other parliamentarians, and we can lobby from within. We punch above our weight."

PGA has a unique standing among NGOs because its members, as parliamentarians, are important participants in the governance process. Ambassador Juan Somavía, Director General of the International Labour Organisation and a former parliamentarian, says that parliamentarians have a special legitimacy because they all must face the electorate from time to time and therefore must maintain contact with their people. "PGA reflects that very well," he said. It was, in fact, PGA that raised international consciousness about the global debt issue. PGA "had a great impact on how that issue was dealt with," Amb. Somavia said. "PGA now faces the challenge of helping to shape how we move toward economic globalization with fair rules of the game." Former Canadian MP, Mr. Warren Allmand and International President of PGA, said that other NGOs that work alongside PGA benefit greatly from having allies "on the inside" of government. "On the issues on PGA's agenda," said Senator Longin Pastusiak, President of the Senate of Poland, "we speak with one voice."

Another reason for PGA's effectiveness is that its members are not asked to represent their countries or parties, but rather are free to speak their own minds. "PGA members represent different political views, different cultures, different religious backgrounds," says former MP and current ambassador of Bulgaria to the United States, H.E. Ms. Elena Poptodorova, adding, "We can get access to literally everybody. And when you are insistent enough, you get results."

PGA has a "unique capacity to mobilize international opinion through legislators," said Mr. David Phillips of the Council on Foreign Relations, and thus the role PGA plays is "indispensable." Both Mr. Gareth Evans, President of the NGO International Crisis Group, and Mr. David Malone, President of the International



First Indo-Pakistani Parliamentary Conference, February 1995



Participants of PGA South Asia Watermanagement Dialogues, Maldives 1995



Participants of PGA South Asia Watermanagement Dialogues, Maldives 1995



PGA President **Mr. Murli Deora**, MP (India) introducing participants of PGA South Asia Watermanagement Dialogues to **H.E. Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom**, President of the Maldives, Maldives 1995



PGA meeting with representatives of 12 political parties, Burundi, 1995



Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, MP (Cote d'Ivoire); **Sen. Samuel Madistin** (Haiti), PGA Mission to Burundi, August 1994

Peace Academy, agree that PGA's work has been "terrifically useful" for their organizations.

Certainly, the record of results over the past quarter-century demonstrates that the underlying idea of an action-oriented network of lawmakers deeply concerned with events beyond their countries' borders as well as within them - is not only sound but sustainable. PGA is "the elite of the international organizations," said Mr. Marco Ameglio Samudio, MP of Panama. The organization gives its members "a say in world affairs, a contact with the issues of the world, issues that will, one way or another, end up touching all of our lives."

According to Mr. Karl Goran Biorstmark of Sweden, a former MP and former International President of PGA, the organization's concept is "just right - there must be some sort of platform for the parliamentarians of the world."

Looking ahead, Dr. Amin Mobarak, MP, Egypt, said PGA's most pressing problem for the future is donor support. However, this pressure "is a good incentive for PGA to keep coming up with good projects." Another reason that PGA renews itself and its ideas, he said, involves people. "There is always a need to recruit new members as existing members leave the organization when they leave the parliament" either because they retire, are defeated, or are elected to higher office.

Former PGA program officer, Ms. Ayaka Suzuki, noted that PGA is "an innovative network of parliamentarians who want to make a difference. It has developed parliamentary peacemaking and has come to the assistance of parliamentarians under attack." Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney of the U.S. calls PGA "a wonderful organization. As we move into a global economy, there is an even greater need for what it does." *



**New York City Women's Political Rally, City University of New York, 1996
Rep. Bella Abzug and Rep. Carolyn Maloney**



PGA 19th Annual Forum Session on Conflict Resolution in South Asia, UN, October 1997
l-r: **Dr. A. Moyeen Khan**, MP (Bangladesh); **Mr. K.G. Mahesh Warappa**, MP (India); **Mr. Pramod Mahajan**, MP (India); **Ms. Margaret Alva**, MP (India); **Mr. M.A. Baby**, MP (India)



l-r: **Mr. Karl Göran Biorstmark**, MP (Sweden); **Sen. Samuel Madistin** (Haiti); **President Rene Preval**, President of Haiti; **Dep. Ibrahima Fall** (Senegal); **Ms. Ayaka Suzuki**, PGA, Haiti 1996



PGA press conference on Cambodia, 1997



Sen. Samuel Madistin (Haiti) speaking at the press conference with **Dep. Ibrahima Fall** (Senegal) and **Mr. Karl Göran Biorstmark**, MP (Sweden), Haiti 1996



PGA Press Conference at the UN on coup d'etat in Burundi August 1996

l-r: **Hon. Anatole Kanyenkiko**, Former Prime Minister (UPRONA); **Dep. Adrien Sibomana**, Former Prime Minister (UPRONA); **Dr. Jean Minani**, President of FRODEBU and **Hon. Jean Marie Ngendahayo**, Former Prime Minister (FRODEBU)

THE TIMELINE:

1978

may

At a UN Special Session on Disarmament, two Canadian MPs, Mr. David MacDonald (Conservative) and Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Liberal), are joined by Mr. Nick Dunlop, (New Zealand) in forming Parliamentarians for World Order (later to become known as Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA))

1979

august

Parliamentarians for World Order is incorporated in Washington, D.C., with: Dr. Mark MacGuigan, MP (Canada), Chairman, along with Mr. Ioan Evans, MP (U.K.), Mr. Tokutasu Fukuda, MP (Japan), Mr. Gabriel Perronnet, MP (France), Mr. Sandford W. Persons (World Federalist Association), Congressmen Paul Simon (U.S.) and Tom Hudein, as well as Mr. Bradford Mose, Administrator, UNDP.

1980

december

Douglas Roche, MP (Canada), is elected to serve as the International Chairman of the group, which decides to open an office in New York, in close proximity to the United Nations Headquarters, and is granted consultative status as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) by the UN.

1981

september

Fifty-five parliamentarians from 23 countries attend a three-day Parliamentary Forum on "The Politics of Survival," sponsored by PWO and held at the UN. Their discussion leads to resolutions on disarmament, development, peacekeeping and UN reform. Based on these resolutions, PWO adopts a program of action at a subsequent meeting of the officers of the organization.

1982

may

A delegation of parliamentarians from five continents meets with the US and Soviet leaders in Moscow and Washington to press for an immediate nuclear arms freeze and a start on negotiations leading to a comprehensive disarmament treaty. These ideas were embodied in an "Action Programme for World Security" drafted by the delegation.

1983

november

PWO sets out to create a group of non-aligned world leaders who could offer to mediate between the East/West superpowers and make proposals for ending the arms race. These were the basis of an effort that was to become known as the Six-Nation Peace Initiative.



Participants of Asian Regional Forum on Economic Revitalization with President Fidel V. Ramos (The Philippines), Manila, Philippines, May 1997



PGA Workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health Model Law in West Africa, National Assembly of Mali, November 2000
 l-r: **Mr. Moustafa Ka**, former MP (Senegal); **Hon. Ali Nohoum Diallo**, Speaker of Parliament (Mali) and current President ECOWAS Parliament (Mali); **Mr. Babacar Seye** (Project Policy, Senegal), **Hon. Youssouf Sangare**, Ambassador of Burkina Faso in Algeria



Mr. Allan Rogers, MP (UK); **Ms. Farida Ali** (UNICEF); **Ms. Shazia Rafi**, Secretary-General, PGA; **Mr. Kant Kishore Bhargava** (former Secretary-General of SAARG); **Mr. Karl Göran Biersmark**, MP (Sweden) at **PGA 19th Annual Forum Session on Conflict Resolution in South Asia, UN, 1997**



Workshop on Implementing the ICPD Agenda, December 1997, Accra, Ghana



PGA Staff, 1997



Participants of PGA Workshop on Implementing the ICPD Agenda, December 1997, Accra, Ghana

THE TIMELINE

1984

may

The leaders of six nations, Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania, issue a statement calling on U.S. and Soviet leaders to halt their testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons. PWO Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Aaron Tovish proposes for PWO to facilitate the launch of a conference to amend and make comprehensive the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT). This Six-Nation Peace Initiative, put together largely through the behind-the-scenes efforts of PWO, is to result in the drafting of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty twelve years later.

1985

PWO proposes that the Partial Test Ban Treaty be converted into a comprehensive nuclear test ban through its amendment procedure.

At the urging of PWO, eleven former officials in the John F. Kennedy administration sign a letter supporting the proposal for a conference to amend the Partial Test Ban Treaty.

1986

january

Parliamentarians for World Order changes its name to Parliamentarians for Global Action for Disarmament, Development and World Reform, which in 1990 is shortened to Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA).

april

PGA members Mr. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson (Iceland) and Mr. Relus ter Beek (Netherlands) accompany Princeton University Professor Frank von Hippel to a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze, to approach the Soviets to convene a workshop on monitoring a nuclear test ban. The success of this appeal leads to the setting up of seismic monitoring stations in the Soviet Union and the U.S.

october

PGA receives the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for its role in helping to organize the Six-Nation Peace Initiative, along with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo (Argentina), Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu (Greece), Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (India), President Miguel de la Madrid (Mexico), Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson (Sweden), and President Julius Nyerere (Tanzania).

1988

january

Mr. Aaron Tovish of the PGA Secretariat, addressing a meeting of nongovernmental organizations held in Las Vegas, calls for the creation of an international campaign to press for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.



Ms. Shazia Rafi, Secretary General (PGA); **H.E. Amb. Bill Richardson**, former US Ambassador to the UN; **Mr. Moses Katjuongua**, MP (Namibia), President of PGA; **Sir Kieran Prendergast**, Under Secretary-General, DPA at PGA 19th UN Parliamentary Forum "Crafting Lasting Peace", October 1997



Participants of PGA Seminar on Cooperation with the ICTR, Tanzania, December 1997



Lunch with Argentinean National Group, November 1998



Members of Parliament of Chile, Women's Caucus
l-r: **Ms. Antonella Sciaraffia**; **Ms. Eliara Caraball**; **Ms. Kristen Joines** (PGA); **Ms. Laura Soto**; **Ms. Adriana Munoz**; **Ms. Marina Prochelle**; **Ms. Ayaka Suzuki** (PGA); **Ms. Fanny Pollarolo**
October 1998



Participants of "Strengthening the Role of Parliamentarians in the Democratic Process", Camara de Diputados, Congreso National, Chile, October 1998



Ms. Ayaka Suzuki, Program Officer, PGA; **Ms. Shazia Rafi**, Secretary General, PGA; **Ms. Margaret Reynolds**, MP (Australia); **H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan**, Secretary General, UN; **Ms. Margaret Alva**, MP (India)

THE TIMELINE:

1989

april

At a PGA workshop on the international debt crisis and global economic development, held in Amsterdam, parliamentarians issue an appeal for, among other things, a 50 percent write-off of third-world debt, a 10-year moratorium on all interest and principal payment obligations of low-income countries in Africa, and cancellation of their aid-related debts.

june

At a Ministerial Conference on Peace and International Law in The Hague, the Non-Aligned Movement asks PGA to help with preparations for creating an International Criminal Court (ICC).

Speaking to the UN General Assembly, Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson of Trinidad and Tobago, then a PGA member, introduces a resolution that calls for establishing "an International Criminal Court or other international trial mechanism" - effectively placing the ICC issue on the global agenda. Soon afterwards Congressman James A. Leach (U.S), chair of PGA's International Law Program, introduces a resolution into Congress calling for the creation of an ICC. PGA members, Dip. Emma (Italy), Mr. Lloyd Axworthy (Canada) and Ms. Herta Daubler-Gmelin (Germany), introduce similar resolutions in their respective parliaments.

1990

march

To raise public consciousness about the nuclear test ban issue, PGA circulates an open letter in more than 60 countries calling on heads of state to work to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

After six months of work, a team of scientific experts completes a study commissioned by PGA on the verification of a comprehensive test ban. Its report forms the technical basis for the drafting of a verification protocol to become a part of the Partial Test Ban Treaty amendment proposal. The draft of the proposal was later submitted to the Amendment Conference by six governments.

PGA convenes the inaugural meeting of its Peacekeeping Advisory Group at its New York headquarters.

april

Two years before the UN Earth Summit - and seven years before the UN Summit on Social Development - participants in a PGA-sponsored workshop in New York issue a call for a new dialogue on development strategy. It emphasizes the links between environment and development, the need for a doubling of official development assistance (ODA) and a sharper focus on promoting human progress and freedom from poverty, disease, and ignorance. Coinciding with a UN Special Session on Development, the workshop creates a historic "first": a dialogue between parliamentarians and diplomats at which workshop participants could convey to ambassadors and official delegations the proposals for promoting a more humane development policy.

june

A meeting of leading environmentalists among PGA's members convenes in Bellagio, Italy, to consider the problem of global warming and make recommendations on how to overcome it.

PGA convenes a meeting of parliamentarians from the U.S., U.K., and USSR in New York to prepare for the Partial Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference in January 1990.

A committee of experts, chaired by Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni of DePaul University (a PGA adviser for many years), prepares a draft statute for a court that would have jurisdiction over all international crimes and submits it to the United Nations.

august

PGA International President Warren Allmand calls for the United Nations to initiate collective security measures against Iraq for its aggression against Kuwait.

november

Signed by 2,200 parliamentarians in 41 countries, an open letter urging strengthening of the nuclear test ban, addressed to Presidents Bush and Gorbachev and Prime Minister Thatcher, is released by PGA during a media tour of Washington, Moscow and London.

Meeting with a PGA delegation, Soviet President Gorbachev agrees that a test ban is a critical element of nuclear nonproliferation and says he will play a direct role in developing his country's policy toward the Amendment Conference.

december

A PGA delegation meets with the Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations to discuss possible ways of resolving the Gulf crisis that would be consistent with the UN principles and resolutions.



