

African Summit of Civil Society Organizations

UN-Habitat, Nairobi

17-20 January 2007

Report of the Meeting

The Report Background

This report has been prepared to present the proceedings and key outputs from the Summit of Civil Society Organizations of Africa held at UN-Habitat in Nairobi, from 17th to 19th January 2007.

Summit Objectives

The overall objective of the African Summit of CSOs was to strengthen networking and build the voice of African CSOs by creating a loosely structured continental platform during which they could exchange views and inform one another's understanding of issues that affect African development. This would serve to consolidate the emerging Civil Society network on the continent, presenting CSOs as credible, legitimate and accountable actors in development.

Conclusion

The summit successfully provided an excellent space for the CSOs to convene, and create a platform from which they were able to exchange views and inform one another's understanding of issues affecting African development. It was attended by 95 participants representing 71 organizations.

Convening Framework

UN HABITAT recognizes the role of Civil Society Organizations and supports them. Based on the multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary nature of human settlement issues, UN-HABITAT, since its establishment in 1978, has been one of the lead agencies within the United Nations system to facilitate the participation of civil society organizations. In recognition of civil society, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) held in 1996 in Istanbul, Turkey, was organized as a Conference of Partners to provide the fullest opportunity for all actors in civil society to bring their experiences to the preparatory process and to the Conference itself that adopted a Global Plan of Action to address a range of issues affecting the living environment of cities, towns and villages.

The UN Reform package states that: *"...Non-governmental organizations are the clearest manifestation of what is referred to as 'civic society', that is the sphere in which social movements organize themselves around objectives, constituencies and thematic interests. Those movements include specific groups such as women, youth and indigenous people..."* The relevant resolutions of the UN as a follow-up to the UN Reform package have proposed several arrangements for all United Nations entities to open up and work closely with civil society organizations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1998, upon the request of the Member States, also prepared a report on *"Arrangements and practices for the interaction of non-governmental organizations in all activities of the United Nations system"*. All departments of the United Nations system since then have prepared policies to address the role of NGOs and reformulated their strategies to incorporate various civil society organizations more actively in their work.

The Summit

The Summit was arranged by The Partners and Youth Section of UN-HABITAT and Mwelekeo wa NGO (MWENGO) with inputs from other organizations such as EASUN (the

East African Support Unit for NGOs) based in Arusha Tanzania, FEMNET (the African Women's Development and Communications Network) and several offices of multilateral organizations.

The Summit took place in Nairobi, Kenya from January 17 -19, 2007. This timing was picked to allow participants invited to the summit to subsequently attend the World Social Forum which was taking place immediately thereafter. The timing of the Summit was therefore intended to maximize on the opportunities provided by this larger event in the interests of securing the largest possible participation of African NGO leaders.

Participant profiles

Participants who attended the summit were the Directors and Chief Executives of national umbrella organizations or coalitions of CSOs and NGOs from each African country and the heads of known, active African regional networks. The Summit deliberations were conducted in both English and French.

Introduction

Facilitator: Mr Mosi Kisare

Mr Kisare introduced the summit and invited Ezra Mbogori to start the meeting.

Mr Ezra Mbogori, Executive Director - MWENGO introduced the summit and proposed that they utilize the space to achieve 3 things:

- Build on the sense of solidarity that exists on the continent while learning from experiences to help achieve the ideals they aspire to;
- build a partnership amongst themselves using experiences;
- and having interacted, begin to build and make the experiences a regular feature.

Mr Mbogori gave a background to the planning of the meeting, citing the challenges faced by participants due to logistics, and hoped that everyone would still come through to the meeting.

Mr Mbogori went on to welcome everyone to the meeting, going briefly through the 3 day programme, he then set the meeting in progress, inviting Mr Alioune Badiane, Director of UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Africa to give the opening address.

Mr Alioune Badiane, Director of UN-Habitat Regional Office for Africa said that the civil society had a strong role to play in Africa's development. He said the event takes place at an opportune time due to the World Social Forum taking place right after. There has been a big effort by UN-Habitat to assist civil society organizations due to the initiatives of the executive director, Mrs Tibaijuka, who came from the CSO sector herself. UN-Habitat recognizes the CSO sector as their most valuable partner, with whom they cannot succeed without. He said that, "Those of you that are assisting in any way are valuable partners. We in human settlements know that we cannot do this alone. This is because government can legislate but cannot execute the best policy. We realize that in an urbanizing world the role of Local Authorities and Civil Society is paramount. We must recognize them. The local authorities and civil society have the strongest role to play. The UN-Habitat Partners and Youth section invited me to engage with you in this process, and we shall have the opportunity in the following months to engage in this process of transformation. Heavy transformation is taking place globally."

"Please get acquainted with the global issues because if you do not take action, there will be no one to take initiative and rectify the issues." Alioune Badiane, Director, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Africa.

He added that it was said and confirmed in the 1996 Istanbul meeting, that in an urbanizing world the role of Local Authorities and CS is paramount. He noted that in Istanbul, the Global Movement of Local Authorities was launched with regard to the United Nations. He was pleased that United Cities and local Government had been set up in Paris, and that the United Cities and Local Government for Africa was up and running.

He mentioned that the CSO sector will have the opportunity to set up their own platform and engage with the social and economic transformation around the world. He urged those in the CSO sector to embrace those transformations happening in the world.

