

Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice

MINUTES OF MEETING

9 January 2004

Attendees:

Rosalind Harris (Chair), International Social Service
Paul McCold (Secretary), Friends World Committee for Consultation / International
Institute for Restorative Practices
Lloyd Klein, Bemidji State University
Robert McCormack, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
Cindy J. Smith, American Society of Criminology
Karen Smith, Women's Federation for World Peace International / IIFWP
Irene Melup, World Society of Victimology ACPF / ICP
Yael Danieli, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies
Afaf Mahfouz, International Psychoanalytical Association / Arab Lawyers Union
Nancy Grosselfinger, International League for Human Rights (NY)

Meeting Minutes:

1:00 pm - Meeting called to order by Rosalind Harris, Chair. The agenda was adopted.

With the correction of the spelling of Lloyd Klein's name, the minutes of the 14 November 2003 meeting were approved.

Chairman's Report

The Chair apologized for not being prepared to proceed with the election of officers at this time. It was agreed that the election would take place at our March meeting. Robert McCormack, Afaf Mahfouz, and James Gondles (American Correctional Association) were named to the nominating committee. The chair noted that the slate of nominees for office would be included with the distribution of the notice of the March meeting.

It was noted that our meeting for March would conflict with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences meeting in Las Vegas. The Alliance decided to postpone our next meeting until the third Friday, March 19th instead of the 12th. It was also noted that our May 14th meeting conflicts with the next meeting of the Crime Commission in Vienna, to which a number of our members would be attending. It was agreed to move the meeting ahead a week, to May 7th 2004.

Report of the Executive Secretariat

In the absence of the Joe Weedon, it was noted that the brochures for the Alliance of NGOs and of the Working Party on Restorative Justice were completed and sent to Gary Hill in time for distribution at ISPAC. Cindy Smith and Karen Smith both reported that our brochures were apparent at the meeting and Gary did a great job making sure they were spread around. The cost for the brochures was \$106.16 for the Alliance and \$90 for the working party. Karen asked for a copy of these brochures in PDF to post on the Alliance website for interested parties to download. Paul McCold agreed to send her a copy of the

brochure of the Working Party on Restorative Justice.

It was requested that invoices for the 2004 annual membership dues be distributed as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report

No report.

Information Center Report

The information Center Report was submitted in writing and is attached. The Chair noted that Gary Hill has been named as ISPAC's person in charge of the ancillary sessions. Gary reports there are to be three meeting rooms for ancillary sessions in Bangkok, two that will hold 50 and one that will hold 100 participants, and this larger room is the only one with booths for interpreters (3 booths). See Gary's attached report for more information or log into ISPAC's website at www.ISPAC-Italy.org.

The Chair urges member NGOs to attend the Regional United Nations meeting and especially the Regional Preparatory Meetings for the Eleventh UN Congress. More information about the dates and times of these meetings are available on ISPAC's website.

Reports from Working Parties

Working Party on Ancillary Sessions

It was noted that Alliance NGOs should submit proposals directly to Gary Hill as well as sending a copy to the WP on Ancillary Sessions. It was noted that the role that the Alliance can play is to collect the proposals into topical themes that we want to support, lobby Gary Hill for sequential time slots at the Congress, and encourage additional NGOs participation and support. (Secretary note: see the Ancillary Meeting Interest Form on ISPAC's website at: http://ispac-italy.org/phpESP/public/survey.php?name=Ancillary_Meeting_Interest_Form_copy2)

Bob McCormack distributed a proposal for a workshop that ACSJ would like to present and noted that their international committee would be determining the specific details at their annual meeting. (see below).

Working Party on Restorative Justice:

Paul McCold noted that members of the WP on RJ will be making inquiries into obtaining volunteer interpreters for Bangkok. Dan Van Ness and Ron Claassen are both visiting there and have been asked to ask their university contacts about this. Paul also noted that he may be in Bangkok later this spring as well.

The working party is also interested in learning more about the workshop on restorative justice that the U.N. is organizing for delegates. Paul agreed to make contact with the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy and report

back. The WP expects to have developed a proposal for ancillary sessions on restorative justice by the next meeting.

News from Affiliates:

-- The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) will host their 41st annual conference in Los Vegas, Nevada from March 9-13, 2004.

-- Yael Danieli reported on the status of the International Criminal Court. She has been providing training on victim issues and visited the new pre-trial chamber. Yael reported the ICC has adopted a set of practice directions and is quickly organizing itself. She noted that there are some jobs listed on their website at www.icj-cij.org for anyone interested. Yael reported the Assembly of State Parties elected 5 prominent members to the Board of Trust Fund for Victims: Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah (of Jordan), His Eminence Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Eminence Dr. Oscar Arias Sanchez, Madame La Mlinistre Simone Veil, and His Eminence Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki. The Board will meet formally for the first time 20-22 April 2004 in The Hague to agree on the principles governing the operation of the Trust Fund. Yael urged Alliance members lobby for their countries' financial support to the Fund and to join in declaring April to be "Genocide Month" in honor of those victims. Yael also urged member NGOs to encourage their members to donate to the Victims Trust Fund. More information on a US fund raising initiative is available at: <http://www.victimstrustfund.org/>

-- The International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) is holding a second conference on "Building a Global Alliance for Restorative Practices and Family Empowerment," August 5-7, 2004, in Vancouver, British Columbia, preceded by pre-conference workshops from August 2-4. Information and a call for presenters for 40 or 80 minute sessions is still available at: <http://www.iirp.org/> but proposals should be submitted soon.