H.E. Ms. Elena Poptodorova, MP (Bulgaria), current Ambassador of Bulgaria to the United States, addressing the Rome Conference, July 1998



H.E. Mr. Dullah Omar, Minister of Justice (South Africa) at PGA Press Conference at the UNCA Club, October 1998



PGA Delegation to International Alert Meeting on "Women Parliamentarians and Peacebuilding in the Great Lakes Region," Kigali, Rwanda, February 1998



Ms. Shazia Rafi, SG. PGA; Rep. Gary Ackerman, (USA); Mr. Moses Katjuongua, MP (Namibia), PGA International President; Washington, DC, May 1998



PGA Executive Committee Meeting, presided by **Mr. Moses Katjuongua, MP (Namibia)**, May 1998



PGA's Parliamentary Forum on Globalization and the Poor, Geneva, Switzerland, June 2000

THE TIMELINE:

1991

january

Culminating six years of intense PGA effort, 100 states parties to the Partial Test Ban Treaty convene to consider a treaty amendment proposal and a "verification protocol" - both drafted by PGA. The conference ends with a vote to continue the amendment process and reconvene at a later date.

april

PGA Deputy Secretary-General Aaron Tovish visits 10 capitals in Europe to meet with ministers, parliamentarians and government officials on the future of the effort to amend the Test Ban Treaty.

may

The first meeting of PGA's Parliamentary Commission on Peacekeeping and Collective Security is held in Ottawa. It calls for convening a special session of the UN General Assembly to prepare for the Charter Review Conference on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the UN in 1995.

june

At a meeting convened by PGA in Helsinki, politicians from 17 European countries meet to discuss strategies to promote nuclear non-proliferation in the "New World Order."

august

Concerned about the widening gap between the positions of developed and developing nations during preparations for the Rio Earth Summit, PGA expands its Planetary Partnership on Sustainable Development. The partnership, established in 1990, addresses a range of issues including international environmental law, the role of women in development, and additional funding for developing countries.

september

PGA takes up the International Criminal Court as the central theme of its International Law Program and sends delegations to discuss the issue with the leaders of eight countries around the world. The issue is also discussed at a PGA-sponsored "Global Dialogue on the New World Order," held in Washington and chaired by Congressman James A. Leach (U.S.). Mr. Biodun Owoseni, senior Nigerian diplomat to the UN, warns the Forum that "for the new world order to endure, it must be collectively defined, must be collectively put in place, and must be collectively defended."

november

PGA Inaugurates the Task Force on Peace and Democracy in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire for parliamentary intervention in political conflicts, chaired by Sir David Stul, MP (UK)

december

PGA's Task Force on Peace and Democracy, inaugurated one month earlier, faces its first challenge as a team of three PGA members is dispatched to the West African nation of Togo to help shore up its fledgling democracy, struggling to emerge after 24 years of military rule. The presence of the team helps Togo's transitional legislature resolve the crisis and sets the stage for national elections the following summer.

1992

march

In preparation for the Rio Earth Summit, PGA convenes a North-South parliamentary workshop at UN headquarters in New York. The key topics are financial resources and the role of women in development.

april

PGA responds to the suspension of Peru's constitution and dissolution of its parliament by President Alberto Fujimori. PGA International President Silvia Hernández appeals to legislators to call for restoration of the parliament and order in the country; parliamentary declarations are initiated in several countries.

may

PGA President James Leach (U.S.) tells a conference discussing the proposed International Criminal Court that political action is essential "to transform the idea into reality." He calls on PGA to launch a campaign to raise the issue in parliaments and with governments and urges support for a UN resolution endorsing the formation of the Court.

june

Responding to a political crisis in Togo triggered by the attempted assassination of a leading opposition candidate, PGA dispatches the first of two emergency parliamentary delegations to help restore order. (Two months later PGA organizes a meeting in Washington to consider strategies for assisting Togo on its path to full democracy.)

PGA sends a parliamentary delegation to Rio de Janeiro for the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development). As follow-up to the Summit, PGA institutes a bi-monthly bulletin containing news of legislative initiatives in support of sustainable development taken by parliamentarians around the world.



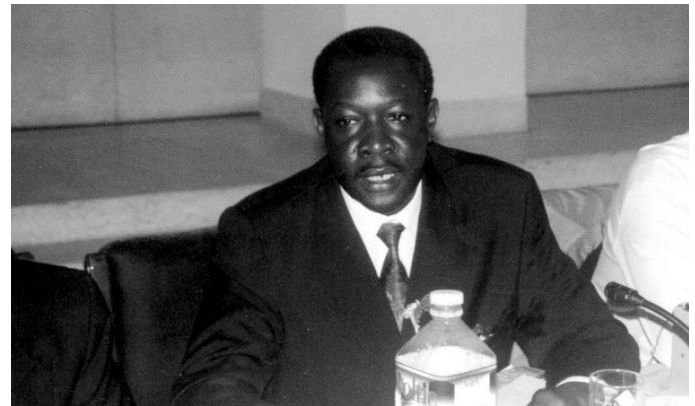
PGA's Fourth Annual Defender of Democracy Awards Dinner, UN Regal Plaza Hotel, September 29, 1999
Mr. Mark Runacres, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations; **Amb. Sir Jeremy Greenstock**, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations; **Ms. Noeleen Heyzer**, Executive Director, UNIFEM



PGA Staff with **M. Tshabalala**, Deputy Minister of Justice (South Africa), June 1998



PGA's 2nd Annual Workshop "Five Years After Cairo: Where are we now?" Dakar, Senegal, April 1999
Ms. Shazia Rafi, PGA Secretary-General; **Dr. Nafis Sadik**, Executive Director, UNFPA; **Hon. Cisse**, Speaker of the National Assembly (Senegal)



Dep. Ibrahima Fall (Senegal) at PGA's Workshop on Implementing the ICPD Agenda, Accra, Ghana, December, 1997



PGA's 21st Annual United Nations Parliamentary Forum: Eradicating Global Poverty, United Nations Headquarters, September, 1999



front row: **Dr. Hanan Mikhail-Ashrawi**, Founder, MIFTAH; **H.E. A.N.R. Robinson**, President (Trinidad & Tobago); **Mr. Aidan Hume**, accepting on behalf of recipient Mr. John Hume, MEP (Northern Ireland) back row: **Dr. Rita E. Hauser**, Chair, IPA; **Mr. George Foulkes**, MP (UK); **Mr. Allan Rogers**, MP (UK), President of PGA at **PGA 4th Annual Defender of Democracy Awards**, September 1999

THE TIMELINE:

1992

september

PGA's delegation to the Non-Aligned Summit Meeting held in Jakarta, Indonesia, encourages national leaders to declare their support for chemical weapons control. The membership of a global sub-network of parliamentarians interested in the control of chemical weapons, established by PGA, grows to more than 100.

october

After both houses of the US Congress adopt legislation providing for a moratorium on nuclear testing and setting a deadline for achievement of a multilateral test ban, Congressman Bill Green, a member of PGA's Executive Board, publicly cites the role played by PGA in mobilizing international support for the issue. The next morning the legislation is signed by President Bush.

november

At a Global Dialogue on the issue of climate change, sponsored by PGA and held at the UN, parliamentarians call for specific targets and timetables to achieve effective reduction of carbon dioxide emissions.

december

PGA co-sponsors the World Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Tribunal, held in Siracusa, Italy, and attended by some 130 political leaders, legal experts, and UN officials.

PGA's Executive Board endorses the organization's involvement in population issues and the effort to increase financial support for the development of population programs in developing countries.

PGA issues a worldwide call for an ad hoc international court to adjudicate charges of war crimes and genocide in the former Yugoslavia.

