

pga parliamentarians for global action



annual report
2005

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PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES 2005

PGA 27th Annual Parliamentary Forum

November 2005

Migration, Immigration and Integration (Dublin, Ireland)

Peace and Democracy Programme

February 2005

Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (New York, NY)

July 2005

PGA Delegation to the Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (United Nations Headquarters, New York)

September 2005

PGA Delegation to the Helsinki Process Discussion on the Role of Parliamentarians in Global Governance and International Organizations (Helsinki, Finland)

International Law and Human Rights Programme

February 2005

Conference on the Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians: the Role of Legislators-Parliamentary Seminar for Arab States (Cairo, Egypt)

March 2005

PGA-Argentina Seminar on The International Criminal Court and Gender Justice (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

April 2005

PGA Sweden Meeting on the International Criminal Court: Most Recent Developments and the Role of Legislators (Sweden, Stockholm)

April 2005

The International Criminal Court and Transatlantic Relations: Round Table Discussion of the PGA Group in the European Parliament with EU Commissioner for External Relations Dr. Benita Ferrero Waldner (Strasbourg, France)

May 2005

PGA session on the ICC on the occasion of The VI General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA): special focus on the implementation of the Rome Statute (Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil)

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES 2005

May 2005

Meeting of PGA Members on the ICC and the Rule of Law (Berlin, Germany)

September 2005

Panel Discussion on Deliberating Justice and Accountability - Chicago Council on Foreign Relations
(Chicago, United States)

October/November 2005

Briefings and Consultations on the ICC to the Parliament of Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

November 2005

Visit of Legislators of PGA Japan to the ICC and other institutions in The Hague (The Hague, The Netherlands)

November 2005

Visit of Russian Legislators to the ICC and other institutions in The Hague (The Hague, The Netherlands)

November/December 2005

PGA delegation at the Assembly of States Parties of the ICC (The Hague, The Netherlands)

Sustainable Development and Population Programme

January 2005

Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia (Islamabad, Pakistan)

September 2005

Parliamentary Briefing on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want
(New York, New York)

October 2005

Steering Committee Meeting of the International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the International
Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) (Tokyo, Japan)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HON. KENNETH DZIRASAH, MP (GHANA)



The year 2005 was strategic for PGA as we embarked on new programme initiatives in addition to continuing progress on our ongoing activities. Each of PGA's programmes, Peace and Democracy, International Law and Human Rights, and Sustainable Development and Population, witnessed growth through key meetings, conferences and seminars. In addition, PGA commenced a strategic planning process to analyze the current international environment and determine the future direction of PGA's work.

In October 2005, PGA held the Strategic Planning Session at the Harvard School for Public Health which was facilitated by Professor Stephen Marks and received key input from PGA members and programme advisors. As a result of this meeting, a Strategic Plan was drafted which will serve as a working document for PGA. The Strategic Plan will be finalized in 2006 after an organizational review which will be conducted by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and a programme evaluation by the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida), two of PGA's key core donors.

The 27th Annual Forum on the issue of Migration, Immigration and Integration provided the opportunity to address a new thematic area in line with PGA's work on human rights and development. At the Forum, which took place in Dublin, Ireland, members engaged in discussions on a variety of issues related to the larger topic of migration such as economics, labor, human trafficking, integration, health, and gender. Many of these fundamental points of discussion and issues contributed to the adoption of the Dublin Declaration of Action. The Declaration incorporated concrete policy formulations aimed at improving the integration of new migrants into culturally distinct communities and enhancing adherence to relevant international conventions.

In parallel to the Forum, PGA presented the 10th Annual Defender of Democracy Award to Mrs. Mary Robinson, President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization

Initiative, former President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Mrs. Robinson was honored for her longstanding and continued work in promoting human rights, an essential foundation to democracy.

This past year, PGA's Peace and Democracy Programme explored the possibility of initiating work on addressing the illicit proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). After comprehensive research on the optimal channels for parliamentarians to take up the issue of SALW, a Strategy Session was organized in February 2005 in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations. The meeting looked at the efforts needed to curb proliferation and misuse of SALW at the national, regional and global levels. One of the direct results of the meeting led to the launch of PGA's Parliamentary Policy Initiative on SALW in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) which officially commenced in January 2006. A series of high-level regional and sub-regional seminars are planned to take place in Africa and the Commonwealth of Independent States as well as at the United Nations Headquarters. These significant developments are examples of the new ways PGA's work has progressed in recent years.

The International Law and Human Rights Programme has forged ahead regardless of a budget gap during most of 2005. There was much growth and expansion of the work undertaken in the Middle East/ North Africa region as well as several new ratifications of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) concerning Kenya, the Dominican Republic and Mexico. By December 2005, there were a total of 100 State Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC. In countries such as Bahrain, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Guatemala, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mozambique, the Russian Federation, Suriname and Turkey, the seeds are being sown to commence and advance the ICC process. These initiatives are progressing

due to the effort of both PGA members as well as other concerned MPs through the PGA ICC Campaign. One of the key features of PGA's work in these under-represented areas is to make available current comprehensive information on the ICC. In 2005, PGA played an important role in supporting the referral of the Darfur situation by the United Nations Security Council to the ICC.

The year 2005 was a fruitful year for PGA's Sustainable Development and Population Programme as it initiated a new line of work in the area of HIV/AIDS in South Asia. In January, PGA organized the first Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in Islamabad, Pakistan. There were 70 parliamentarians as well as numerous officials participating in the panels over the two-day period. Legislators from South Asia gathered for the first time in Islamabad to discuss the effects of HIV/AIDS in the region and the role of parliamentarians in addressing the pandemic.

The seminar proved to be beneficial to parliamentarians, particularly regional MPs who felt the awareness created at this initial conference should continue and expand through several strategic follow-up events. It was agreed that, in 2006, PGA would organize the Second Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in addition to a Provincial Parliamentary Seminar in Karachi, Pakistan.

In consideration of the wide-ranging meetings, seminars and conferences held over the past year in each of our three programmes, it is clear that PGA has continued to break ground in new areas while also furthering earlier goals. This year's work will provide a foundation for the projects planned in 2006. As my term as President of PGA comes to a close, I am pleased to welcome the newly elected President of PGA, Senator Alain Destexhe of Belgium, who will lead the organization in 2006.

27TH ANNUAL FORUM:

MIGRATION, IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Project Staff

Ms. Shazia Z. Rafi, *Secretary-General*

Dr. David Donat-Cattin, *Legal Advisor,
International Law and Human Rights*

Mr. Peter Barcroft, *Programme Officer,
International Law and Human Rights*

Mr. Michael Agbeko, *Director of Finance and
Administration*

Ms. Helen Vasilopoulos, *Development Officer*

Mr. Brian Kett, *Executive Officer*

On November 17-18, 2005, Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) held its 27th Annual Forum on the theme of Migration, Immigration and Integration at the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin which was hosted by the PGANational Group in Ireland, chaired by Mr. M.J. Nolan, TD (Ireland). Approximately 85 Parliamentarians from over 40 different countries participated in the 2005 Annual Forum together with representatives from several international organizations, embassies, academia and civil society. The Forum was formally opened by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, Mr. Dermot Ahearn, TD. The Speaker of the Irish Parliament, Dr. Rory O'Donohue, also presided and spoke at the opening session. PGA President, the Mr. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP (Ghana) in addition offered welcoming remarks.

The Parliamentary participants successfully identified different means of stemming the flow of human capital from countries that can least afford it, while recognizing at the same time that such migrations may improve economic growth.

As intended, through the vehicle of the Declaration of Action adopted at the Forum, participants elaborated specific and concrete policy formulations aimed at improving the integration of new migrants into culturally distinct communities and societies and enhancing adherence to relevant international conventions. More generally, the Declaration of Action of the Forum drew together the main points of agreement reached at the Forum, setting out, in precise terms, short and longer-term objectives and goals for PGA Members to pursue in this arena at national and regional levels in follow-up to the Dublin Forum (the Declaration is available on our website <http://www.pgaction.org/about.asp?id=193>).

Opening Ceremony

In his opening statement, Mr. Nolan observed that Ireland was a country which

has undergone extraordinary transformation in the past decade. The significant improvement in the economic welfare of the state has resulted in increasing numbers of individuals seeking to come and work there and indeed to make Ireland their home. He also commented that many Irish people who previously worked abroad, now wished to return home for the very same reasons. More generally, Mr. Nolan reflected on the fact that the challenges posed by migration and integration were challenging and had to be addressed in both the sending and host nations. Conflict prevention, poverty reduction, balanced and fair legislation and its implementation, proper integration, they were all part of the international migration equation. Mr. Dzirasah, recalling two recent terrorist attacks in Pakistan and Jordan (both countries represented at the Forum) called for a minute's silence in memory of the dead. He then proceeded to make the welcoming and introductory remarks.

Dr. O'Donohue noted the timeliness of having a conference on this subject-matter in Ireland, a country that had undergone a significant transformation in recent times. Dr. O'Donohue also remarked that the experiences in Ireland were not unique and many of the greatest countries in the world have benefited from the flow of workers from neighboring countries. There were many lessons to be learned from such countries. The world today is more of a contrast in stability and poverty and less developed countries has contributed to a rise in emigration trends. Many developed countries find it difficult to cope with the volume of traffic in migrant workers. In many cases the failure to respond quickly opens the door to those who choose to exploit the foreign movement.

In his keynote address, Mr. Ahearn observed that Ireland was now experiencing the forces of migration in a completely new way. Due to the economic growth of recent years it has become a major destination for migrant workers and students. Inward migration of labor is required for some years to come and there will be a continued



Participants to PGA's 27th Annual Forum on Migration, Immigration and Integration in front of Leinster House, Dublin, Ireland (November 2005)

demand for people with higher level qualifications. Ireland was in fact only one of three member states of the European Union which offered unlimited access to the labor market for migrant workers from the 10 new EU member states, immediately upon their accession to the European Union last year.