Mr Badiane also said that the Paris declaration would change the way the world was moving and that there would be reliance on civil society to implement development objectives as

many sectoral ministries are unable to implement at the grassroots level. He encouraged the participants to mention this over the next few weeks to those they met at the World Social Forum.

Mr Badiane also said that heavy transformations were taking place worldwide in the sector such as the proposal of the one UN. He said the UN are setting up a pilot test for the one UN concept in 4 countries in Africa, and 8 worldwide during the year 2007. In Africa those countries are Mozambique, Tanzania, Rwanda and Cape Verde. This would mean delivery as one, with the old UN movement plans to come together and deliver as one body. Meaning a new way of all those involved working together into a common plan. This was influenced by the Paris declaration.

He concluded by saying that since the Paris declaration would change the global development, good opportunities exist for the CSOs to work in their own countries to propose to their respective governments things that are lacking. So donors would now be able to sit with the respective governments to work out issues such as corruption, good governance etc. UN-Habitat are already starting to work towards this process to find out what governments need to start up this process. He hoped they would take the opportunity to spread the information through to other meetings such as the World Social Forum and the UNEP Governing Council.

Introductory Session: What do we know about the African NGO?

According to Mr Kanyinga, in East Africa, in the 1970's there were very few NGOs in numbers but grew in the 90's to over 1000. The numbers have increased ten fold, and so did the resources disbursed. However, as a sector, the NGOs do not know themselves. In some countries the NGO sector is bigger than the commercial and agricultural sector, making a large part of the GDP. It forms and significant force. The development agenda in those countries is controlled by the NGO sector.

"We have had an explosion of various organizations formed to address societal and communal problems." Mr Karuti Kanyinga PhD, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Development Studies (IDS) University of Nairobi.

Mr Kanyinga said that the NGO sector grew as people got disillusioned by Government due to poor management and governance. They were alternative development strategies that emphasized inclusion and would put people at the center of the decision making. It called for better governance as Africans were excluded from decisions on development.

"How do we develop plans that include Africa's peculiar development agendas?" Mr Kanyinga

The significance of the African NGO has been ahead on World Bank strategies and development agendas. There is no sector in Africa that does not have NGOs involved in. The African NGO is really the origin of the debate on accountability for the Government from the 80's. They demanded accountability of the governments and NGOs alike.

According to Mr Kanyinga, challenges facing the African NGO today are that they are unable to influence global debates. Governments are using legislation as a stumbling block against NGOs. Looking at current leadership in the sector, there is infatuation with narrow

concerns. The first NGO leaders were characterized by need to solve society problems. "People worked not for money but for a cause". However, the second generation of African leaders of NGOs was very short sighted and never thought of succession plans in the sector, but was able to sell itself to the donors and secure funding. What's the way forward? How do we become relevant? Are we an end in itself or are we a means to an end?

Mr Kanyinga went on to raise issues about the challenges of CSOs, namely the validity of African NGOs, the question of corruption within the sector, their lack of forward planning and their chance of survival in the ever competitive African terrain.

Refer to Annex 3 for Mr Kanyinga's full presentation.

Questions and points of argument raised by the floor after the introductory session.

"Who are we accountable to, the public or the donors? Everyone thinks that it's criminal to have access to funds for development."

"If we really want to improve the world of NGOs in the future, we should have practical examples of the problems we are trying to solve."

"Do we have a clear identity that defines our relationship with development? We must have clear definition."

"If you're an NGO leader, your success is defined by how much funding you can bring in, so that you focus all your efforts on resource mobilization, meaning that we prostitute some of our ideals."

"There are certain NGOs led by people who have left political power. Often having left the Government, they create NGOs to continue fighting and getting results. That's one. There's another that are set up by the government themselves in order to contain certain social movements. These are the NGOs that have the least funding so this conference should think about how to act in such circumstances."

"Every CSO has its own issues to defend but are they all really independent?"

"There is the issue of those who are very vocal and working the advocacy, but leave the join the UN, leaving huge gaps in the CSO now that they are on large salaries. How do we deal with this?"

"If an NGO is working in community development, there must be those within that represent the community; otherwise they have no way of succeeding and improving the work of NGOs."

Working Session 1: Learning from Experiences:

Facilitator:

Mr Ezra Mbogori, Executive Director - MWENGO

Presenter: Mr Tade

Mr Tade remembers his first visit to Kenya in 1982, as very different to what he has encountered at this visit. He was at the Bishops Center in Limuru, where they had double bunkers, and four of them in the room at that time. They struggled with the costs, the funding and spends. It was part of the urbanist movement, and during this time he met Davinder Lamba and Alioune Badiane. There was great enthusiasm at the time and they were driven by ideological passion. They felt they could change the world. They thought that development would bring emancipation, so at that time, it was more about emancipation and social justice.

There were linkages with the labor movement, the civil rights movement globally. There was a global phenomenon taking place in all the countries. There was a global feeling that change was around the corner. Sadly he noted that they don't have much younger colleagues here to witness the meeting. There was the ideology and the global and continental movement. There was also a pan-African ideal, and everyone was feeling for the apartheid situation in South Africa.

Many of the CSOs were considered noise makers. But with a budget well managed, they were able to achieve most of their goals.

Mr Kumi Naidoo closed this first working session by giving a description of an NGO. He said an NGO can be understood by remembering Christopher Columbus. When he set off, he didn't know exactly where he was going, when he got there, he didn't know exactly where he was, when he got back, he didn't know exactly where he had been, however, he had a huge impact on the world, and did it all on somebody else's budget. He hoped the NGOs we talk of are more responsible!

Mr Naidoo thought back to the 80's and remembered that many of them who were embedded in CSO at the time, had to decide if to stay in CSOs or go into business or Government. He mentioned that to stay in CSOs they needed a strong grouping of citizens to make it work. He said Africa would have to do more to strengthen and solidify the CSO on the continent. He decided to stay in the CSO sector, he added that they have to make sure they get the right funds and deploy the right people to the right areas, and the left people to the different areas.....

They should also support each other even though they work in different NGOs, even if it's the north / south factor. They should also recognize the gender factor and try to bridge the gap between the rhetoric and reality. They have to be careful about using terms and apply them to blanket NGOs loosely.

In conclusion, he said they must think of the issue of leadership and that they have a responsibility to what direction the sector will go. In the continent, the general grassroots have lost faith and trust in the government and the CSO sector as well. This will need to be managed as priority if we are to move our people on the continent forward. He noted that if we are strategic, they can have much more impact than we are currently having in our countries and the continent as a whole.

The presentation drew arguments from the floor regarding the presentations as thought provoking and that many people are engaged in the informal sector. The argument was that many of women and those involved in the informal sector need more attention to guide them to ways of poverty alleviation.

Working Session 2: Who defines the roles, image and relationships; Looking Beyond Stereotypes

Facilitator:

- Ms Zanele Twala , Director - South African NGO Coalition

Ms Twala introduced the session set to define who defines the roles, image and relationships.

Presenter:

- Dr Ekuru Aukot, Executive Director – Kituo Cha Sheria

Dr Ekuru Aukot Executive Director of Kituo Cha Sheria (KCS) commented that there really should not be an African NGO, but a global one. He introduced the organization, and said that the KCS was formed in 1973 basically to provide legal aid to the poor and marginalized, provide legal aid and practice human rights. They are like an NGO law firm. He said that representing the poor and marginalized is what first defined their roles. He stressed that, “The Gov sometimes defines our roles and how we relate to it in our work. Also our donors define our roles due to the fact that they provide the funding for our work. Other NGOs and networks also define our roles. Eg Kenya National Centre for Human Rights have an impact on the KCS thus defining who they are.”

*“How do we want to participate in future? To prepare ourselves for our role in the future. I have observed that we’re going to have to define the roles of the civil society organizations.”
Dr Ekuru Aukot , Kituo Cha Sheria*

They have an outreach advocacy program and provide legal education to marginalized communities. Their vision is a society of equity and social justice for all. Dr Aukot also touched on the categories and perspectives defining roles as NGOs;

- One category is the CSOs themselves as they begin to think of satisfying a need in society, they are already defining a role to that society. This is brought out by a concept or strategy.
- The second category is the constituents. They know what they are, but the CSOs roles are often defined by whom they want to serve and for what purpose. In the case of KCS they think about the poor etc, and it is these people who tell them how to go about their mission and vision. For example a slum upgrading program, defines what ministry had to be involved. So the constituents are the ones who defined the role of the KCS.
- The third category of those who define the role of CSOs is the government. Looking at the way in which CSOs interact with government defines their roles. CSOs give alternative solutions and the way they behave defines their roles

- The donors also define CSO roles. Many CSO are donor dependant. So the CSO is dictated and defined by the donors who give guidelines to operations.
- Other NGOS that they work with also define CSOs roles as they have to avoid replication so they tend to define each others roles. They tend to define the way the other CSOs interact with society.
- Government institutions or statutory institutions also define the roles of CSOs as they define the modus operandi.

He added that in order to fully understand these role, they must be looked at from different perspectives. The first is **Historical**: How far have they come in order to know where they're going. So historically, they should look at the alternatives the CSO are offering and the fact that many are actually the role of the government.

Contemporary: How are they today, how do they understand their role today? The Government of the day plays its politics and also shapes the role of how they're being defined and perceived.

The **Future** is also looked into in terms of upcoming challenges.

There are also issues with **NGO syndromes**. The **founder** syndrome, where those who founded them never want to let them go and fail to see the NGO in a broader role. They all speak the same language, outputs, and objectives. There is also the **fixtue syndrome** for those of us who can't think beyond the NGO. Taking into account all the above factors, we can be perceived as beggars in the donor community.

He concluded by saying that CSO have to pay the price to solve people problems, if it means traveling to rural areas. He says that we must also be practical and use practical cars such as small vehicles in Nairobi instead of 4x4s to promote a more down to earth impression. These issues impact on our perception by those at the grassroots. As CSOs, they must be sensitive to all these factors to manage people's perceptions. They must not look difficult to work with otherwise they affect people's perceptions and ultimately the relationship changes also.

Questions to Dr Aukot from the floor:

Q. What is the role of media to the NGOs? The media are very difficult to deal with and normally demand bribes etc to report on the NGO activities. It's therefore difficult to market themselves to the media and the public. Many media find NGOS boring and not newsworthy. Nation has space for public interest issues, but you have to bend low to convince them that it's an issue of public issue.