1993

january

A Parliamentary Symposium on the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, convened by PGA in Paris, drafts a Declaration of Support of the convention and circulates it to parliamentarians around the world for signature. By year's end it is signed by 1,182 MPs in 40 countries.

february

After months of intense lobbying by PGA members around the world, and two months after PGA co-sponsors a World Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Tribunal, the UN Security Council moves to set up a war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

march

A PGA delegation led by H.E. Mr. A.N.R. Robinson, former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, calls on UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, UN ambassadors from several countries, and officials of the U.S. government, urging them to support the establishment of the ICC. Throughout the year, PGA members in 40 countries take action to promote the establishment of a war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

july

After extensive consultations with PGA Deputy Secretary-General Aaron Tovish, Parliamentary Convenor Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson and PGA members in the U.S. Congress, President Bill Clinton announces a year-long extension of the U.S. moratorium on nuclear testing. The administration adopts a positive approach towards calling the "Special Meeting" to be called to amend the Partial Test Ban Treaty.

august

PGA holds a workshop in Washington, D.C., for members of the U.S. Congress on peacekeeping issues, sponsored by Congressman Lee Hamilton, Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee.

october

PGA's Parliamentary Task Force on Africa, representing all regions of African continent, meets in Windhoek, Namibia, to discuss "democratic transition and the institutions of democracy" in Africa and strategies for future African development. The Task Force decided to dispatch a mission to Burundi, where a recently-elected President and parliament faced imminent crisis.

PGA Asian sub-network holds its first regional meeting in Caracas, Venezuela. The network is called to action by the developing crisis in Haiti.

When Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide is ousted by a military coup and forced into exile, PGA's Executive Committee organizes an international "rapid response" effort. A petition condemning the coup, circulated by PGA, is signed by 150 parliamentarians.



PGA Delegation Visit to Congressional Members of President Clinton's Delegation to Africa, Washington, D.C. 1998: **Mr. Moses Katjuongua**, MP (Namibia), **Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald** (D-CA), **Hon. Houda Kanoun**, Ambassador of Tunisia in Norway



Participants of PGA 21st Annual UN Parliamentary Forum Eradicating Global Poverty, September 1999



Mr. Allan Rogers, MP (United Kingdom); **H.E. Kofi Annan**, UN Secretary General; **Dr. Hanan Mikhail-Ashrawi**, Founder, MIFTAH at PGA 4th Annual Defender of Democracy Awards, September 1999



PGA Ghana National Group, December 1990, Accra, Ghana



Ms. Mercedes Mas de Xaxas, Population Action International at Population Action International and PGA Workshop "Meeting ICPD Commitments", March 1999



Ms. Kristen Joiner, PGA Programme Officer, **Mr. Jyoti Singh**, UNFPA at Population Action International and PGA Workshop "Meeting ICPD Commitments", March 1999

THE TIMELINE:

1993

october

After the newly elected President of Burundi is assassinated, touching off a civil war between the country's Hutu and Tutsi factions, the first of several PGA Task Force teams goes in to help restore political stability. Many observers credit this PGA effort - which was to stretch over several years - along with a key compromise brokered by the Task Force between the country's two parties, with enabling Burundi to avoid a genocidal bloodbath similar to the one in Rwanda.

december

PGA's Asia sub-network holds a parliamentary meeting in Bangladesh. In addition to work on population and sustainable development, sub-committees working on clean water management in South Asia are created.

1994

january

PGA workshop held in The Hague proposes the establishment of a "Parliamentary Early Warning Mechanism," linked to the United Nations, which would alert the international community to impending threats to peace and security.

PGA International President Silvia Hernández presents to UN Secretary-General H.E. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali a "Parliamentary Declaration in Support of the Chemical Weapons Convention," signed by more than 1,200 MPs from 51 countries.

may

In Kathmandu, Nepal, PGA South Asian subcommittee meets for the second time under the auspices of the Conflict Resolution Program to strengthen the negotiation and mediation capacities of selected MPs in troubled regions of the world.

july

The International Law Commission, strongly supported by PGA, completes the final version of the draft Statute for the International Criminal Court.

august

PGA helps three Haitian MPs, at the top of the ruling junta's "hit list," escape from their country just as a total ban on air traffic seals Haiti off from the outside world. One of the escapees, MP Joseph Jean-Louis Fignole, declares from exile in Canada, "I am glad PGA exists. Its work for democracy and parliamentarians in Haiti is more than fine words."

Eight PGA members visit Burundi at the invitation of the UN as part of an intense global effort to keep the country from civil war and further massacres and to help reach agreement between the country's political parties.

With encouragement from PGA members in several countries, the U.S. Congress votes to approve full funding for UN peacekeeping costs (amounting to \$1.2 billion) for the first time in several years.

september

On the eve of the UN-sponsored International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo, some 40 members of the PGA sub-network on sustainable development and population pledge to carry out the conference's program of action.

1995

january

PGA Task Force is invited to Burundi to help select a Speaker for the Parliament as well as promote the peaceful resolution of the conflict between the Hutu majority and Tutsi minority.

march

At the UN Social Summit in Copenhagen, PGA holds two joint meetings with the Women's Environment and Development Organization in an effort to mobilize women for the upcoming Women's Conference in Beijing.

may

At the invitation of the UN Development Programme, PGA sends a delegation to Suriname to help parliamentarians there overcome ethnic divisions threatening to tear the country apart after only four years of democracy.

june

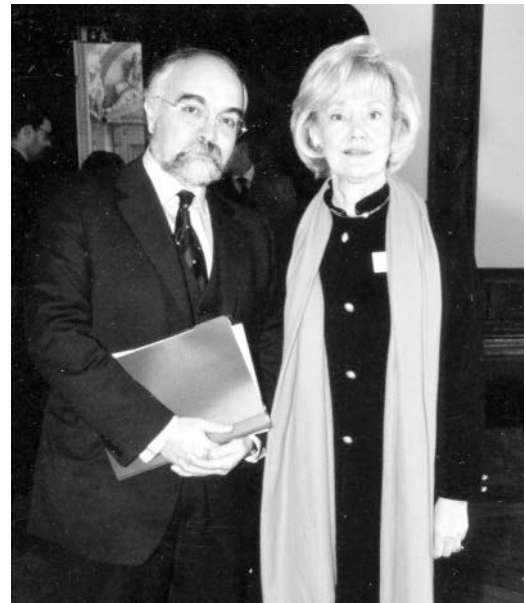
The South-Asian Conflict Resolution Program's third training workshop is held in the Maldives.

PGA joins with the Organization of American States in sending a delegation to observe elections in Haiti and calls the elections "a step in the right direction."

The political crisis in Burundi is taken up at a meeting in New York co-sponsored by PGA and the Council on Foreign Relations. MP Moses Katjuongua, of Namibia, reports on PGA's peacemaking efforts within the country.



PGA Delegation to the Parliament of the Netherlands, May 1999



Hon. Jose Maghalaes, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs (Portugal); **Sen. Raynell Adreychuk** (Canada). **PGA Conference on ICC Ratification in Lusophone Countries**, Lisbon, Portugal, February 2001



Dip. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner (Argentina); **Dip. Marcelo López Arias** (Argentina); **Dr. Raúl Alfonsín**, Former President and Leader of the Bloque Radical (Argentina) at **PGA Conference on ICC Ratification** in Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 2001



PGA's Congressional Reception, Washington, D.C., October 1999
Dip. Gabriel Ascencio Mansilla (Chile), **Hon. Thomas Pickering** (US), **Sen. Raynell Andreychuk** (Canada), **Mr. Ibrahima Fall**, MP (Senegal), **Sen. Tom Harkin** (US), **Dip. Díez-Canseco** (Peru); **Mr. Aftub S. Mirami** (Pakistan), **Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah**, MP (Ghana)



Participants of **PGA 23rd Annual Parliamentary Forum** "The Role of Parliamentarians in the Development of E-commerce and the Internet and Special Parliamentary Session on Counterterrorism," Stockholm Sweden, January 2002

THE TIMELINE:

1995

june

Shazia Rafi, Director of PGA's Democracy and Development Section since 1993, is appointed Deputy Secretary-General.

PGA presents to the UN Ad Hoc Committee a declaration on the prospective role of the International Criminal Court, signed by more than 220 parliamentarians from 27 countries.

september

More than 60 PGA members take part in the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, and issue their own "Uncompromised Declaration" on women's empowerment. PGA member Ms. Maj-Britt Theorin of Sweden makes this pledge: "Both far-reaching and effective, PGA's international network on the Empowerment of Women will pick up where Beijing left off."

1996

february

A PGA conference on democracy in East and Central Europe takes place in Sofia, Bulgaria, bringing together, for the first time ever, parliamentarians from Bosnia and Yugoslavia. Despite the state of official relations between their leaders, the participants agree in principle to future exchanges between their parliaments.

june

Ms. Shazia Z. Rafi, Deputy Secretary-General, succeeds Dr. Kennedy Graham as PGA's Secretary-General, the first woman to head any international NGO not specifically devoted to gender-related issues.

PGA launches a new initiative, as part of its Sustainable Development Program, to explore the problem of air pollution, which threatens the health and well-being of more than one billion people worldwide.

After the democratically elected president of Burundi is ousted and its National Assembly dissolved by a coup, PGA's Task Force on Africa condemns the illegal seizure of power. Within days, a Parliamentary Appeal protesting the coup is signed by 120 PGA members from 16 countries.

august

PGA arranges a meeting between the United Nations Security Council and a multi-party parliamentary delegation from Burundi, under the "Arria's Formula" - the first time the Security Council has ever met with national legislators. Days later, the Council adopts a resolution calling for a return to constitutional order in Burundi and restoration of its National Assembly. Observers credit PGA's role with the parliament of Burundi and the Arusha Peace Process.

The text of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, long supported by PGA is agreed upon.

september

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty is adopted by the United Nations General Assembly by 158 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.

october

The Chemical Weapons Convention, strongly supported by PGA, achieves the 65 ratifications required for its entry into force, due in large part to the efforts of PGA members pressing for ratification by their own governments.

december

At a Special Parliamentary Session on Africa, held in conjunction with PGA's Annual Forum, participants focus on the interlocked goals of peace and development, stressing the need for good governance, greater freedoms, and respect for the rights of women and minorities.

1997

february

With support from the Ford Foundation, PGA holds a regional parliamentary conference in Cape Town, South Africa, on "Securing State Cooperation and Compliance: The Ad Hoc Tribunals" that examines the tribunals such as the one dealing with war crimes in Rwanda.

march

In cooperation with the government of Ghana, PGA holds a regional workshop in Accra on implementing the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

may

With the support of the Asian Development Bank, PGA convenes the Asian Regional Forum on Economic Revitalization, in Manila, focusing on the growing financial crisis and issues related to privatization.

june

At the Paris conference on the establishment of an International Criminal Court, Dr. Herta Däubler-Gmelin, Justice Minister of Germany and leader of the PGA delegation, urges for the advocacy campaign for the ICC.



PGA Press Conference with **Mr. Edmond Wellenstein** (The Netherlands); UN Under-Secretary-General, **Mr. Hans Corell**; **President A.N.R. Robinson** (Trinidad & Tobago); **Prof. Cherif Bassiouni**, DePaul University; **Ms. Shazia Rafi**, PGA Secretary-General



Participants of **"Strengthening UN Peace Operations-Parliamentary Input"** Seminar in New Delhi, India, March 2002



Participants of **PGA Sub-regional Seminar on Capacity Building for Parliamentary Committees on Security Issues**, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, September 2002



Participants of **PGA's 6th Annual Defender of Democracy Award** with **Mr. Carl Cederschiöld**, Mayor of Stockholm, Stockholm City Hall, Sweden, January 2002



PGA Informal Briefing with the Security Council, G-77 and UN officials May 2002

Amb Stefan Tafrov (Bulgaria); **Mr. Jean Marie Guehenno**, Under Secretary-General, DPKO; **Sir Kieran Prendergast**, Under Secretary-General, DPA; **Amb Jeremy Greenstock** (UK); **Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah**, MP (Ghana), PGA President; **Amb. Kishore Mahbubani** (Singapore); **Ms. Shazia Rafi**, Secretary-General, PGA

THE TIMELINE

1997

june

At a meeting organized by the Parliament of Chile, PGA begins the process of operationalizing its network of parliamentarians as an effective instrument for conflict prevention, management, and resolution and names it the Task Force on Peace and Democracy.

july

PGA issues parliamentary appeals on restoring democracy in Cambodia and safeguarding democracy in Kenya after a PGA member, Ms. Charity Kaluki Ngilu, is attacked with a machete while campaigning for the presidency of Kenya.

december

With the support of the Ford Foundation, PGA launches a quarterly bulletin on "Women Legislators in Action: Weaving the Future Together," chronicling the initiatives taken by PGA's women members to build on the platform of the Beijing Women's Conference.

1998

march

PGA supports the Middle Powers Initiative for a coalition to campaign for a realistic program for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Three months later, the Foreign Ministers of Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, Slovenia, South Africa, and Sweden release a joint declaration calling on nations that have or could produce nuclear weapons to commit themselves to the elimination of such weapons and to start working toward that goal.

may

PGA's Board of Directors mandates gender balance in its membership, with neither sex to fill more than 60 percent of Board positions.

In response to increased tension resulting from the testing of nuclear devices in India and Pakistan, PGA issues an appeal, signed by 237 parliamentarians in 26 countries, calling for an independent environmental assessment and for sanctions against both India and Pakistan. The appeal also calls on the two countries to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and urges the U.S., Russia, and China to ratify the Treaty. The appeal is presented to both governments and parliaments.

july

Delegates from 120 nations meet in Rome to adopt the text of the Statute to Establish an International Criminal Court, an action hailed by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan as "a giant step forward in the march toward universal human rights and the rule of law." PGA participates in the process as a member of the steering committee of the NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court, with a delegation led by Elena Poptodorova, MP (Bulgaria).

PGA collects the signatures of 73 members from 26 countries on an appeal urging that the UN Security Council allow time for diplomatic negotiations to settle a dispute over arms inspections in Iraq. The appeal expresses the view that any military action against Iraq to force compliance requires specific authorization from the Security Council.

october

PGA's Secretary-General Ms. Shazia Rafi receives an award from the World Health-Mind-Heart Foundation for PGA's work in furthering international cooperation and understanding.

At its annual United Nations Parliamentary Forum, PGA examines existing and potential enforcement mechanisms for dealing with violations of international human rights, with special focus on the International Criminal Court.