PANEL I - Migration, Immigration & Integration—General Context

The first panel was chaired by Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium), Convenor of the International Law and Human Rights Programme.

In an illuminating and at times humorous presentation, Mr. Yoshitake Kimata, MP (Japan) outlined in general terms current Japanese government policy in relation to foreign migrant workers in Japan. He signaled that Japan was adopting an increasingly open policy to foreign workers, in particular skilled ones and engineers. He made reference to the fact that a number of Japanese corporations and other prominent figures in the field of sport in Japan today are foreign nations. Having provided the participants with some key statistics, Mr. Kimata went on to highlight that the labour force in Japan was ageing. One consequence of this was a larger number of foreign young workers coming to Japan to meet the growing need for younger workers – some of whom were in the country illegally. However, Mr. Kimata signaled that Japan was not yet persuaded that this was the best way to addressing the problem of the ageing Japanese workforce.

In his intervention, Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam (Senegal) highlighted that, insofar as many are concerned, not just in Africa, but also in the European Union (EU), the problem of migration is essentially a problem of development. As long as third world countries are not developed, as long as there are no jobs, no work, the human resources of these countries would unavoidably move in order to get jobs in other countries. He lamented the inadequate/unfortunate treatment of nationals from his country that migrated to more affluent, northern countries. There was often a lack of proper infrastructure and legislation to help these people cope in their new environments.

Mr. Ibrahim Sorie, MP (Sierra Leone), at

the outset of his intervention, criticized the Government of Morocco for allowing its country to become a transit zone for West African migrants en route to Europe, who were often left to die in the Moroccan deserts. This particular comment subsequently attracted a swift rebuke from a Moroccan Parliamentarian who rejected any notion of Moroccan government negligence or collusion in these deaths. Mr. Sorie then went on to speak of recent activities of the African Union in this area which in concert with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has developed a programme called MDA, Migration for Development in Africa. The African Union is fully committed to such a programme that we can relate migration to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Mr. Sorie also devoted a considerable amount of his presentation to the pressing problem posed by the brain drain of qualified nationals from developing countries (where they were badly needed) to more prosperous countries – a problem which needed to be addressed.

PANEL II - Economic & Labour Issues in Migration – Balancing Sensitivity with Practicality

Panel II was chaired by Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria), Deputy Convenor of the Sustainable Development and Population Programme.

Dep. Orlando Fantazinni (Brazil) discussed how Parliamentarians could make the following contributions to ameliorate the overall situation in this area: presenting proposals to change domestic legislation in order to guarantee equal rights for foreigners and nationals; ratifying and approving international instruments with regards to human rights in order to expand the rights of migrants and refugees and, for example, the UN Convention on Migrant Workers; carrying out inspections and gathering information with regard to the real living conditions of migrants; by approving national plans to integrate immigrant workers with the view to encouraging companies and the labor market to recruit migrant workers; by strengthening international cooperation between countries and cooperation with the ILO and other international organizations; by carrying out regional campaigns and national campaigns to protect the rights of migrant workers; by participating



Mr. M.J. Nolan, TD (Ireland), Chair, PGA National Group and Member of the International Council



Dr. Rory O'Hanlon, TD, Ceann Comhairle (Speaker), Parliament of Ireland



Sen. Wakako Hironaka (Japan), Member, Executive Committee



H.E. Mr. Dermot Ahern, TD, Foreign Minister of Ireland



Dip. Eliana García, MP (Mexico), PGA Member



Dip. Margarita Stolbizer (Argentina), Member, Executive Committee; Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales, MP (The Philippines), Member, Executive Committee



Mr. Ross Robertson, MP (New Zealand), Chair, International Council

actively in bi-lateral and multi-lateral trade agreements, proposing free movement for people as well as for goods and by guaranteeing equal labor rights for the signatories to these agreements.

Having outlined the improving situation in Turkey, Mr. Reha Denemec, MP (Turkey), pointed out that this sharply improving economic condition reduced the incentive for Turkish citizens to leave their homes. In addition, the rate of growth of the Turkish population has fallen steadily over the last decade. However, the same could not be said for many sub-Saharan or North African countries still suffering from population growth and stagnant economies. The age old question of assimilation or self-imposed ethnic isolation remains an extremely sensitive issue. Ethnic isolation simply bred fear and misunderstanding within the immigrants and the host population.

After devoting some time to outlining the current situation in Mexico, Sen. César Jáuregui Robles (Mexico) recalled that in 1837 Texas was handed over to the U.S. because its population was greater than the Mexican population. In this connection, he observed that these paradoxes show that migration is a phenomenon which goes beyond law and needs to be considered in all its aspects, not just the economic aspects but also in terms of social movements which change borders. Remittances sent by immigrants need to be taken into account; huge amounts of money are sent annually in terms of the money sent by Mexican³ working abroad to their families and this is the second most important source of income in Mexico after oil. This is more important than tourism even, which is an important source of foreign currency in Mexico. Senator Robles lamented the fact, however, that it was difficult to defend ourselves against the huge commissions that the banks are charging for these remittances – this needs to be better regulated. It is fundamental for parliamentarians to improve conditions for the people who have had to leave their country to work elsewhere and consequently whose human rights should be respected.

Dr. Martin Ruhs of Oxford University discussed the issue of temporary migration. In this regards, he made the following significant points: (1) Temporary migration programme or for that matter, any legal immigration programme, would not work

unless there are efforts to combat irregular or illegal migration and a particular unless employer sanctions are enforced; (2) At the same time there needed to be enforcement of employment laws, minimum wages and employment conditions for all workers; (3) Granting migrants the right to change employers within certain sectors and occupations was important and (4) to maintain the general expectation of temporariness in migrant³ stay in the temporary migration programmes, there needed to be measures that facilitate and/or enforce the turn of migrants whose temporary work permits have expired and who have not upgraded to permanent resident status.

PANEL III - Forced Migration & Human Trafficking – A Continuing Reality Requiring Continued Attention

The third panel was chaired by PGAMember Dip. Margarita Stolbizer (Argentina).

Rep. Mayumi Moriyama (Japan), Former Minister of Justice, remarked that the nature and gravity of trafficking in persons required special concerted efforts both domestically and internationally to address the issue. Close cooperation between related agencies, local governments, NGOs and other private sectors are essential to preventing and prosecuting trafficking in persons and to protect the victims. Trafficking in persons, as a transnational organized crime, also requires more than just the creative response of one or two governments (unilateral or bilateral levels). The adoption of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was a great step forward at an international level. The efforts currently made by large economies such as the United States and the EU countries as well as international and regional bodies are very encouraging. Japan has also begun its efforts to strengthen measures in various areas including inter-agency cooperation and preparation for new legislation for effective prosecution.

In her presentation, Ms. Loretta Ann Rosales, MP (The Philippines) reviewed the prevailing, difficult situation in The Philippines, particularly in relation to the trafficking of women overseas. Ms. Rosales also examined the situation vis-



Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam (Senegal), Member, International Council; Mr. Ibrahim Sorie, MP (Sierra Leone), Chair, PGA National Group; Senator Alain Destexhe, MP (Belgium), Member, Executive Committee



Mr. Jeppe Kofod, MP (Denmark), PGA Treasurer; Dr. Raed Qaqish, MP (Jordan), Member, International Council; Mr. Mikhail Grishankov, MP (Russia), PGA Member

à-vis Japan and the Philippines and the need for improved legislation and action in regulating/protecting Filipina women in Japan.

PANEL IV - Migrant Integration – The Cultural Dimension

Panel IV was chaired by Ms. Lali Papiashvili, MP (Georgia), President of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

Mr. Paul de Guchteneire, Chief of Section International Migrations and Multicultural Policies Section of UNESCO, dwelt upon what UNESCO has called Migration Without Borders. He agreed that migration is the responsibility of member states, of the sovereign states, who decide who is to live on their territory or not but at the same time by its very nature migration is international. One cannot have migration without an international dimension.

Dip. Minou Tarez Mirabal (Dominican Republic) similarly provided an enlightening presentation on the experience of Dominican nationals settling in the United States. Dip. Tarez Mirabal also highlighted the ongoing controversy in her country in relation to the continuing refusal to grant citizenship rights to Haitians resident in the Dominican Republic. This was due to the fact that the Constitution, as currently drafted, only allows citizenship on the basis of birth and not blood (*solus sanguinis*). The Dominican Republic has been subject to some international criticism as a result.

Dip. Eliana Garcia (Mexico) also discussed the experience of Mexican migrants making a new life for themselves in the US and the challenges posed by integration. In

particular she expanded on her belief that the NAFTA Agreement between the US, Mexico and Canada had failed to bring about the much needed changes that were sought; the brain drain continues and a very large number of undocumented Mexicans live and work in sub-optimal conditions in the United States. Dip. Garcia also drew attention to the disturbing number of deaths that have occurred in recent times in connection with failed attempts to cross into the United States or stay there. In this regard, she also pointed out that it is not only Mexican nationals that are involved in loss of life, but also nationals of other countries, including Brazil.

The Ambassador of France, H.E. Mr. Frederic Grasset provided a passionate and unapologetic defense of French Government policy in connection with the recent migrant/ethnic disturbances in different urban areas around France. The main part of his intervention dwelt on the fact that the majority of individuals seeking to migrate to France each year do so for non-economic reasons. They do so in order to reunite with their families. The French Government has taken a pro-active and positive stance on this trend. Ambassador Grasset also highlighted that we should not become completely consumed by statistics/figures. The issue of the cultural and social values which new immigrants have chosen was one that should not be neglected.