R. We can leave ourselves out as we define our own roles. In Kenya there is a lot of money in the hands of the private sector, yet in terms of sustainability we rely on donors. The media has a big role to play, so the private sector see NGOs as hecklers and do not fund them due to the media and perceptions. There are some individuals who do not wish to fund NGOs because of poor information and lack of trust in the NGOs. Also the NGOs are unable to access the donor funds or meet the requirements. There are some newspapers such as Nation that have dedicated space in their papers for community development issues.

Q. What about the role of women? How can we women work so that we link together our ideas? What should the women do? Maybe they can combine political knowledge? However,

many women NGOs are a collection of certain classes, rural, city etc, wives etc. There are also travel restrictions; we had to rely on British embassy to get VISA to get to Kenya??? How are we going to be able to meet regularly when we are unable to get Visas to travel within Africa?

R. No answer

Q. What is the difference between CSOs that represent people and those run by government people who represent governments? The decision making process is hard because sometimes the needs of the people is not human rights, maybe its malaria due to mosquitoes!!!

R. No answer

Q. How do KCS deal with women issues? On inheritance etc, what role do they play on violence against women and children?

R. KCS recruit lawyers in every town to be volunteers to assist with their work country wide providing services to al those cases.

Q. As youth they wonder how NGOs plan to change things when they are not working with the youth. NGOs should think about their structures in order to enhance the capacity of young people.

R. Yes but at the same time, they (the youth) must adhere to professionalism.

Q. Sometimes proposals are made to please donors not the civil society. What is solution?

R. Here is the issue of getting the money then moving forward to implementation stage. Some NGOs get the money then are unable to move forward to implement after getting the money with flashy proposals due to the fact that the issues addressed in the proposals are not priority, hence the projects rarely succeed anyway.

Comments:

Regarding privatization of NGOs. People should define their NGOS as not for profit strictly as they are now complaining that they cannot get funds so must go private. Some people change their strategies depending on what funds are being offered for. Eg when HIV/Aids funds are available they change their strategy to HIV.

We are at the mercy of our financial partners. They have all kinds of rules and regulations which are difficult. Sometimes the participants ask to be compensated for their time to come to meetings making it hard to make any impact as too much time is spent trying to get the per diems.

NGOs can be described as the conscience of Government.

Working Session 3 Part I: Whither ECOSOCC

Facilitator:

- Subramonia Ananthkrishnan, Chief, Partners and Youth Section, UN-Habitat

Introduced the session saying that there had been a few problems and some changes had been proposed.

Presenters:

- Helder Malauene, Chairman, Standing Committee of the ECOSOCC, Social and - Health Affairs and Programme Manager for Foundation for Community Development.

- **Mama Koite Kumbia, Chairlady of Femnet – Mali**
- **Hussein Abdi Elgalil Mohamed – Representative – ECOSOCC Standing Committee, Sudan**
- **Ms Renate Bloem – President of Congo**

*“The Actors of ECOSOCC are the elected members to the ECOSOCC general assembly.”
Helder Malauene, Chairman, Standing Committee of the ECOSOCC*

Helder Malauene, Chairman, Standing Committee of the ECOSOCC presented the strategic plan for ECOSOCC and presented the vision of ECOSOCC as a means to enabling a “peaceful, integrated and prosperous Africa, driven by its people, a dynamic force in the global community.” He placed ECOSOCC as an organ of the AU. Mr Malauene described ECOSOCC as a ***well-organised, transparent and accountable civil society at continental level that can contribute to:***

- Harnessing the potential of African people and civil society to raise voices and defend their interests in the AU
- Building a people’s driven and responsive AU
- Achieving the mission of the AU through dialogue and partnerships
- Promoting a culture of good governance, democratic principles and institutions, human rights as well as social justice
- Charting Africa’s future in a perspective of continental integration

Mr Malauene went on to present the strategic objectives of ECOSOCC detailed in Annex 4

Mama Koite Kumbia Chairlady of Femnet – Mali sited problems with ECOSOCC firstly due to the fact that the organization was set up in Addis Ababa, while everyone came from different countries. They also did not have any funds to put the mission, vision and infrastructure of ECOSOCC in place. They were unable to plan all this and negotiated with AU for one million US\$ so that they could start the mission of information sharing. Unfortunately at the AU, there was a dictate that they had to start of with regional organizations, yet they had to set up the National infrastructure first before moving forward. She added that there are problems as the structure is not functioning the way it was planned to.

“We met in NBO and developed an action plan which we could not implement in time. We made a decision to review and raise funds for ECOSOCC. This commission was unable to work effectively as it could not approach donors. Mama Koite Kumbia Chairlady of Femnet – Mali

They have funds to meet twice a year but there was a problem. For example the president of ECOSOCC is never available. Things are slow and they (ECOSOCC) are unable to move forward. She added that they have a budget, action plan etc but if the caption is not active, they have serious problems because the ship will sink with all the passengers. She suggested that the president should resign and let other less busy people take over. She proposed that the participants share the information with those at home to help find a solution.