1999

february

In collaboration with the International Criminal Justice and Weapons Control Center and the International Institute on Criminal Sciences, PGA develops technical assistance projects to help selected countries with implementation of the Rome Statute for the ICC.

Inspired by the leadership of PGA members on the issue, the parliament of Senegal votes to ratify the Rome Statute for the ICC.

april

PGA President Moses Katjuongua of Namibia and Dep. Ibrahima Fall of Senegal brief the UN Department of Political Affairs on progress toward democratization in Africa.

june

At the request of United Nations representative Dep. Ibrahima Fall, Chair of the PGA Task Force on Africa, PGA conducts an assessment mission in the Central African Republic, threatened by spillover effects from conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



PGA Conference on ICC, Madrid, Spain, June 2002
Amb. Juan Antonio Yanez-Barnuevo Garcia (Spain); **Mr. Jose Maria Michavila Nunez**, Secretary of State for Justice; **Sen. Alfredo Prada Presa**, Vice-President of the Senate (Spain); **Sen. Marcelo Lopez Arias**, Vice-President of the Senate (Argentina); **Mr. Manuel Caverro**, Secretary General of the Senate (Spain)



PGA 24th Annual Parliamentary Forum, Ottawa, Canada, November 2002
 l-r **Hon. Bill Graham**, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Canada); **Mr. Chico Francisco**, MP (Mozambique); **Mr. Lloyd Axworthy**, Director and CEO, the LIU Center; **Ms. Brigitta Almqvist**, MP (Sweden); **Senator Khariat Abdul-Razaq** (Nigeria); **Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah**, MP (Ghana), PGA President



Participants of PGA Conference on the Rule of Law in the CIS Countries, Russian State Duma, Moscow, February 2003



Hon. Theresa Ameley Tagoe, Deputy Minister of Housing and Works (Ghana); **Rep. Dennis Kucinich**, (D-OH, USA) at PGA Clean Air/Clean Water Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa, August 2002



PGA 7th Annual Defender of Democracy Award, November 2002
Amb. Lakhdar Brahimi, Special Representative for the Secretary-General for Afghanistan; **Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah**, MP (Ghana), President of PGA



PGA 7th Annual Defender of Democracy Award, November 2002
H.E. Mr. Philippe Kirsch, Ambassador of Canada to the Kingdom of Sweden; **Sen. Raynell Andreychuk** (Canada)

THE TIMELINE:

1999

july

PGA formally launches the Women in Legislation League website, an online information resource center to monitor legislative gender policy initiatives that build on the Platform for Action of the Beijing Women's Conference.

august

South Africa's Justice Department organizes a workshop focusing on ratification of the ICC Statute by states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The conference produces several documents, including a "ratification kit" drafted by a group of experts.

autumn

In cooperation with DePaul University, PGA organizes briefing sessions at the United Nations for delegates to the ICC PrepCom, coordinated by Sen. A. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada) and PGA adviser Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni.

october

At the ICC PrepCom, Ms. Shazia Rafi, Secretary-General of PGA, urges the world community, having adjusted to globalization of the economy, to adjust to the globalization of justice.

PGA begins the pilot phase of a new effort aimed at "reactivating" PGA members in the field of nuclear disarmament in support of the Middle Powers Initiative's New Agenda Coalition. PGA's Parliamentary Network for Nuclear Disarmament grows to 125 members from 45 countries.

november

PGA launches a campaign to promote prompt ratification of the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.

A PGA delegation visits the U.S. Congress and hosts a Congressional reception to mobilize US lawmakers for action on international issues.

When Pakistan's parliament is suspended after a coup d'etat, PGA circulates a Parliamentary Appeal on Restoring Democracy in Pakistan that is signed by more than 130 parliamentarians. The appeal is delivered to PGA member Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Canada), who leads a Commonwealth emergency mission to Islamabad.

Inspired by the leadership of PGA members on the issue, the parliament of Ghana unanimously votes to ratify the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.

2000

march

Building on its past peace-making initiatives in Africa's Great Lakes region and Central Africa, PGA organizes a workshop on "Parliamentary-Track Diplomacy: Peace-Building in Central Africa," to build parliamentary support for the Lusaka Peace Accords. After the workshop, its results are presented to the United Nations Security Council, Canadian Parliament, and U.S. Congress.

june

PGA formally launches the Women in Power Network, established to encourage and facilitate communication between PGA women leaders regionally and internationally.

october

Culminating in a series of workshops and other PGA-led activities, the parliament of Senegal enacts the country's first law criminalizing female genital mutilation.

november

A PGA conference on ratification of the Rome Statute, hosted by the Senate of Argentina, is held in Buenos Aires. Less than one month later, the plenary of Argentina's Lower House votes in favor of ratification.

december

PGA's Sustainable Development and Population Program sends a 15-member mission to Ghana and Mali to review PGA's population and development efforts in both countries.

At a Parliamentary Forum on Debt for Development, held in Rome, PGA maps the structure of a parliamentary network focusing on reducing the debt burden of developing countries. The Forum also proposed Debt for AIDS targeted swaps and urged bilateral and multilateral financial institutions to write off debt based on its actual instead of nominal value.



Participants of **PGA Conference on the Rule of Law in the CIS Countries**, Russian State Duma, Moscow, February 2003
 Speaker Panel: **Mr. Rogozin**, MP (Russia); **Sen. Andreychuk** (Canada); **Ms. Sliska**, First Vice-President of the Russian State Duma (Russia); **Mr. Goregljad**, First Deputy Chairperson of the Council of Russian Federation



PGA's 24th Annual Parliamentary Forum: A Parliamentary Assembly for the International Criminal Court and the Promotion of the Rule of Law, Ottawa, Canada, November, 2002



PGA 5th Annual Defender of Democracy Awards, December 2002
Dip. Stolbizer (Argentina); **Sra. Estela Barnes de Carlote**, President, Las Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo (Argentina)



PGA Assessment Mission to Cote d'Ivoire, May 2003 with Resident Coordinator **El-Mostafa Benlamlih**, Governance Counsellor **Siaka Coulibaly**.



Participants of **PGA Assessment Mission to Cote d'Ivoire**, May 2003 with PDCI parliamentary group, led by its President **Hon. Gaston Ouassenan Kone**

THE TIMELINE:

2001

february

After a political crisis in Côte d'Ivoire leads to violent clashes between police and protesters, the PGA Task Force on Peace and Democracy sends in a six-member team to "promote reconciliation." In part because of the team's efforts, a political compromise on the rules governing the municipal elections is reached, the government agrees to dismantle most of its security roadblocks, and new elections are held in March.

may

With help from the President of Namibia and other agencies, PGA organizes a Conference on ICC Ratification and Implementation in the SADC [South African Development Community] Region, in Windhoek, Namibia. One month later, one of the participants in the conference, the government of Mauritius, announces its commitment to ratifying the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.

june

PGA's Task Force on Africa sends a delegation to Tanzania after a clash between the government and opposition parties leads some parliamentary candidates to boycott an election and some of those elected to refuse to take their seats.

september

PGA distributes a parliamentary appeal resolution on the terrorist acts on September 11th.

november

PGA organizes an unprecedented roundtable discussion between parliamentarians from longtime adversaries Greece and Turkey on environmental, economic, cultural, educational, and other regional issues, seeking areas of agreement for bilateral cooperation. At the end of the discussion, held in Stockholm, the two delegations agree to develop concrete proposals for future cooperation.