On the other hand, Mr. Miguel Portas, MEP (Portugal) took the view that events of recent weeks in Paris and around France were not really indicative of an immigration problem as such. It had more to do with second and third generation French people, presumably an assessment that the problem was more deeply rooted within existing

society rather than being attributable to new immigrant/migrant waves. Mr. Portas in addition drew attention to the gap between what France and other European States promised to new immigrants and what they actually delivered. The majority of Mr. Portas's presentation was given over to education and immigrant children. Immigrant children, be they legal or illegal, should have a right to education in Europe. Member States should get rid of all the administrative barriers to this right to education. The possibility of allowing immigrant children to be educated in their own language could and should also be explored on a limited basis.

Professor P. MacÉinrí of the National University of Ireland in Cork, commented that the problem facing countries which are new countries of immigration like Ireland, is that if they do not act correctly as politicians and as societies, then the default model becomes assimilation. The problem here is that there is an expectation that immigrants will make all the adjustments and all of the changes themselves when they come here as immigrants and there is insufficient expectation that the mainstream members of society make any changes on their part. Professor MacÉinrí also spoke of the need to better protect new migrant employees from cynical employers, seeking to abuse their vulnerable position in society.

PANEL V - Migration and Immigration in a post 9/11 World

PGA Treasurer, Mr. Jeppe Kofod, MP (Denmark), chaired the fifth panel.

Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan) in his presentation decried the current over-zealous immigration enforcement measures

in the United States, as he perceived them to be. In particular he felt that the sort of profiling and certain other measures being taken in the name of security was objectionable – he himself had been on the receiving end of this experience in recent travel to the United States.

In his presentation, Mr. Danny Toma, Consular Chief from the US Embassy, addressed the fact that in any discussion on immigration, there is a failure to acknowledge the extra-ordinary diversity of migration into the United States over the past 30 years, many in new cities and communities, and including after 9/11. He noted that the US policy of □Open Doors, Secure Borders□ was of course a challenging one to the extent that to some extent the two might be mutually exclusive, but that the US was working hard to try and identify the right balance so as to achieve both objectives. Mr. Toma also pointed out that when he had served as a Diplomat in the Middle East, he too was often pulled aside by immigration officials upon his return to the United States. He cited this as evidence that the reason why individuals are treated to this sometimes unpleasant treatment is not just because of nationality, but because of a whole host of other considerations.

Dr. Ra-Ed Qaqish, MP (Jordan) recalled the recent terrorist attack in Jordan in the context of the discussion on terrorism. He advanced an enlightened approach for diffusing some of the problems associated with immigration and terrorism - free education for the young, equal opportunities for the young to study at universities, knowledge-based cultures (culture based on civic education, culture based on integration between Muslims, Christians, and other cultures and other religions) and empowerment of youth and women, enhancement of multicultural-multiregional aspects and alteration of discriminatory laws.

Mr. Mikhail Grishnikov, MP (Russian Federation) reflected on the need to curb illegal immigration to the extent that the linkage between illegal immigration and crime has been established. He also expounded further on the need for harmonization of laws between different countries to avoid double standards.

A representative from Human Rights First, Ms. Eleanor Acer, made a number

of recommendations in her presentation including the need to assess immigration proposals very carefully. She emphasized the importance of looking closely at what is the real connection to security and the impact on the individual. Very often there are discussions on the need to balance human rights and security, with the implication being that somehow there is an imbalance and somehow human rights were preventing us from securing our nations. Very often, human rights and security are not inconsistent in any way. Instead the impediments are often impediments such as resources or bureaucracy or politics itself. Ms. Acer also stressed as an important recommendation that the need to stand firm on compliance with international human rights law and standards.

PANEL VI - Health and Gender in International Migration

This panel was chaired by Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan), head of the PGA National Group and member of PGA's International Council.

The Minister for Overseas Aid, Mr. Conor Lenihan, TD (Ireland) addressed the global HIV/AIDS pandemic and the need for the donor community to do more. Donor countries have the responsibility to look at the whole issue, not just governance in isolation, but also the interconnected and related issues of human rights and gender. It was no accident that 60% of those who are suffering from AIDS are women in Africa, but unfortunately there was a perception that this fact has been slow to impact with politicians in this part of the world.

Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP (Bangladesh) observed that migration was usually accompanied by a disruption of family life, separation from family and socio-cultural norms, isolation and loneliness and a sense of anonymity that offers more sexual freedom, which partly promotes or more generally makes migrants more vulnerable to adopting high risk behavior. The ideal migrant worker was supposed to earn money to send home, remain loyal to his wife and family during his stay abroad, and have no sexual needs. For female migrants there were double moral standards – expectations of them that might not necessarily be expected of men in their place. Mr. Swapon thereby highlighted that it was obvious that the ability of the



Mr. Conor Lenihan, TD (Ireland), Minister of State; Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP (Bangladesh), Member; Mr. Khalifa Sall, MP (Senegal), Chair, PGA National Group



Sen. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada), Convenor of the Sustainable Development and Population Programme

ideal migrant worker would be in conflict with the real identities of persons with human needs.

Mr. Cheik Sall, MP (Senegal) observed that in the world, women constitute about half of the population of migrants as are in the population in general and 60% of the women are in charge of families in countries where migration occurs. Africa was a good example to look at as so many there had been displaced by wars. Forced migration could happen because of dreadful situations and because families who had moved around are very vulnerable to a number of diseases because there often was a lack of access to proper hygiene for such families.

Mr. Joseph Kaïndoh, MP (Sierra Leone) devoted much of his presentation to the global scourge of HIV/AIDS. He asked rhetorically "Where do we have the balance of equation of migration and integration when globalization policies and their implementation seem to benefit only the strong. Women and children are suffering. When your husband dies because of HIV/AIDS infection the surviving family suffers. The stigma and trauma can be unbearable. In order to have control of a wild lion it must be caught and caged at the cub stage. HIV/AIDS is a monster and it is no longer in its cub stage. It is now a quarter of a century old. How can we tame it? Can we tame it?" He believed it could be done by building safety nets around children, by which he clarified increasing awareness of the disease among children. Mr. Kaïndoh then discussed the issue of displacement of peoples from Sierra Leone into Liberia and Guinea during the civil war in Sierra Leone

between 1995 and 1999. He also noted the presence of a large number of displaced Liberian nationals on Liberian soil. Against this background, addressing the issue of HIV/AIDS took on a real importance.

Mr. Alhaji Buya Kamara, MP (Sierra Leone) observed that migrant populations, especially women and children, are particularly vulnerable to health risks, notably HIV infection and other communicable diseases. The two are linked by the conditions of the structure of the migration process including poverty, discrimination, and gender inequality. Migrants are also targets of infection due to the lack of access to preventative as well as curative health services, and to social protection and education. They often face discriminatory health screening upon entering into countries and have limited rights in host countries, especially when they are in irregular situations. Trafficked women and girls face many reproductive health risks including unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions, pelvic inflammatory diseases, infertility, and the potential for cervical cancer. The majority of migrant women earn low wages, work long hours and have little or no job security or rights to social benefits. They are frequently unaware of their rights and obligations and hesitate to lodge formal complaints against employers or others, preferring to suffer harassment and violence. Despite these difficulties and constraints, many migrant women have become financially independent. For example, in Asia and Africa women now make up a large percentage of expatriates working abroad, most living with their families and providing for those who stayed behind.

PANEL VII – Declaration Drafting Session

The drafting session was chaired by Sen. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada), PGA Executive Committee member and Convenor of the Sustainable Development and Population Programme. The Declaration of Action was adopted by the Parliamentary Participants in this event at the end of Annual Forum. The Declaration, inter alia, observed that the growth of migration is, among other reasons, the result of economic policies which have elevated poverty levels, increased marginalization, contributed to social exclusion and heightened unemployment. In the Declaration, Parliamentarians undertook to take a number of steps, including the formulation and implementation of policies aimed at poverty reduction and employment generation and conflict prevention generally in recognition of the fact that poverty and conflict are often catalysts leading directly and indirectly to large-scale displacement of peoples and forced migration. They also endeavored to persuade national Governments to sign and become party to international treaties requiring just treatment of migrants and which facilitate their social integration, including international agreements which seek to protect the cultural rights and cultural identities of migrants.

TENTH ANNUAL DEFENDER OF DEMOCRACY AWARDS DINNER

In parallel with the 27th Annual Forum, PGA and the National Group of Ireland awarded the Defender of Democracy Award to Mrs. Mary Robinson, President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, former President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The awards dinner took place on November 17th, 2005 at Leinster House. Mrs. Robinson was honored for her longstanding and continued work in promoting human rights, an essential foundation to democracy.

Since 1996, PGA has held its annual Defender of Democracy Awards in conjunction with its Annual Parliamentary Forum. The Defender of Democracy Award honours those individuals who have defended the principles of peace, democracy and justice around the world.



Mrs. Mary Robinson at the Defender of Democracy Awards dinner

PEACE AND DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME

Convenor

Mr. Kent Olsson, MP (Sweden)

Deputy Convenors

Ms. Fatime Nagdee-Hajaj, MP (South Africa)

Programme Advisors

H.E. Ms. Kristina Svensson, *Ambassador of Sweden to Zimbabwe*

Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, *Executive Secretary, ECOWAS*

Amb. Olara Otunnu, *Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict*

Amb. Ould Abdallah, *Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa*

Amb. Aldo Ajello, *Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, European Union*

Programme Staff

Ms. Nebiyat Woldemichael, *Senior Programme Officer (through June 2005)*

Mr. Peter Barcroft, *Programme Officer*

Mr. Michael Kauder, *Consultant*

Dr. Chris Landsberg, *Consultant*

Mr. Gilbert Martin, *Consultant*

The activities of PGA's Peace and Democracy Programme are at all times informed and guided by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In the context of PGA's increasingly important work in the area of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) control, PGA, together with the major stakeholders involved in this area, believes there is an inextricable linkage between better SALW regulation and control on the one hand and the eradication of poverty and enhanced development on the other. Inadequate regulation and control over the flow of SALW contributes to and extends conflict, exacerbates existing poverty, frequently adversely affects women disproportionately and, in general, insidiously impedes the pace of development in such countries. It is self-evident, therefore, that inadequately addressing the issue of SALW proliferation, in particular in Africa, will directly and negatively impact on the ability to deliver on a number of the most important Millennium Development Goals.