Hussein Abdi Elgalil Mohamed – Representative – ECOSOCC Standing Committee, Sudan

Mr Mohamed said that the ECOSOCC is an initiative of the AU and the CS and as we know. The AU is an intergovernmental body and more than 53 countries have membership. He stressed its importance as an advisory role. He supported the presentation given by Mr

Malauene, and added that in Sudan there were many constraints to the functioning of the organ. They hold a lot of consultations so as to hold effective elections. He added that they were also struggling to make it work but hopes that this forum will find solutions.

Comments from the Floor:

- This is the biggest task for ECOSOCC, as they will have to set up platforms to work with the UN to create effective linkages with other NGOs. ECOSOCC needs to get organized. They are poorly funded and it seems that the funds issue was not resolved when the organ was created. CSOs present suggested mobilizing the resources themselves and taking ownership.

- There are strong political linkages and no society has resource to fund the ECOSOCC. Even AU has no money to finance the ECOSOCC. This places the foreign donors in total control as they are necessary to complete development. www.ecosocc.org to check on the website of ECOSOCC.

- There should be a lobby group formed from within the CSOs to make the governments realize the strength of having an organization such as ECOSOCC, so that they take it more seriously.

Working Session 3 Part II: Lessons learnt from involvement in the African peer review mechanism.

Facilitator:

- **Subramonia Ananthakrishnan, Chief, Partners and Youth Section, UN-Habitat**

Panelists:

- **Steven Grizd, Deputy Head – Governance and APRM Programme.**

- **Ambassador Bethwel Kiplagat**

Steven Grizd, Deputy Head – Governance and APRM Programme presented the APRM involvement as a process aimed to improve governance and enhance development, identify problems, instituting solutions, peer learning and national dialogue. The APRM also does internal and external reviews based on SAQ and measures adherence to African and global standards in 4 thematic areas.

Mr Gritz said that they have set up informational workshops to educate CSOs about the process and interact with their governments to hold them accountable for what they are putting together. **He said they have a CD Rom of this information in English.** They are also writing a book on APRM lessons learnt which is currently in production. The APRM process is a tool to improve governments and can be described as:

- A Process aimed to improve governance & enhance development, identifying problems, instituting solutions (POA), peer learning, national dialogue
- An Internal & external review, based on SAQ, needs varied research & consultation, civil participation

- It measures adherence to African & global standards in 4 thematic areas; democracy and political governance, economic governance and management, corporate governance, and social economic development.
- The reviews must be 'technically competent, credible and free of political manipulation'
- Consultative and transparent - open door for CSOs – contest for space

They have achieved the following:

- SAIIA - independent research & public policy think-tank, with a strong Africa focus
- The Nepad & Governance Programme (2002-2009)
- They have conducted APRM research/civil society training in 11 countries (Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Mauritius, Malawi, Tanzania, Angola, Namibia, SA, Zambia, Lesotho)
- They have formed a research agency in SA using APRM process (2006)
- Developed an APRM Toolkit CD-Rom, web portal, forthcoming book 'APRM Lessons Learned' (2007)

The full presentation attached in Annex 5

Ambassador Bethwel Kiplagat presented the APRM structures and gave advice on the processes. He said that the best method of citizen involvement would be by sitting on the council, and encouraged participants to advocate for the APRM as it is their right to be involved.

He said bodies should undergo the APRM to achieve the following:

For Governmental motives:

- Improve the national image – proof of reform
- Africa's side of the Nepad deal - bring more aid, trade, investment, debt relief
- Reduce conditionality by donors
- Take a more organized, integrated approach to planning

For Civil society opportunities:

- Identify and elevate neglected problems
 - SA (crime, violence against women & children, political party funding, education)
- Hold governments to solutions, and delivery within given timeline
- Might work where PRSPs, MDGs etc failed ...
 - Not externally imposed
 - Peer pressure from African leaders?

CSOs were cautioned on the following:

- Avoiding greed!
- Remembering it's about principles, not per diems!
- That CSOs can be quickly overtaken by events and marginalised if waiting for funding, or permission. Contribute voluntarily
- That a little funding can go a long way
- That Civil society in-fighting sets poor precedent (Kenya)
- That they are unlikely to rapidly secure large funding, but can create a track record, towards a future grant

The structure of the APRM is in 5 levels of management. So far, 25 countries have signed up, and the 25 presidents of those countries sit at the panel at the top of the structure to give it strategic direction. Unlike ECOSOC, it is voluntary. Then there are 7 members on a

panel made up of respected senior diplomats and academicians to ensure integrity in the process. Then there is the APRM secretariat staffed by members from all over the government. (Very few Africans work here.) After this is a temporary body called the country review team who travel from country to country to review the processes. And finally at level 5, each government appoints a liaison to link what happens nationally to the APRM. Civil society is involved heavily along with government and private sector. See Annex 5 for full presentation.

Working Session 4: The NGO Debate, is the African NGO an endangered species?

Facilitator:

Brian Kagoro – Activist

Presenters:

For - Bachir Kanoute, ENDA TM, Senegal

For - Warren Nyamugasira Uganda National NGO Forum, Kampala

Against - James Gadin, West African Civil Society Forum *(WACSOF) Nigeria

Against - Fatimata Burkinabe, Coalition Nationale pour L’Habitat, Mali

Brian Kagoro posed the question, is the African NGO an endangered species?

For - Bachir Kanoute, ENDA TM, Senegal

Questions of sustainability and effectiveness of NGOs would seem to suggest that NGOs remain a foreign phenomenon many decades after they became a feature in African societies. The ensuing discussion focused on what this means for the future of NGOs.

“There are many difficulties between NGOs and environment. If there are no problems then that would be a problem!” Bachir Kanoute, ENDA TM, Senegal

Mr Bachir Kanoute, said that no matter what is said, NGOs and Africa remain synonymous. The current Benin and Senegalese presidents emerged from the CSO sector. In Benin, the civil society is very organized and knows where it’s going. He sited that in Africa civil society is almost like the official opposition and that all CSOs should be able to build on their diversity and differences to build a network. He warned that the CSOs have the influence to swing a presidential vote.

Warren Nyamugasira, Uganda National NGO Forum, Kampala said that we have so many forces raised against the CSOs. Some governments would rather not have a civil society and if you are African, the forces that can be applied upon you by the government and their operatives are very great. He added that the lower you go the easier it is to cove one down especially in countries that still have one party system.

“Africa has very high birth rate, we grow fast and we also have a very high death rate.” Warren Nyamugasira Uganda National NGO Forum

He said that development partners should be friends to the CSOs but that this was not always true as they often changed their minds. It is possible in Africa to be killed before you have a chance to make any headway as a leader of a CSO.

James Gadin, West African Civil Society Forum *(WACSOF) Nigeria commented on the issues of sustainability and effectiveness: On issues of sustainability, the contemporary

rules are important. "What are the funding sources?" he posed, "People think we can only get funds from outside, where as we have our own governments that have budgets reserved from these things and these are public funds and as citizens working for the public good we should have access to these goods."

Regarding professionalism he said the CSOs must be professional and qualified. For them to be treated seriously it should not be a hit or miss, they must be serious. They must ensure that they are dedicated so that others do not come and offer them big jobs causing them to leave the NGOs. They must involve the critical sector of society in all activities.

Fatimata Burkinabe, Coalition Nationale pour L'Habitat, Mali: Ms Burkinabe said that NGOs will not die as they are with the grassroots. They are feared and revered as they have power due to the grassroots connection. They (politicians) are only interested in votes so they lie and cheat to get the vote. So we must promote the NGOS this way we can force our governments to do what the grassroots want to do.

Comments from the floor:

Mr Charles Abanai, Development Practitioner: Key is knowledge and alternatives, Independence rooted-ness etc. Independence is a core value that CSOs must have. We must have our own funding so that we are not puppets of those we are challenging.

Participant: We seem to have a fear of succession. What we are fighting is what is happening to us. This may be the root of extinction.

Ms Zamele Twala: Europeans are willing and able to come and volunteer here and become experts but our own are unwilling to accept the terms of volunteering.

5 things to remember in avoiding extinction:

- Leadership
- Funding
- Sustainability
- Effectiveness
- Legitimacy

Thereafter a vote was taken from the floor to establish the opinion of the participants on whether the NGO was indeed in danger of extinction. The vote went as follows:

They are an endangered species.....23 votes

They're not an endangered species....26 votes

Abstained.....1 voter who opposed the proposition

Working Session 5: Frank Talk in the Family

Facilitator:

- Kaari Murungi – Director UAF Africa

Presenters:

- Dr Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem, Deputy Director – Africa Millennium Campaign

- Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Executive Director – African Womens Development Fund

- Irungu Houghton, Pan-African Policy Advisor – Oxfam

Facilitator Kaari Murungi – Director UAF Africa introduced the question “Are NGOs ready to face up to scrutiny? What challenges confront the sector and how could they be addressed.” A panel of practitioners were introduced to share their personal critical views on challenges that confront the sector in respect to image integrity and effectiveness and suggest ways to address the issues. The panel strived to find away to build the image of the African NGO and establish a charter which spells out their aspiration.

Dr Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem, Deputy Director – Africa Millennium Campaign said that the whole spirit is really for the CSOs to begin to talk to each other more frankly, and to be honest with each other. Others are already talking about us and we need to begin to avoid washing dirty linen in public.

He said he went for a meeting in Abuja on APRM funded by outsiders not Africans. There was the usual nonsense about per diems, etc. What really angered him is that it was the staff of one of the funding agencies that was paying out per diems, meaning they didn't trust the participants. So donors even follow us from country to country to hand out the money. As CSOs they must face up to these things and claim our space with these bigger agencies. We have given them the impression that we need them more than they need us which is not true. They think they can do anything to us.

He said the big issue is that many things have been done right, but too many have been done wrong. The first challenge we face is political, eg legitimacy... “Who are we? Who do we represent?” “who are we accountable to?”

He asked why do the African CSO leaders get so impressed with big titles like Executive Director? He said that it is a weakness. If CSOs say that their Governments are so egotistical and power hungry, what are they doing? When are they going to hold themselves accountable to each other?

He said, “There's problems of mutual suspicion, but we tend to like SIDA, USAID etc. But we are suspicious to our own governments we don't trust. But how then can we fight for our issues if we don't trust our own. We need to change attitudes that have been shaped by long-term dictatorship in our countries. Why do we always look for funds from abroad, yet we don't want them involved in the accountability? This is a contradiction. We should be self sufficient if we don't want to be accountable. “

“We also don't interfere with the politics of the donors just because they're giving money, but we interfere with that of our own governments. This is also hypocritical.”

He reminded those present that it was the commitment of people that got rid of colonialists, yet now this commitment is not really there in the face of getting funding. Why do the CSOs have to look for funds from outside in the first place.

He said leadership is a key issue, the business of NGOs that are no bigger than kiosks, “me and my friend,” with tough proposals, nowadays its not technical know how, its technical know whom! In the 80's they criticized local NGOs, but now they have to fix them. Its unrealistic to think that because Africans are in the foreign NGOs that they now become pan - African.

He added that they must be able to have those discussions openly amongst themselves. He knows people that are wizards at fundraising, but when they get the money, they now see it as theirs! Also some of those donors give money upfront in advance making it difficult to not miss the funds!!!”

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Executive Director – African Womens Development Fund presented the case study on an executive director of an organization funded by public money who was always away from 2 p.m. on private business, yet the server was in her office, making it difficult for the others to work once she left. These are examples of those who need to be named and shamed. Every organization has a mission which should be accountability

Ms Bisi also spoke on the leadership challenge. Challenging managers that they have many degrees but if they have no passion for the work, that they may never make good leaders.

“Sustainability, this is an overused word. But until we master the leadership and accountability challenge, we can not address the sustainability issue. We need to invest more in non profit learning.” Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Executive Director – African Womens Development Fund

She said that they needed to sort the issue of remuneration in the business, and need caring honest hardworking people who can work hard to change the world.

There are cases where some donors are not considerate and refused to fund women’s programs and that’s how Bisi got involved with the African Women’s Development Fund. The first Africa wide fund which funds African women’s organizations to deal with women’s issues. They have funded over 350 women’s organizations in 35 African countries. Our budget is large and we plan to make ourselves sustainable by sourcing from alternate funders.

She added that in July 2003 in Zanzibar, 35 of them got together to plan an African feminist congress which eventually happened in 2004. They did not succeed, and left Zanzibar after abusing themselves and abusing the space. Many acted badly, others acted very badly and it was collective bad behaviour. It was done with donor money and the report was never done due to the bad outcome.

They decided to give it another try on different terms and rules of engagement and they now have a charter of feminist principals to avoid this happening in future.

In conclusion, she said that although they agree that NGOs are not set up to make people rich, they must find a way to ensure that the leaders of NGOs do not have worries about their own costs of living. They must also re-brand the sector so that people can take the sector seriously.

Irungu Houghton, Pan-African Policy Advisor – Oxfam said that in 1991 when he went to look for a job, the NGO he went to was very unfriendly, and meeting lasted 3 minutes. When he asked for a job, they sent him out. Eventually, he served on the board of this NGO. He explained the confusions of the rules surrounding NGOs in Africa.

“There are trees that ensure that nothing grows underneath. There are also trees that produce flowers and seeds that will nurture and produce things that grow underneath. Which one of these are you working for?” Irungu Houghton, Oxfam Great Britain

The main tone of his presentation was that many NGOs have very strange and fluid operating systems within that need to be rectified and strengthened. Also there is a shift toward greater public exposure. He said that NGOs should have flatter and more cost effective structures in house for sustainability.

He said that a carefully crafted charter may be the best way to go in terms of developing a set terms of reference of some sort to streamline the systems that are used in African NGOs in order to create a more accountable system of management and interaction between them.

Comments from the floor:

- Mohamed Said Said from Morocco Social Forum. Regarding funding of NGOs is an issue as it touches on the autonomy and independence of NGOs. Our governments have a role to play. Why should we depend only on foreign donors rather than on our own governments? NGOs play social welfare roles, etc and should be supported by our own governments. For example in Morocco women's issue' play a huge role and we respect their issues and opinions. The values inculcated through education from the South.

- Mama Koite: In Africa we have problems because women are jealous of each other. They put banana peels under each others feet so that they can fall. There are also many duplications of NGO's and the Government should stop creating too many duplications. The Government eliminates the efforts of the indigenous NGOs. We should have stronger organizations rather than duplicates which make us end up with no winners in these processes.

- Why are we still fighting over social status and gender? We need to share this product so that WSF can have copies right away,

- Corrine Kumar, Tunisia International NGO. Violence is escalating and the categories of NGOs are insufficient to manage the problems. Poverty has a history, and if we don't look into this history, we will continue to work with the same tools thus keeping us in the same position as our minds are colonized with the sameness. We need to have people who act not just talk. The World Bank description of poverty of anyone earning less than a dollar a day is inaccurate, can not work any more as a (valid) description. We need a new frame of knowledge surrounding

- Emmanuel, Congo. My query is problem of funding in NGOs. We keep saying that we should get funds from our government. But if we take from our government, how can we have our independence. The moment we receive funds from a government, we will be considered a government CSO. So we will be trapped. We talk also of representatives, but right here I don't see much representation right here in this room, such as pigmy's etc Maasai etc. They should be here to assist us in our way forward.

- Volunteerism and other issues have to do with poverty as we recruit people who come with hopes. When we don't pay them they will walk away and form other NGOs where they can make their own money, so we need to see how to manage this.

Cristabell: Youth are not represented, yet youth are asking for professionalism. Yet there are those NGOs that are family funds etc. youth also volunteer and get sent to conferences etc, their voices need to be heard. So the role of volunteering needs to be looked into in NGOs.