2002

january

PGA's Annual Forum on E-Commerce with a Special Session on Counter-Terrorism is held in Stockholm, Sweden.

april

At a special treaty event hosted by the United Nations, 10 member states simultaneously deposit their instruments of ratification of the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court, bringing the Statute into force. PGA organizes a press briefing at the UN to reflect on the leadership role taken by PGA members in promoting the idea of the Court and the effort to make it a reality.

may

After conducting a series of regional seminars to address issues related to parliamentary peace-making and strengthening the United Nations, PGA holds a briefing for members of the UN Security Council, the members of Group of 77, and officials of UN agencies.

july

The International Criminal Court officially comes into being. Senator A. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada), Convenor of PGA's International Law and Human Rights Program, comments: "Now, thirteen years later, parliamentarians remain committed to the fight against impunity and will work to preserve the integrity of the Rome Statute and that of the UN system."

august

PGA organizes initial site visits to identified sites of water pollution in Armenia and Azerbaijan. The visits are conducted by a parliamentary facilitator and PGA consultant hosted by member parliamentarians of the bilateral roundtable discussions on watermanagement begun by PGA in January 2002.

october

During the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), held in Johannesburg, PGA, in cooperation with the government of South Africa, organizes a Parliamentary Workshop on Clean Air and Clean Water. PGA members participating in the Summit urge legislators to develop concrete legislation at the national level to accomplish the global goals advanced in the Johannesburg Action Plan and Agenda 21, adopted by the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro a decade earlier.

2003

february

Armenian and Azeri parliamentarians meet in Vienna, Austria to discuss the progress achieved and future plan of action for the continuation of PGA's watermanagement dialogues between their two countries.

april

An exploratory mission is sent to Sierra Leone by PGA's Peace and Democracy Task Force.

may

PGA hosts a strategy session on protecting the integrity of ICC that focuses on plans for implementing and assisting the work of the International Criminal Court.

september

PGA's Peace and Democracy Task Force sends missions to Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe to help resolve ongoing conflicts.

Parliamentarians for Global Action celebrates the 25th anniversary of its founding.



Dutch PGA National Group meeting, June 2001
Mr. B. Dittrich, MP; Mr. G. van Oven, MP; Ms. Shazia Rafi, PGA Secretary General; Mr. B. Koenders, MP; Dr. M. Verhagen, MP; Drs. J. Hoekema, MP



PGA Task Force Preventive Action Mission to Cote d'Ivoire meeting with PDCI Party MPs, February 2001



Swedish PGA National Group meeting, June 2001
l-r: Mr. Lennart Kollmats, MP (Sweden); Ms. Anne-Charlotte Amneus, Parliamentary Office of the Liberal Party (Sweden); Mr. Bertil Persson, MP (Sweden); Mr. Karl-Göran Biörsmark, MP (Sweden); Ms. Shazia Rafi, PGA Secretary General; Mr. Nicklas Lundblad, President, Stockholm Chamber of E-commerce, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Ann-Marie Nilsson, General Manager, IT-Företagen; Mr. Lars Hjerten, MP (Sweden); Ms. Birgitta Ahlqvist, MP (Sweden); Mr. Willy Söderdahl, MP (Sweden); Ms. Rose-Marie Frebran, MP (Sweden); Ms. Marianne Samuelsson, MP (Sweden).



PGA's Sub-Regional Seminar on Capacity Building for Parliamentary Committees on Security Issues, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, September, 2002

A CALL FOR GLOBAL SURVIVAL

AS MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT from every continent, we are speaking with one voice to convey an urgent and pressing message to the leaders of every national government.

THE SECURITY of the whole planet is threatened by an arms race that knows no parallel in human history. The existence of fifty thousand nuclear weapons with the destructive power of one million Hiroshima bombs can lead only to global catastrophe. And yet the buildup continues.

VAST RESOURCES of money and skills are diverted into armaments, while eight hundred million people live in absolute poverty. This situation is unjust and dangerous.

THERE IS a widespread feeling that the world is drifting towards nuclear war, which could begin through miscalculation, accident or terrorism. We are raising our voices together to warn that humanity today is launched on a disaster course.

WE THEREFORE make this call for global survival.

WE CALL upon the nuclear powers to seek a temporary freeze by all nations on testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and delivery systems, pending a genuine reduction in nuclear arsenals. Such a freeze is a concrete, practical step which can be taken now, without delay. We believe that, with massive overkill, each side has more than enough nuclear weapons for any rational deterrence.

A NUCLEAR FREEZE must be only a first step. As long as the threat of war itself continues, so will the threat of nuclear holocaust. We declare that the security of our citizens requires nothing less than general disarmament under a reliable global security system.

WE THEREFORE CALL for negotiations on a world treaty for simultaneous, balanced, verifiable and enforceable disarmament, which must include:

- * disarmament by all nations to the level of arms required for international security;
- * an international inspection organization able to monitor disarmament using both satellites and on-site inspection;
- * a world peace force able to enforce disarmament and prevent international aggression, the members of which should be individually recruited;
- * an effective system of world courts and arbitration tribunals;
- * a world development fund through which a fixed proportion of the resources made available through disarmament will be devoted to development in the poorest nations.

WE COMMIT ourselves to this task:

WE RECOGNIZE that the chief obstacle to disarmament and development is not technical difficulty but a lack of political will. On behalf of the millions we represent, we affirm our political will.

WE MAKE THIS APPEAL on behalf of our constituents who, whatever their culture, whatever their ideology, whatever their nationality, share one desire: the desire for life.

(This Appeal was issued in 1982 by PGA, then called Parliamentarians for World Order, and was signed by 910 parliamentarians in 55 countries.)

DEMOCRACY, MORALITY AND PEACE

“The victory of freedom over totalitarianism has put the onus on the forces of freedom not to pick and choose, but to universally and unquestionably and immediately speak out when democracy and human rights are being violated. That, I believe, is the moral imperative of the new world order.

“Democratic nations - and here Parliamentarians for Global Action can play a role - need to forge a consensus in support of the most powerful idea in the world today: the right of people to freely choose their government.

“I believe what is at stake here is not just international morality but also international peace and stability. There's a simple fact, although it's much overlooked: Democracies do not start wars with democracies. Thus, democracy is the only guarantor of international peace and stability.”

Mr. Benazir Bhutto, MP, of Pakistan

speaking at PGA's International Parliamentary Forum in 1991.

'THE OPINION OF MANKIND...'

"It was in 1984 ... that parliamentarians - democratically elected legislators from several countries - acting through Parliamentarians for Global Action, decided to take concrete action to stop all nuclear testing. ... Nuclear testing is not simply an issue for the nuclear powers. The development and proliferation of nuclear weapons threatens every nation on every continent. And a regional war could trigger a global nuclear conflict. ... "Mr. President, I have the honour today to present to you a copy of the Open Letter signed by 2,200 members of parliament from over 40 countries around the world. This bound volume conveys through us, the elected representatives of citizens around the planet, the conviction of a quarter of a billion people that nuclear testing should come to a halt within the next few years ...