The Peace and Democracy Programme underwent a certain metamorphosis in early 2005 gravitating more fully into the area of SALW regulation and control. Members of PGA participating in human security regional seminars and workshops organized by PGA in recent years have expressly acknowledged and called for greater parliamentary attention in this area. As a result, and in the lead-up to the Second United Nations Biennial Meeting in

New York to review progress made on the UN Programme of Action on Combating, Preventing and Eradicating Trade in Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, PGA discussed how legislators could better address the illicit proliferation of SALW. PGA researched ongoing and proposed efforts at national, regional and global levels to address SALW proliferation and misuse. PGA also contacted and met with UN agencies, government representatives and NGOs to explore different perspectives on the problem and ways that legislators can address the issue. This in turn led to PGA's Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons which took place on February 25, 2005 at the Permanent Mission of Japan in New York. Speakers at the meeting included Ms. Rachel Stohl, Senior Analyst at the Center for Defense Information, Ms. Diana Cipollone, Political Affairs Officer at the UN Department of Disarmament Affairs (UN DDA) and Mr. Paul Nuti, Director, External, International and Government Relations Department, American Anthropological Association, and former PGA staff member.

In her presentation, Ms. Rachel Stohl explained that presently, the weapons used in the majority of the world's conflicts and casualties are caused by SALW. These weapons are very popular and accessible because they are low in cost, portable, easily concealable, transferable from one conflict to another and highly lethal. The



The Helsinki Process, Helsinki, Finland (September 2005): Left - Mr. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP (Ghana), PGA President; Middle - Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen, MP (Finland), PGA Member

PGA delegation to the Conference on Global Democracy: Civil Society, Visions and Strategies, Montreal, Canada (May-June 2005): Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan), Chair, PGA National Group; Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam (Senegal), Member, International Council



legal trade in SALW is estimated to be at \$4 billion and the illegal trade is estimated at \$1 billion.

Ms. Stohl defined the “legal trade” as complying with international law and the national laws of both exporting and importing states. Most weapons are at first purchased legally, however, all illegal transfers occur as a result of the weakness, neglect, corruption or collusion of states. Ms. Stohl remarked that there is a lack of political will to address the problem. Although many states are interested in addressing illicit small arms transfers, they also have competing priorities. In the past few years, the war on terror has made SALW less of a priority. She stated that when governments do choose to act together, they usually only try to address illicit small arms as narrowly defined. She outlined the problems in the international system that contribute to the problem of proliferation of SALW. In terms of response, action is necessary at the national, regional and global levels. Three categories of action are: controlling supply, controlling demand (including local communities), and addressing excessive stockpiles (secure storage/destruction).

Ms. Stohl suggested that PGA Members can work to implement the UN Programme of Action (PoA) on Small Arms and Light Weapons at the national level, ratify the Organization of American States (OAS) Firearms Convention in the region, national Parliaments, and discuss the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in Parliaments.

Ms. Diana Cipollone outlined where there is consensus on the technical aspects of an international instrument: for marking and tracing and on the lack of consensus on the nature of the instrument, whether it will be politically binding or legally binding, on inclusion of ammunition and marking at the time of import. Ms. Cipollone concluded by stating that parliamentarians can study the root causes of SALW proliferation and armed violence, put more emphasis on peace education, pass laws regarding minors and guns, and reform laws for young criminals (juvenile detention). PGA, in her view, could also sensitize MPs on the UN Programme of Action.

Mr. Paul Nuti spoke on PGA's strategic niche. He explained that PGA has issue versatility in membership, which appeals

to international activists members of parliament around the world, appeals to multiple allied constituencies and its sheer political strength.

Participants from Permanent Missions to the UN, UN staff, NGO representatives and a representative from the office of Rep. Donald Payne (United States) exchanged views in the discussion session that followed the presentations. The outcome of the meeting was the development of PGA's Parliamentary Policy Initiative on SALW where PGA, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) during the course of 2006 will facilitate a series of high level regional/sub-regional seminars in West Africa and the Commonwealth of Independent States on addressing the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons. The goal of these meetings is to generate increased political will and commitment among legislators to improve national and regional policy aimed at more effectively controlling the transfer, stockpiling and, where appropriate, destruction of small arms and light weapons, and minimizing civilian demand for these weapons.

The Helsinki Process

PGA sent a delegation composed of Mr. Kenneth Dzirasah (Ghana), and PGA's Programme Officer to the Helsinki Conference: Mobilizing Political Will which took place September 2005. Mr. Dzirasah participated actively in a Round Table discussion on the important legitimizing effect of engaging Parliamentarians in all discussions on conflict prevention. PGA's Senior Programme Officer presented on mobilizing political will internationally to better regulate small arms flows.

The Helsinki Conference 2005 was a multi-stakeholder dialogue and networking event for addressing the challenge of making ambitious targets of the world community a reality. As the finale of the Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy, the Helsinki Conference 2005 sought to mobilize political will. Representatives of civil society, government, the corporate sector, academia and media were invited to come together to build commitment for the implementation of needed steps towards a safer, more just and democratic world.



Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, New York, NY (February 2005)



Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, New York, NY (February 2005)



Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, New York, NY (February 2005)

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME

Convenor

Senator Alain Destexhe (Belgium)

Deputy Convenor

Ms. Loretta Ann Rosales, MP (The Philippines)

Programme Advisors

Prof. Cherif Bassiouni, *International Human Rights Law Institute, DePaul University, Chicago*

Prof. Bruce Broomhall, *University of Quebec in Montreal, Faculty of Law*

Mr. Richard Dicker, *Legal Counsel, Human Rights Watch*

Mr. Christopher Hall, *Legal Advisor, Amnesty International*

Mr. William R. Pace, *Convenor, Coalition for an International Criminal Court (CICC)*

Former Programme Advisor

H.E. Judge Philippe Kirsch (Canada), *President, International Criminal Court*

Programme Staff

Dr. David Donat-Cattin, *Legal Advisor*

Mr. Peter Barcroft, *Programme Officer*

Ms. Samar Al-Bulushi, *Programme Associate (through July 2005)*

Ms. Yulia Shirokova, *Consultant*

Ms. Deborah Ruiz Verduzco, *Consultant*



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Dr. Mona Makram Ebeid, American University in Cairo; Ms. Emma Bonino, MEP (Italy)

In 2005, the focus of the PGA International Law and Human Rights Programme was on international criminal justice, namely, the PGA campaign for a universal, effective and independent International Criminal Court (PGA ICC Campaign). The primary goal of the PGA ICC Campaign is to ensure respect for the rule of law and human rights by promoting ratification and compliance with the Rome Statute of the ICC by engaging key parliamentarians on the universal ratification and the effective implementation within domestic legal orders of the provisions of the Rome Statute. As of December 30, 2005, PGA Members contributed to the process of ratification or accession to the Rome Statute in 57 out of 100 States Parties to the Statute.

The ICC, the Rule of Law and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals

The ICC has jurisdiction over the most serious crimes of international concern, which include the gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law that arise to the level of crimes against humanity, genocide or war crimes under the Rome Statute of the ICC. The ICC system, comprised of national jurisdictions and the international criminal jurisdiction, is aimed at putting an end to the impunity for such crimes. Fighting impunity is one of the essential prerequisites for peace, stability and predictability under the Rule of Law in a given country. Without a minimum level of peace, stability and predictability under the Rule of Law, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) may not be achieved as sustainable development policies may not be credibly implemented (e.g. in conflict situations or under repressive violent regimes). Effective development policies require a legal framework of stability and certainty for public and private investment, including procedures on accountability and transparency guaranteed by an independent judiciary. The ICC provides a model of

quality of justice and independent exercise of judicial functions that may have spill-over effect on law reform in national systems worldwide. Membership in the ICC system is, therefore, viewed by legislators as an improvement for the Rule of Law, which is a precondition for the realization of the MDGs, starting with poverty eradication.

Achievements: Promoting the Ratification of the ICC Statute

In continuity with the work carried out in the previous five years, PGA Members exercised leadership to promote the International Criminal Court (ICC) at local, national and international levels. The contributions of PGAMembers led to several new ratifications of the Rome Statute, such as in the very significant cases of Kenya, the Dominican Republic and Mexico, which brought the total number of States Parties to the Statute of the ICC to 100. As high level Court officials have noted, without the leadership displayed by PGA Parliamentarians in these three countries, they would have not been ready and able to join the new system of international criminal justice in 2005. In particular, the 100th ratification of the Rome Statute by Mexico was largely due to continued multi-party actions in support of the ICC generated by PGA Members led by Sen. Cesar Jauregui, Vice-President of the Senate, and PGA International Council Member Dip. Eliana Garcia Laguna. Mexican Legislators managed to overcome almost three years of blockage in the Mexican parliamentary and policy-making processes on the ICC.

PGA Members contributed to the advancement or the commencement of the ICC process in several other countries, including, but not limited to: Bahrain, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Guatemala, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mozambique, The Russian Federation, Suriname, and Turkey. Additionally, the PGA staff cooperated

with NGOs and Government officials of Madagascar to advance the ratification process in that country, the Parliament of which approved the ICC ratification bill in December 2005.