Response to comments:

Dr Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem, Deputy Director – Africa Millennium Campaign. “A difficult topic, not an either or situation. I am an afro optimist and have confidence. As Africans we need to be proud. Are we proud to be Africans. To be black and relatively conscious is to be angry all the time. So that means that to be African is to be angry. There are many things we do right, but too many things we are doing wrong.”

Irungu Houghton, Pan-African Policy Advisor – Oxfam, “When I joined Oxfam, those working in Africa had difficulties inventing targets messages activities, strategies etc. But I didn’t find the same for those in the north. I wondered if we are inherently disempowered or what? We were unable to plan ahead. Structurally, planning is impossible as we do not have the financial power. Those within Aids organizations find it hard to maintain structure.”

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Executive Director – African Womens Development Fund, gave thanks to Ezra for organizing the forum. “I think I want to give thanks to Ezra for organizing this forum. Mwengo should institutionalize this process maybe every other year. Where there’s a will there’s a way. We should have a forum for African Executive Directors and team leaders etc, whereby they get together to have frank talk amongst themselves, I feel in this way a lot can be gained by the experience. We are calling for the balance. We need more clarity more focus and a more structured way of doing things.”

Working Session 6: To what extent are we providing leadership? How do we move forward?

Facilitator: Mosi Kisari Tanzania

This session provided for group work on case studies and questions for discussion and the floor divided into three groups, two English and one French.

Group 1 French

ID Theme 1: Defining CSO roles, responsibilities and relationships.

What can African CSOs do to enhance or sustain their initiative and visibility in National and local situations?

- The NGOs should maintain a credible partnership with the private sector, as NGOs have a lot of mistrust between them and the private sectors. This is not a good thing and should be rectified.
- The NGOs, considering their social environment, should be able to listen to their own environment to promote solutions that are sustainable. The challenges in this environment should define their existence. They should always be abreast with what is happening.
- NGOs can make their existence more sustainable by creating conflict competition. Interests are conflicting, so once identified they should be able to be very careful with their goals and act according to an agenda, thus work with the private sector.
- The personalization of the NGO makes only its leader visible. NGOs should be recognized for what they do not their leaders.

- The media should also be able to report well on the NGOs so that what they do can be visible.
- They should also capitalize on their expansive networks.
- They must ensure the platform is developed to ensure policies and that the NGOs are able to participate in these. We should be able to know what's happening at the regional levels as these are the best places to discuss issues identified at the local and regional level.

Group 2 English

ID Theme 2

Characterizing civil society leadership and governance

What questions of values or ethics is the CSO leader in Africa faced with today?

- Sometimes money is offered that may bring about conflict regarding whether to accept the money or not, as the sources are questionable. As they approach the end of the year, the temptation is there to just agree to collect funds from questionable sources. This leads to problems with independence and control on who now will dictate the tune and the dance steps. Example is collecting from tobacco companies or alcohol or oil exploitation companies which conflict health and environment.
- There are issues of corruption. They are ready to pay for activities but won't pay for communications, rent and other transport related costs. Temptation is there to use this money for the other things and do some creative accounting at the end of the month. This leaves space open for CSO leaders to do creative accounting. Or they are forced to go knocking from door to door looking for funds.
- In Uganda CSOs have incidents of donors giving money to governments and then expecting the Government to subcontract a non state actor. The CSOs found that in order to win those contracts, they are forced to give kickbacks and commissions. If they don't they lose the contract. There are also boards that put aside money in order to win government tenders. They now have a special budget to which they can give the government commission, they then have to raise 90% of the required budget for the work and the government will give them only 10%.
- Ethics are always brought into question and they are always faced with the decision of whether to get extinct, or adhere to the commissions.
- In Sudan, getting money from government is difficult as they don't allow certain payments to be made, so it becomes difficult and sometimes funds have to be pinched from those kitties from which certain payments are illegal.
- CSOs attract high level educated people as leaders and expect them to work for nothing being non profit org. What will stop such people being corrupt to feed their families?
- Other issues, like how the leaders treat the other staff, the subordinate staff, and the project personnel come into play here.
- As heads they have to do other private consultations and charge separately for them. Others can see that they are able to charge much higher amounts so they feel it's better to go directly and make more money. The focus was getting lost from NGO to now money making commercial orgs. How many people are ethical enough to bring it back to the organization?
- There are also situations where donors give large amounts of money but are not ready to pay for any audits, or various other activities such as transport etc. This leaves the way open for corruption.

Group 3 English

ID Theme 3

Beyond organizational systems, managerialism and service delivery

What should capacity building of CSOs emphasize in order to strengthen their legitimacy and leadership for social development in Africa?

- They should be able to check on how.
- They must have succession plans in place so that someone else is able to take over the leadership positions.

- Focus on the constituent to bolster their understanding and create a sense of ownership at the development process. This will also ensure their expectations and interest.
- They should have clarity of identity – this will define their value and principles besides strengthening their convictions and focus on the constituents.
- They should have continuous evaluations mechanisms and concentrate on their competitive advantage rather than being too donor driven.

Working Session 7: Identifying African Priorities

Facilitator:

- Mr Kumi Naidoo

Presenters:

- Ms Elizabeth Lwanga – UNDP Resident Representative
- Ms