Hon. Warren Allmand, MP of Canada, PGA's International President, addressing the Partial Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference at the United Nations, January, 1991.

'WE CAN LEARN FROM EACH OTHER'

"Promoting democracy, [achieving] gender balance in political spheres, good governance, [and] eradicating landmines are among the goals that are of foremost importance to the United Nations. In doing so, I need your support. You're coming as individual MPs, speaking out on issues across national and party lines. You are not hiding behind a 'group.' That's the beauty of your organization. As a Secretary-General who believes in the phrase 'We the peoples ... ' of the UN Charter, I will be open and we can learn from each other."

UN Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan to the PGA Executive Committee members, August 1, 1997

WOMEN'S PLACE

"Most ... wars are run by men, and we [women] have had very little to say about it because we have not been permitted to craft policy. ... Unless and until we actually begin to involve women seriously in decision-making and as peacemakers, there will be no change. ... Parliamentarians can play an important role, it seems to me, in making certain that women are elected to places of power, both in their legislatures and in their parliaments as well as international bodies like the United Nations."

Ms. Bella Abzug, President of the Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO), speaking at PGA's 1997 United Nations Parliamentary Forum on "Crafting Lasting Peace."

'AT THIS CHALLENGING MOMENT'

"Thank you for your ... support and solidarity ... for the Haitian people's continuing struggle to restore democracy, peace and justice to Haiti. Your vigilant work to support the creation of a climate free from fear in Haiti, in which elected officials can carry out their duties and all Haitians can enjoy their rights, is vital to Haiti's future. ... We stand by your aspirations for global democracy, and deeply appreciate your active solidarity with us at this challenging moment."

From a letter addressed to PGA from exiled Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide, November, 1993.

'CRY OUT FOR JUSTICE ...'

"The work that Global Action is doing in promoting an international criminal court and an ad hoc tribunal on Yugoslavia is, I believe, among the most important we have ever undertaken. I say this on the basis of direct first-hand experience, and with deep feeling."

"The law of the jungle is alive and well at the global level of politics. I do not know what humanity must do to lift itself up from the level of bestiality we continue to exhibit. But I do know that - so far as institutions can direct human conduct for the better - there is no greater advance that we could make, in peace and in conflict, than a tribunal which has jurisdiction over activities universally regarded as criminal under international law. The souls of the deceased ... cry out for justice in Bosnia. I know. I was there. I heard them."

Dep. Emma Bonino, (Italy), after visiting Sarajevo in January, 1993.

'NATURAL ALLIES'

"Parliamentarians for Global Action is a distinguished example [of support for the UN] ... You as parliamentarians are vital to [UN] work. You reflect the views of your people toward the United Nations. Your experience in legislation gives you a special understanding of how the United Nations works. And you inform the public and stimulate thought by debate ... You parliamentarians are the Organisation's natural allies."

Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, United Nations Secretary-General, speaking at the PGA-sponsored "Global Dialogue" Forum, November, 1992

'THE CHALLENGE OF GROWTH'

"In 1989 when I entered the Secretariat [of PGA], the organization had already made its mark in international ranks with the Six-Nation Initiative and as a recipient of the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize. But it was still comprised of a small group of individuals and not widely known. Membership stood at 400, of whom only a handful were active. And its focus remained essentially on one area of work, that of nuclear disarmament.

"With the end of the cold war and the emergence of new democracies around the world, the way was open for PGA to meet the challenge of growth, both in membership and a focus that the new era offered. In 1995 as I take my leave, membership stands at 1,200 parliamentarians and the global network focuses actively on a full range of global issues - democracy, population and sustainable development, international law and collective security, as well as nuclear and chemical disarmament.

Dr. Kennedy Graham, in his farewell statement as he stepped down as Secretary-General of PGA in 1995

'WE STAND UNITED...'

"As politicians drawn from all philosophical persuasions we have differences among ourselves over certain partisan issues. But we stand united over a higher set of principles that reflect an emerging new philosophy relevant to the politics of the age. These are:

democratic structures with free expression, and free and fair elections, in each of our countries;

- observance of the rule of law, and the pacific settlement of disputes among our countries;

- an effective UN collective security system for the prevention of conflict, or its control through the judicious use of force through the Security Council;

- an effective system for the regulation of armaments by the United Nations, including an end to the production and deployment, and the eventual elimination, of nuclear weapons from national arsenals, as the sole remaining weapons of mass destruction not prohibited in international law;

- a decent human respect for the beauty and bounty of the planet, in which the sustainable development of its resources, for an optimal global population, is consistent with environmental integrity and a concern for the interests of future generations;

- a global economy with open commercial regulations and financial stability, in which the least developed nations are assisted to a minimum standard of living based on agreed notions of social justice for all of humanity;

- a universal respect for human rights and their effective compliance by all nations, including the free exercise of the rights and responsibilities of parliamentarians.

"These 'principles of global politics' - democratic structures, the rule of law, collective security, regulation of armaments, sustainable development, economic equity and human rights - inspire Parliamentarians for Global Action in its work. We commend them...and look both for your support and cooperation in together attaining the goals for which we strive.

Sen. Silvia Hernández (Mexico), International President of PGA, 1992.

'MUCH CAN BE DONE'

"The values of peace, tolerance and democratic human rights are without peer in human society. The challenge is to bolster the likelihood of their establishment for all peoples in all corners of the globe. My parliamentary colleagues from the third world [are calling] for non-proliferation of poverty along with non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The need is self-evident. Again, working through the network of [Parliamentarians for] Global Action, with its potential for cooperative action at the legislative level, much can be done."

Congressman James A. Leach, of the US, writing in 1991.

CROSSING THE RACIAL DIVIDE

"Despite the venomous hatreds that had been engendered and nurtured by apartheid, despite the violence, most of which had been deliberately contrived to abort the birth of a new South Africa, despite the schisms that truncated black South Africa into independent tribal homelands under apartheid, the people of South Africa were able to seek and find one another across their racial divide and negotiate a dispensation acceptable to all."

Ambassador Legwaila J. Legwaila, Permanent Representative of Botswana to the United Nations, speaking at the 1997 UN Parliamentary Forum on "Crafting Lasting Peace."

'WE HAVE WAITED TOO LONG'

"True, we are a small and young organization; we have no pretensions that we alone can bring peace to a deeply divided world. But neither can we wait for some leader to appear somewhere and lead the world to peace, with collective security and social justice for all. We have waited too long. We are acting. And we are calling on the thousands and millions of people who feel as we do to act in their own way."

Sen. Douglas Roche of Canada, writing about PGA in 1983.

'THE HEARTBEAT OF DEMOCRACY'

“Parliamentarians are the heartbeat of democracy. It was a particular privilege for me to serve as Chairman of PGA’s innovative initiative of creating a UN Committee. PGA’s imaginative programs serve to reinforce my conviction that parliamentarians are key partners in building support for a truly democratic multilateral system. From all sectors of society, we need to reinforce the struggle to make the shared human values of peoples everywhere the guiding light of a world at peace with its past, sensitive to the exclusions of the present, and committed to a meaningful future for all.”

Juan Somavía, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Mission of Chile to the United Nations, on his departure from PGA's UN Committee in 1998.



Agence Intergouvernementale de la francophonie
American University
Asian Development Bank
Boehm Foundation
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Coalition for an International Criminal Court (CICC)
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