Achievements: Working to Implement the ICC Statute into National Laws

PGA Members also worked on the implementation of the ICC Statute in the national legal order as in the cases of Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria and the Dominican Republic. PGA Members promoted the implementation process and generated political will on the need to reform various national laws in many countries, including States that are not yet Parties to the Rome Statute (such as Chile, Czech Republic, Mozambique, Russian Federation and Turkey) and States Parties that have not yet implemented the Statute into the national system (including Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Paraguay, Tanzania and Uruguay).

In essence, PGA's work on the ICC contributed to the mobilization of legislative support for the ICC in various ways:

- *in states that did not yet ratify: promoting ratification or accession;*
- *in States Parties to the Statute where there was not yet effective implementing legislation: promoting the enactment of such legislation*
- *in all concerned States: protecting the integrity of the Rome Statute.*

Calendar of Activities and Result-Oriented Actions

As detailed in the 2005 calendar of activities (http://www.pgaction.org/prog_inte_past.asp), actions were planned and carried out on a country-by-country basis, including briefings, updates, outreach by way of memos and follow-up consultations, peer-to-peer parliamentary meetings, study sessions and national level seminars. Ownership on the ICC dossier has been achieved in a number of country-specific situations, in which PGA Members took the unprecedented initiative to propose their country's membership in the new system of international criminal justice (e.g. in Malaysia, Japan and Turkey).

The most important focus of the PGA ICC campaign has been on under-represented regions/sub-regions (Asia, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), North Africa/

Middle East) in the ICC system: MPs from these regions received from PGA up-to-date information on the ICC and analysis of national procedures necessary for ratification and implementation, with particular attention to constitutional issues or other major potential obstacles. PGA members identified specific strategies to involve both majority and opposition MPs, conveying a message that support for the ICC is in the national interest of the government and of all people. The main vehicle to give effect to this strategy in 2005 was, on one side, the realization of a number of events, on the other the delivery of one-on-one communications, updates and expertise made available by the PGA staff to PGA Members, which triggered peer-to-peer dialogues among MPs, initiatives vis-à-vis the relevant Government on the ICC dossier and also increased awareness and support for the new system of international criminal justice at the national political level.

One of the most fruitful strategies adopted by the Law Programme has been to organize visits of Parliamentarians to the ICC premises and other major institutions in The Hague. In November, a delegation of Japanese MPs visited the Court, comprising of Sen. Tadashi Inuzuka, who was subsequently elected Board Member of PGA, and Rep. Mayumi Moriyama, Former Minister of Justice, who accepted the role of Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of the PGA's 28th Annual Forum on Human Security and the ICC which will take place in 2006.

In December, PGA organized a delegation of Russian Legislators led by Mr. Mikhail Grishankov, MP, President of the Anti-Corruption Committee of the Duma, newly elected Member of the PGA Board. In addition to the visits paid to judicial institutions based in The Hague, the Russian delegation attended the opening session of the IV Assembly of States Parties (ASP) of the ICC, on the occasion of which PGA hosted a Panel Discussion on The Role of Parliamentarians in the ICC Process. The Panel was opened by PGA Law Programme Convenor, Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium), and by the ASP President, Ambassador Bruno Stagno of Costa Rica, who praised the work of PGA in building a global coalition of legislators in support of international justice.

The Case of Darfur

One specific international initiative was undertaken by PGA with respect to the



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Mr. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP (Ghana), PGA President and Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni, DePaul University, Chicago, United States and PGA Programme Advisor



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Dr. Amin Mobarak, MP (Egypt), PGA Member; H.E. Ms. Amat Al-Aleem Al-Soswa (Yemen) Minister of Human Rights; H.E. Dr. Ahmad Fathi Sorour, MP (Egypt) Speaker of the People's Assembly



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Sen. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada), Member, Executive Committee; Dr. Mohamed Saleh, MP (Egypt), Chair, PGA National Group; Dr. Ra'ed K. Qaqish, MP (Jordan), Member, International Council



Participants to the conference on the Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians: The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005)



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium), Member, Executive Committee and Convenor, International Law and Human Rights Programme; H.E. Tahani El-Gibali, Judge, Supreme Court of Egypt



Deliberating Justice and Accountability - International Tribunals and the International Criminal Court, Chicago, Illinois (September 2005): Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni, DePaul University; Prof. Bartram Brown, Chicago-Kent College of Law; Mr. Mike Gapes, MP (United Kingdom), PGA Member



The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians - The Role of Legislators, Cairo, Egypt (February 2005): Dr. Nihal Fahmy, American University in Cairo; Mr. Antonio Vigilante, Resident Representative, UNDP Egypt

treatment of the Darfur dossier by the United Nations Security Council. With the leadership of Sen. Destexhe and the active contribution of PGA Treasurer, Mr. Jeppe Kofod, MP (Denmark) PGA supported the referral of the Darfur situation by the Security Council to the ICC. In January and February 2005, PGA Members and Staff held several meetings with Representatives of States and international organizations at the UN, including the Ambassador of the European Union to the UN, Mr. John Richardson. On March 31, 2005, PGA welcomed the historic decision of the Council to refer the Darfur dossier to the Court, and issued one of the first commentaries on Resolution 1593. PGA Members are now engaged in monitoring the developments stemming from that referral, which was not opposed by the US delegation.

The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians

PGA organised an event that expanded the scope of the International Law and Human Rights Programme to the promotion of the Rule of Law, with particular focus on reinforcing the political and legal tools to protect undefended civilians in times of peace and in times of war. On February 9-10, PGA held a major regional parliamentary conference for MPs of the Middle East and the Mediterranean entitled The Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians: The Role of Legislators. Opened by the Speaker the People's Assembly and Vice-President of Egypt, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Fathi Sorour, and by the Yemeni Minister of Human Rights, H.E. Amat Al-Aleem Al-Soswa, the conference was accompanied by a strategy meeting of a newly established PGA Working Group on the ICC in the region. The Conference led to the adoption of the Cairo Declaration on the Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians,

in which participants pledged to ensure that their respective national systems comply at all time with international obligations. The decision to create a regional parliamentary working group on the ICC demonstrated their concrete commitment to remain engaged on the issue and to raise awareness and support for the Court at the national level.

Join and support the PGA ICC Campaign

For more information on what Parliamentarians can do for international justice and the Rule of Law, please visit our website for the updated **Parliamentary KIT on the ICC**, http://www.pgaction.org/prog_inte.asp. PGA members have relied on the KIT during parliamentary discussions on the ICC at the national level (i.e. Argentina, Egypt, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Kingdom), and it has been widely utilized by other entities working with MPs, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in West African Francophone countries and Latin-American NGOs.

The PGA ICC Campaign received funding-support through February 2005 from various donors, including a major grant from the European Commission. In 2005, the PGA ICC Campaign received support from the governments of Belgium, The Netherlands and Switzerland. After a funding gap of eight months, the European Commission – which underwent an internal restructuring of its EuropeAid Cooperation Office – renewed and increased the support for the PGA ICC Campaign beginning November 1, 2005.



Deliberating Justice and Accountability – Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, Chicago, Illinois (September 2005): Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium), Member, Executive Committee; Ms. Shazia Z. Rafi, Secretary General, PGA



Mexico becomes the 100th State Party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court



Kenya becomes the 98th State Party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

PGA MEMBERSHIP / ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP PARLIAMENTS

North Africa and the Middle East

Algeria
Egypt*
Israel
Jordan
Morocco
Tunisia
Yemen

The Americas

Caribbean
Barbados
Dominican Republic
Jamaica
Trinidad and Tobago

Central America

Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Mexico
Panama

Northern America

Canada*
United States

Europe

East/Central Europe, CIS and Russian Federation
Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Estonia
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Georgia
Hungary
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Republic of Moldova

Romania
Russian Federation
Slovenia
Turkey
Ukraine

Regional Parliaments

European Parliament*
ECOWAS Parliament

South America

Argentina*
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
Uruguay
Venezuela

South Pacific

Australia
New Zealand*
Western Samoa

Southeast/South Asia and Pacific

Bangladesh
Cambodia
India*
Indonesia
Japan*
Malaysia
Maldives
Pakistan*
Philippines
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand

Sub-Saharan Africa

Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon

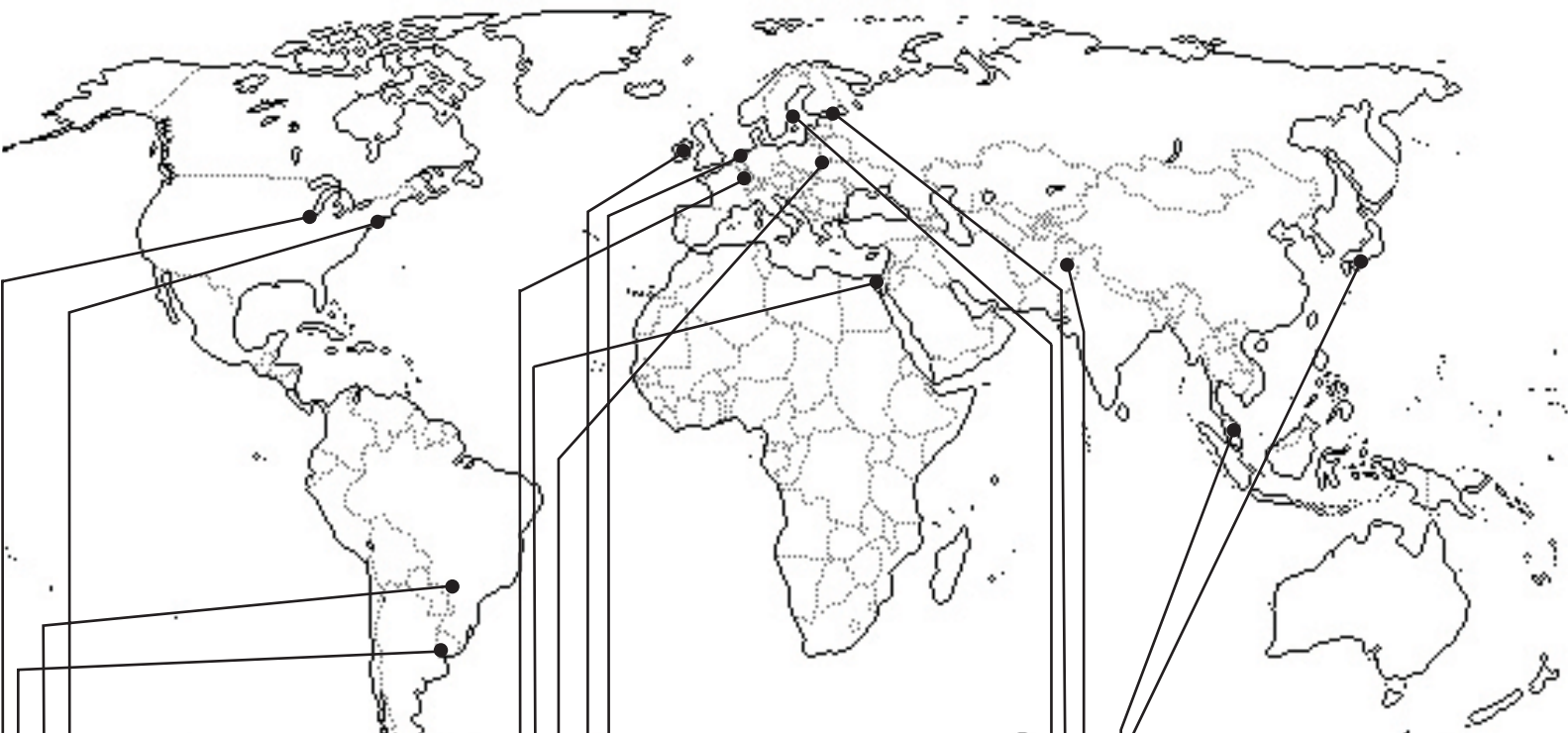
Cape Verde
Chad
Cote d'Ivoire*
Ethiopia
Ghana
Guinea
Kenya
Mali*
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria*
Senegal*
Seychelles
Sierra Leone*
South Africa
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

West Europe

Austria
Belgium
Denmark*
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Iceland
Ireland*
Italy
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
Spain
Sweden*
Switzerland*
United Kingdom*

*denotes multi-party PGA National Groups

PGA ACTIVITIES WORLDWIDE



New York, NY

Strategy Session on Addressing the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (February 2005)

PGA Delegation to the Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (July 2005)

Parliamentary Briefing on the Millennium Development Goals and Freedom from Want (September 2005)

Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

PGA session on the ICC: The VI General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA): implementation of the Rome Statute (May 2005)

Buenos Aires, Argentina

PGA-Argentina Seminar on The International Criminal Court and Gender Justice (March 2005)

Chicago, United States

Panel Discussion on Deliberating Justice and Accountability: International Tribunals and the International Criminal Court (September 2005)

The Hague, Netherlands

Visit of Legislators of PGA Japan to the ICC and other institutions in The Hague (November 2005)

Visit of Russian Legislators to the ICC and other institutions in The Hague (November 2005)

PGA delegation at the Assembly of States Parties of the ICC (November/December 2005)

Dublin, Ireland

PGA's 27th Annual Forum: Migration, Immigration and Integration (November 2005)

Berlin, Germany

Meeting of PGA Members on the ICC and the Rule of Law (May 2005)

Cairo, Egypt

Conference on the Rule of Law and the Protection of Civilians: the Role of Legislators (February 2005)

Strasbourg, France

The International Criminal Court and Transatlantic Relations: Round Table Discussion of the PGA Group in the European Parliament with EU Commissioner for External Relations Dr. Benita Ferrero Waldner (April 2005)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Briefings and Consultations on the ICC to the Parliament of Malaysia (October/November 2005)

Tokyo, Japan

Steering Committee Meeting of the International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) (October 2005)

Islamabad, Pakistan

Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia (January 2005)

Helsinki, Finland

PGA Delegation to the Helsinki Process Discussion on the Role of Parliamentarians in Global Governance and International Organizations (September 2005)

Stockholm, Sweden

PGA Sweden Meeting on the International Criminal Court: Most Recent Developments and the Role of Legislators (April 2005)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION PROGRAMME

Convenor

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Deputy Convenors

Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria)

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Dr. Steven Sinding, President, *International Planned Parenthood Federation*

Mr. Jacob Scherr, Director, *International Programmes, Natural Resources Defense Council*

Programme Staff

Ms. Anna Gekht, *Programme Officer (through July 2005)*

Ms. Camellia Rodríguez-SackByrne, *Programme Officer (from August 2005)*

Mr. Michael Agbeko, *Director of Finance and Administration*

Ms. Sarah Hyde, *Consultant*

Prof. Elliot Tepper, *Consultant*



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005): Dr. Nafis Sadik, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific; Mr. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP (Ghana), PGA President; H.E. Mr. Shaukat Aziz, Prime Minister of Pakistan; Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan), Chair, PGA National Group; Hon. Muhammad Nasir Khan, Federal Minister of Health (Pakistan)

Entering a new phase

In 2005, PGA's Sustainable Development and Population Programme (SDP) began a new and exciting phase of work in HIV/AIDS policy in South Asia, complementing its ongoing effort to raise awareness and implement the commitments on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as set forth in the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action. As in recent years, PGA's work in 2005 aimed to build the capacity of parliamentarians to meet constituent needs and advance the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Ottawa and Strasbourg Statements of Commitment from the International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development, (IPCI-ICPD).

The HIV/AIDS project in South Asia addresses SDP's priority area in communicable and infectious diseases and was launched in Islamabad, Pakistan with the first Sub-Regional Seminar on HIV/AIDS under the leadership of PGA members Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, and Mr. Naveed Qamar.

Foreseeing and meeting needs

There are over 7.1 million people living with HIV in South and South-East Asia. While South Asian countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka typically have low HIV prevalence rates, they are considered high-risk countries for several reasons. These countries lack the infrastructure to address an epidemic like HIV/AIDS without draining the health system and despite low prevalence rates the number of cases could be high in areas. In addition, factors such as migration put upward pressure on incidence rates. India has the world's second largest HIV-positive

population (5.1 million infections) and with trans-border migration there is the risk that HIV will spread more rapidly to the populations of neighboring countries. South Asia, Cambodia, Uganda, Senegal, Brazil and Thailand successfully mounted large-scale prevention programmes paving the way and demonstrating the positive role for parliamentarians in the South Asian sub-region.

Advancing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

PGA's new HIV/AIDS South Asia project targets MDG goal #6: combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases with the objective to halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015. The project supports the achievement of MDG goal #3: promote gender equality and empower women, and goal #5: improve maternal health. In 2005, PGA focused on HIV/AIDS prevention and increasing support for the care and treatment of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) in the sub-region. PGA's project has sought to mobilize members to 1) allocate resources for prevention, and comprehensive care and treatment; 2) introduce bills/resolutions, promote and/or pass needed AIDS legislation, and more specifically to support progressive policies that reduce stigma, promote safe sex and reproductive health, and address the needs of high-risk groups (women, youth, orphans, and vulnerable children); 3) increase political will to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and 4) lead dialogues on HIV/AIDS in their parliaments and constituencies, with the view of promoting tangible action.

First Sub-regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan, January 2005

On January 14-15, 2005, PGA held the first Sub-regional Parliamentary Seminar



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005): the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the President of PGA

on HIV/AIDS in South Asia in Islamabad, Pakistan. The seminar was hosted by PGA members Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan) and Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan) and was organized in collaboration with UNAIDS, and Aga Khan University (AKU), with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Foundation the World Health Organization (WHO) and the governments of Australia, Britain, Canada, and Switzerland.

The two-day seminar provided the legislators from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka, with a forum for more open discussions on the origin and extent of HIV/AIDS in South Asia, modes of transmission of HIV, impact, analysis of methods and prevention strategies proven to work in combating the virus and most importantly, the roles MPs can play in increasing political commitment to address the epidemic. The inauguration included keynote addresses by H.E. Mr. Shaukat Aziz, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Hon. Muhammad Nasir Khan, Federal Minister for Health, and H.E. Dr. Nafis Sadik, Special Envoy of UN Secretary General for HIV/AIDS in Asia. Sen. Reza Rabbani, Leader of Opposition, Mr. Aitzaz Ahsan, MP, and Ms. Tehmina Daultana, MP and others present during the discussions, focusing on the challenges to HIV/AIDS in South Asia, elements of effective prevention programmes including the ABC model, the needs of women, youth and children, and international efforts to scale up prevention, care and support including the WHO/UNAIDS 3 by 5 Initiative. Among those presenting were Hon. Hussein A. Bhaila, MP (Sri Lanka), Deputy Minister of Ad gislative and

community levels, which is part of the Islamabad Declaration of Action.

The Seminar succeeded in generating attention on the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS in Pakistan and other countries of the region through involving key political and social leaders as listed above. The main goal of the project was to generate increased political will and commitment to address HIV/AIDS in South Asia. Not only did the participating parliamentarians become knowledgeable about HIV transmission, prevention strategies and the role that the legislators and political elites can play in preventing large scale of epidemic, they also declared their commitment to combating HIV/AIDS by signing the Islamabad Declaration of Action and created a programme of follow-up activities in the region.

As the result of the seminar, the participating parliamentarians suggested that follow-up work should focus on sub-regional and in-country initiatives aimed at improving cross-boarder coordination and collaboration in controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS epidemic among the countries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Follow-up work will include the Second Sub-Regional Conference on HIV/AIDS in South Asia in Bangladesh and the Parliamentary Provincial Seminar on HIV/AIDS Policy in the Province of Sindh in Pakistan.

International CommitmentsonDevelopment and Reproductive Health

PGA sent a delegation of MPs to attend the high level G-8 International Parliamentarians Conference on Development in Africa, hosted by the



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005): Mrs. Mahdu Bala Nath, Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation; Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan), Member, International Council; Mr. Salman Ahmad, Good-Will Ambassador for HIV/AIDS and leader of Junoon Band



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005)



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005): Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, MP (Uganda), PGA Member; Mr. Tony Worthington, MP (United Kingdom) PGA Member; Dr. Junaidy bin Abdul Wahab, MP (Malaysia)

Scottish Parliament on June 6-7, 2005 in Edinburgh, Scotland. Among the PGA participants were Mr. Yohannes Dawit, MP (Ethiopia), Sen. Francesco Martone, (Italy), Ms. Beatrice Kiraso, MP (Uganda), Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, MP (Uganda), Sen. Alaine Destexhe, MP (Belgium), and Mr. Jeppe Kofod, MP (Denmark). They joined about 80 additional participants at the conference to discuss the agenda of the July 2005 G-8 Summit. Parliamentarians had the opportunity to listen to presentations made by the Gambian Vice President, the Ugandan Minister for Trade and representatives of UNFPA, WHO, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Commission for Africa, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Population Action International (PAI), Transparency International, and other international organizations. The sessions highlighted the key challenges facing Africa, with a specific focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and HIV/AIDS. Parliamentarians also discussed the report of the Commission for Africa, a document that will influence the agenda of the G-8 Heads of State during the Summit. More than 40 parliamentarians signed a letter to United States President George Bush and Great Britain Prime Minister Tony Blair, urging them to take action in Africa in anticipation of the G8 Summit in Gleneagles in July 2005.

In collaboration with the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), and UNFPA, PGA participated in the October 17, 2005 preparatory meeting in Tokyo, Japan and subsequent organizing efforts leading up to the Third International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action (IPCI/ICPD), scheduled to take place in Bangkok, Thailand November 2006. As with the Preparatory Committees and the first two parliamentary conferences, held in Ottawa, Canada in 2002 and Strasbourg, France in 2004, PGA once again will play an important role in generating the needed political energy to make the Bangkok IPCI a success.

As a member of the Steering Committee for IPCI, PGA brought a small delegation

of MPs to Tokyo for the planning meetings, which included Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan), Chair of PGA's National Group, and Sen. Bassey Ewa Henshaw (Nigeria), Deputy Convenor of the Sustainable Development and Population Programme. Both PGA members provided substantive feedback on the agenda, participants, and logistical concerns for the November 2006 conference. Following a series of roundtable discussions for the planning of IPCI-ICPD 2006, a Public Symposium, "Aftermath of MDG Summit and Population Issues," was held the evening of October 17, 2005. Sen. Henshaw participated as a panelist and spoke on the challenges of overcoming government corruption in order to effectively alleviate poverty in countries like Nigeria. He also stressed the need to tackle discrimination and violence against women, highlighting the issues of stigma experienced by PLWHAs and the marriages of girl-children, and emphasized the need to engage parliamentarians on these important issues.

On September 14, 2005, with the kind support of the Permanent Missions of Spain and Bangladesh to the UN and Instituto Cervantes, PGA held a panel discussion session on the role of parliamentarians in meeting the Millennium Development Goals entitled, the 2005 Parliamentary on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want, Progress in Education, Women's Empowerment, HIV/AIDS & other Health Issues – Assessing the Challenges Ahead. The meeting corresponded with the first day of the UN World Summit in New York.

The briefings featured a panel of distinguished members of parliament including Hon. Ermelinda Meksi, (Albania) Minister of European Integration, Ms. Patricia Udogu, MP (Nigeria), Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP (Bangladesh), and Dip. Eliana Garcia Laguna, MP (Mexico). Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria) moderated the discussion as panelists offered regionally diverse perspectives on the progress their countries have made with MDG goals 3, 5 and 6, each of which relate to a thematic area of population.



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005)



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005)



Sub-Regional Parliamentary Seminar on HIV/AIDS in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan (January 2005)



Parliamentary Briefings on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want - Progress in Education, Women's Empowerment, HIV/AIDS & Other Health Issues, New York, (September 2005): Ms. Ermelinda Meksi, MP (Albania), PGA Member; Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria), Member, Executive Committee

The presentations and question/answer session engaged guests in an interactive discussion, which included input from PGA members such as Kenya's Minister of Health, Hon. Charity Kaluki Ngilu, Sen. María Cristina Perceval (Argentina), and Sen. Isiah Balat (Nigeria). Senior level representatives from UNFPA, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), academics from Columbia University and representatives from international NGOs that address gender and population issues also attended the event.

The exchanges stressed the continued need to support women in leadership positions and livelihood projects, and integrate the MDGs into national strategies through legislation and collaboration with local governmental bodies. They also emphasized the importance of monitoring and reporting specific progress regarding the MDGs at the parliamentary level.

The year 2005 marked an important five-year milestone for governments to evaluate their progress in achieving the MDGs, a time-bound set of eight specific targets to fight poverty and hunger, lack of education, gender inequality, child mortality, maternal mortality, major education, gender inequality, child mortality, maternal mortality, major diseases, environmental degradation, and to develop a global partnership for development.

In approaching the five-year mark, PGA recognized that:

- *115 million children still lack access to primary education*

- *Women continue to saturate the informal economy while occupying only 16% of seats in parliaments globally*
- *More than 20 million people have died worldwide since the AIDS epidemic began, reversing decades of development in the worst-affected countries while malaria and tuberculosis continue to attack the poorest and most defenseless*

Education, gender equality, the empowerment of women, and HIV/AIDS and other health issues are three key categories also highlighted in the "Development" section of the Secretary General's March 2005 Report "In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security, and Human Rights for All," and are inter-connected with the MDGs. Parliamentarians have a unique role in ensuring that development is effectively fostered and that the MDGs are met as they provide the necessary oversight to achieve these targets.



Parliamentary Briefings on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want -Progress in Education, Women's Empowerment, HIV/AIDS & Other Health Issues, New York, (September 2005): Dip. Eliana Garcia Laguna (Mexico), PGA Member; Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP (Bangladesh), PGA Member; Ms. Patricia Udogu, MP (Nigeria), PGA Member



Parliamentary Briefings on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want - Progress in Education, Women's Empowerment, HIV/AIDS & Other Health Issues, New York, (September 2005): PGA Member Hon. Charity Kaluki Ngilu, MP (Kenya) Minister of Health



Parliamentary Briefings on the Millennium Development Goals & Freedom from Want - Progress in Education, Women's Empowerment, HIV/AIDS & Other Health Issues, New York (September 2005): Representatives from UNFPA, Ms. Harumi Kodama, Mr. Steve Kraus and Mr. Francois Farah

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

2005 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP (Ghana)

Board Members

Dip. Margarita Stolbizer (Argentina)

Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium)

Sen. Raynell Andreychuk (Canada)

Dip. Minou Tavárez Mirabal (Dominican Republic)

Sen. Wakako Hironaka (Japan)

Sen. Bassey Ewa- Henshaw (Nigeria)

Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales (The Philippines)

Sen. Longin Pastusiak (Poland)

Ms. Fatima Nagdee-Hajaig, MP (South Africa)

Mr. Kent Olsson, MP (Sweden)

Rep. Dennis Kucinich (United States)

Treasurer

Mr. Jeppe Kofod, MP (Denmark)

PGA's Executive Committee meets twice a year to discuss PGA's future programme activities. However, due to an eight month funding gap, PGA held one Executive Committee meeting in 2005 which took place in parallel to the 27th Annual Forum on Migration, Immigration and Integration in Dublin, Ireland. The International Council meeting, which convenes once a year, also took place in Dublin, Ireland.

At the International Council meeting, which took place November 18, 2005, Sen. Alain Destexhe (Belgium) was elected President of PGA. Elections were also held for seven members on the Executive Committee. The results were: Ms. Lali Papiashvili, MP (Georgia); Mr. M.J. Nolan, Ireland, TD (Ireland); Sen. Tadashi Inuzuka (Japan); Ms. Farah Karimi, MP (The Netherlands); Mr. Syed Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan); Mr. Mikhail Grishankov, MP (Russian Federation); Dr. Ruth Wijdenbosch, MP (Suriname)

In addition, seven members were elected to the International Council: Ms. Ermelinda Meksi, MP (Albania); Mr. Zahir Swapon, MP (Bangladesh); Dip. Eliana Garcia Laguna (Mexico); Mr. Mohammed Oudor, MP (Morocco); Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam (Senegal); Mr. Remo Gysin, MP (Switzerland); Mr. Reha Denemeç, MP (Turkey).

2005 INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Chair

Hon. Ross Robertson, MP, New Zealand

Councillors

Sen. Marcelo Lopez-Arias (Argentina)

Sen. Maria Perceval (Argentina)

Dep. Orlando Fantazzini (Brazil)

Mr. David Kilgour, MP (Canada)

Dep. Zozoro Jules Daleba (Cote d'Ivoire)

Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Saleh, MP (Egypt)

Mr. Jonas Sjöstedt, MEP (European Parliament)

Mr. Murli Deora, MP (India)

Mr. M.J. Nolan, MP (Ireland)

Sen. Kiyohiko Toyama (Japan)

Dr. Ra'ed Qaqish, MP (Jordan)

Dep. Harouna Keita (Mali)

Hon. Harry Duynhoven, MP (New Zealand)

Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan)

Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan)

Ms. Svetlana Smirnova, MP (Russian Federation)

Dep. Khalifa Abubacar Sall (Senegal)

Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam (Senegal)

Mr. Ibrahim Sorie, MP (Sierra Leone)

Ms. Birgitta Ahlqvist, MP (Sweden)

Mr. Remo Gysin, MP (Switzerland)

Rt. Hon. John Battle, MP (United Kingdom)

Sen. Tom Harkin (United States)

2005 UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair

H.E. Mr. Lauro L. Baja, Jr., Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the Republic of the
Philippines

United Nations Ambassadors

H.E. Juan Antonio Yáñez- Barnuevo,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Spain

H.E. Mr. Francis K. Butagira, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Uganda

H.E. Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the People's
Republic of Bangladesh

H.E. Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Denmark

H.E. Mr. Cesar Mayoral, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Argentina

H.E. Mr. Anders Lidén, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Sweden

H.E. Mr. Jean-Marc de la Sablière,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of France

H.E. Sir Emyr Jones Parry, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the United
Kingdom

H.E. Mr. Dirk Jan van den Berg,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the
Netherlands

H.E. Mr. Bruno Stagno Ugarte,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Costa Rica

UN Secretariat and Agencies

Ms. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive
Director, UNFPA

Amb. Juan Somavía, Director-General,
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr. Mark Malloch Brown, Chef de
Cabinet to the UN Secretary-General and
Administrator, UNDP

Ms. Noeleen Hayzer, Executive Director,
UNIFEM

Ms. Elisabeth Lindenmayer, Deputy Chef
de Cabinet to the Secretary-General

NGOs

Mr. David Phillips, The Elie Wiesel
Foundation for Humanity

Mr. Michael Posner, Executive Director,
Human Rights First

DONORS

Government/United Nations Agencies

European Commission	US\$467,456
Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida)	\$172,917
The Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	\$127,282
Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland	\$ 97,528
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	\$ 71,089
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	\$ 64,817
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	\$ 60,000
The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs	\$ 57,660
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	\$ 45,000
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	\$ 30,000
World Health Organizations (WHO)	\$ 30,000
Irish Parliamentary Association	\$ 24,017
Stewart R Mott Charitable Foundation	\$ 7,500
Raymond and Elizabeth Bloch Educational and Charitable Foundation	\$ 5,000
Total	\$1,260,265

Up to \$99

Mr. Howard Ammerman
 Ms. Charlotte A. Bleistein
 Ms. Katherine L. Houston
 Ms. Leah R. Karpen
 Mr. Alan F. Kay
 Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Anne Moore
 Mr. O. Richard Maeglin
 Ms. Doris B. Ferm (Doris B. Ferm Living Trust)
 Ms. Martha Bushnell
 Mr. Martin A. and Mrs. Mildred H. Gilman
 Mr. E. Wayles Browne
 Ms. Judith G. Stetson
 Ms. Susan K. Browne
 Ms. Linda Le Shanna
 Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Carmela Bohen
 Ms. Helen M. Raisz
 Mr. Edward Paulson

\$100 up to \$199

Mr. Robert Joel Berg
 Ms. Judith Cassassa
 LAGU Foundation
 Ms. Ruth Morton
 Mr. Peter E. Schenck
 Ms. Susan W. Stachelsburg

\$200 to \$299

Mr. Carl W. Kohls
 Mr. Frederick C. Lyman

\$300-399

Rev. Alden and Mrs. Barbara Besse
 Mr. Edward Rawson
 RMF Foundation

\$500

Mr. John and Mrs. Chara Haas
 Ms. Cleo Michelsen

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXHIBIT A PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005

Winnie Tam & Co., P.C., member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, conducts the annual audit of Parliamentarians for Global Action.

The complete financial statements are available upon request by writing to:

The Financial Director
Parliamentarians for Global Action
211 East 43rd Street, Suite 1604
New York, NY 10017, USA

To the Board of Directors
Parliamentarians for Global Action
New York, NY

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Parliamentarians for Global Action as of December 31, 2005 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Parliamentarians for Global Action's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements on our audit.

We concluded our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Parliamentarians for Global Action as of December 31, 2005 and the change in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



New York, New York
March 10, 2006

ASSETS	UNRESTRICTED OPERATING	RESERVE	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	171,521	233,151		404,672
Investments		583,496		583,496
Grants and contribution receivable	250		626,545	626,795
Other receivable	789			789
Prepaid Expenses	12,858			12,858
Due from other funds		357,592		
Total Current Assets	185,418	1,174,239	626,545	1,628,610
Fixed Assets				
Fixed Assets, at cost net of accumulated depreciation of \$73,888	14,416			14,416
Other Asset				
Security Deposits	14,752			14,752
Total Asset	214,586	1,174,239	626,545	1,657,778
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
LIABILITIES				
Current Liability				
Accounts and accrued expenses payable	26,043			26,043
Refundable Advance	187,877			187,877
Due to reserve fund	666		356,926	****
Total Liabilities	214,586		356,926	213,920
Net Assets				
Unrestricted				
Operating Fund				
Contingency Reserve	7,592			7,592
Long Term Reserve	1,166,647			1,166,647
Temporarily Restricted			269,619	269,619
Total Net Assets		1,174,239	269,619	1,443,858
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	214,586	1,174,239	626,545	1,657,778

EXHIBIT B
PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
Support and Revenue			
Contributions - Foundations		12,500	12,500
Contributions - Individuals			
Contributions - UN and Governments	237,734	1,010,032	1,247,766
Direct Mail	3,939		3,939
Membership Dues	2,023		2,023
Other Income	387		387
Investment Income	17,997		17,997
Net Realised Gain on investment transactons	9,304		9,304
Net Unrealised loss on investment transactons	(7,770)		(7,770)
Total Support and Revenue	263,614	1,022,532	1,286,146
Net Assets Released from Restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	786,006	(786,006)	
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	147,508	(147,508)	
	933,514	(933,514)	
Total Support	1,197,128	89,018	1,286,146
Revenue and Expenses			
Program Services			
Peace and Democracy	59,566		59,566
International Law and Human Rights	407,961		407,961
Sustainable Development			
Population	293,830		293,830
Total Program Services	761,357		761,357
Supporting Services			
Administrative and General	355,506		355,506
Fund Raising	72,673		72,673
Total Supporting Services	428,179		428,179
Total Expenses	1,189,536		1,189,536
Change in Net Assets	7,592	89,018	96,610
Net Assets as of December 31, 2004	1,166,647	180,601	1,347,248
Net Assets as of December 31, 2005	1,174,239	269,619	1,443,858

PGA STAFF

Secretary-General

Ms. Shazia Z. Rafi

Programme Staff

Dr. David Donat-Cattin

Legal Advisor, International Law and Human Rights

Ms. Nebiyat Woldemichael

Senior Programme Officer, Peace and Democracy (through June 2005)

Mr. Peter Barcroft

Programme Officer, International Law and Human Rights

Ms. Anna Gekht

Programme Officer, Sustainable Development and Population (through July 2005)

Ms. Samar Al-Bulushi

Programme Associate, International Law and Human Rights (through July 2005)

Ms. Camellia Rodriguez-SackByrne

Programme Officer, Sustainable Development and Population (since August 2005)

Administrative Staff

Mr. Michael Agbeko

Director of Finance and Administration

Ms. Helen Vasilopoulos

Development Officer

Ms. Camellia Rodriguez-SackByrne

Executive Officer (through July 2005)

Mr. Brian Kett

Executive Officer

Consultants

Ms. Kacy Belew

Dr. Robert Cutler

Ms. Sarah Hyde

Mr. Michael Kauder

Mr. Chris Landsberg

Prof. Stephen Marks

Mr. Gilbert Martin

Ms. Bonnie Shepard

Ms. Yulia Shirokova

Ms. Deborah Ruiz Verduzco

Prof. Elliot Pepper

Ms. Carol Wall

ABOUT PGA

A Dynamic Network of Individual Legislators

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is a dynamic network of individual legislators which was established in 1978-1979 by concerned legislators from around the world to take joint action on global problems which could not be solved by any one government or parliament. While its initial driving force was the critical need for disarmament, PGA today works on an expanded list of global issues such as fostering democracy, conflict prevention and management, international law and human rights, sustainable development and population.

PGA is an association of over 1300 individual legislators in 114 parliaments that is action-oriented with specific programmes under the political direction of the Executive Committee. This structure allows PGA to effectively push policies at the national, regional, and international levels. The leadership also includes an International Council that represents all the regions of the world. PGA works closely with the United Nations system through the advisory body of the UN Committee which includes senior UN ambassadors, high-level UN officials, and some leading NGO representatives. The current Chair of the Committee is H.E. Mr. Lauro L. Baja, Jr., Permanent Representative of the Mission of The Philippines.

With a membership of only elected legislators, PGA's members bring their authority and the mandate of their constituents. PGA's effectiveness is thus due to members' responsibility toward their constituents.

PGA includes in its membership a concentration of high-level politicians, including Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, and Chairs of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Population, Health, and Defense Committees. Many of PGA's members have left parliament for higher government posts. Some of our ex-members have served as President of Iceland, President

of Botswana, Prime Minister and President of Trinidad and Tobago, Prime Minister of New Zealand and Vice President of the Dominican Republic. Also, as an NGO of legislators, PGA is the parliamentary link with civil society groups. PGA's programmes on Peace and Democracy, Sustainable Development and Population, and International Law and Human Rights work in close cooperation with NGOs and leading research institutions in these fields.

PGA also has an extremely effective track record with inter-governmental agencies such as the UN Secretariat, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNESCO, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and International IDEA. PGA's guiding principle of enabling dialogue among key players from both government and opposition and its close working relationship with members serving on relevant parliamentary committees makes it an invaluable agency for the negotiation and implementation of any successful policy.

With headquarters in New York City, PGA is affiliated with the United Nations as an organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The offices of National Group representatives and other leading PGA members serve as liaison links in various countries around the world.

Photo credits: PGA staff and consultants

Editor: Helen Vasilopoulos

Desktop Publishing: Kacy Belew