Old Business:

It was requested that the updated membership list be circulated with the next meeting minutes and notice.

New Business:

There was a discussion about who is eligible to vote in Alliance elections. The Secretary noted that voting was by member NGOs who had been designated as representative in writing to the Alliance every two years as required by the bylaws. It was noted that voting is by organization and, since some people represent more than one member NGO they had more than one vote in the election. It was also noted that payment of the annual dues is not required for membership or for eligibility for voting in elections. The Alliance agreed that the Executive Secretary should include a renewal of designation of representation to the member NGOs' executive directors, as well as sending a copy to the currently named representative along with the invoice for annual dues.

Next Meeting date was changed to 19 March 2004.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Paul McCold, recording

Attachment #1 – Information Center Report

NY ALLIANCE OF NGOS ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DATE: 29 DECEMBER 2003
TO: ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP
FROM: GARY HILL, DIRECTOR
RE: INFORMATION CENTER REPORT

This report covers the period between meetings of the Alliance – 11 November thru 29 December 2003

GENERAL INQUIRIES

1. UN Congress agenda
2. Technology use in criminal justice
3. Correctional officers do they have the most “dangerous job in society”?
4. Places in the UK where someone can find out about working as a correctional officer.
5. Civil Peace Service in Rwanda working with police.
6. UN Minimum Rules implementation in Uganda for correctional system.
7. Request for information on the credibility of an international prison management course.
8. Translation of training material into Spanish
9. Training material on hostage situations

ELEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CRIME CONGRESS

1. Initial information from the United Nations Team and the Bangkok Host Committee indicates that the Congress venue will have more than ample space and facilities to meet the requirements of NGOs and those interested in participating in ancillary meetings.
 - A. An NGO office, staffed at least twelve hours a day, will be in a convenient location in the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (the Congress venue).

- B. An NGO lounge will be available for use by NGOs and though the exact setup is not known at this time some equipment including tables for meetings, cost-per-copy photocopying machine and possible computers will be available.
 - C. Three rooms will be available for ancillary meetings, two capable of holding 50 people and one capable of holding 100 people will be available. The large room will be available from the second day of the Congress and is the only room equipped with equipment for interpretation. It will have three interpretation booths. One additional room capable of holding 100 is expected to be available as well.
2. The International Scientific and Professional Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC) Web site (www.ispac-italy.org) has full information on the Congress and also has a form to be filled out by those interested in participating in the ancillary meetings.
 3. The Congress is preceded by four regional preparatory meetings, the first of which will be held from 20 through 22 January 2004 in Bangkok. Following that meeting more information on resources and procedures for NGOs and individual experts will be known. Information on the regional preparatory meetings is available through the ISPAC Web site. The other three regional meetings are: Western Asia (Site not yet confirmed) from 9 – 11 February 2004; Addis Abba, Ethiopia from 1 – 3 March 2004; San Jose, Costa Rica from 29 – 31 March 2004. NY Alliance brochures will be distributed at the regional meetings.
 4. As of the date of this report, four organizations (including the Alliance) have formally indicated an interest in hosting ancillary meetings.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. The International Scientific and Professional Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention Programme (ISPAC) held it's annual Plenary meeting and a conference on Crime and Technology in Courmayeur, Italy from 27 to 30 November 2003 - NY Alliance brochures on restorative justice given out as well as general brochures on the Alliance.
2. After each of the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, meetings on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and for the promotion of the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption will be held.
3. The ISPAC Web site has been modified and now contains a calendar with national days of each nation, major religious holidays (including explanations of those holidays) and dates of meetings and conferences. Interested NGOs can contact ISPAC through the Web site to list dates of their meetings or to post information that might be of interest to other NGOs. Also NGOs can be listed in the database. Each NGO of the Alliance should check their listing on the Web site to insure the information is accurate.

Proposal by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) for an Ancillary Meeting at
the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Bangkok, Thailand April 18-25, 2005

Justice System Restorative in Conflict Torn Nations:
Establishing Standards and Making Them Work.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan recently pointed out that since the end of the Cold-War period global conflict has become almost exclusively intra-state, "the new conflicts which have erupted since 1991 have been civil ones... the main battle is between people who are, or were, citizens of the same State: (UNA-USA, p.1). These comments reference recent events such as East Timor which gained independence from Indonesia after years of civil strife; ethnic conflict between Serbs and Albanians in Kosovo; and the internecine atrocities in South Africa prior to the abolition of apartheid—among others. In each of these events the justice system—the tools for a civil society—were lost or destroyed and were in need of restoration.

This Ancillary Meeting, proposed by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), an NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC, and a member of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, will focus on justice system restoration in member nations torn by civil strife. Its participants will be comprised of government officials including internationally recognized law enforcement policy makers; judges, prosecutors and lawyers and other legal experts; and corrections and rehabilitation experts acquainted with the principles and practices involved in the subject matter of the session.

ACJS will convene a working party at its Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada in March, 2004 to bring together potential participants and to structure the specific focus of the Ancillary Meeting. It will utilize standards already established for justice system restoration by the United Nations and introduce hand-on expertise from previous United Nations and NGO experience in this area.

Submitted: January 9, 2004

Dr. Robert McCormack

ACJS Representative to the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice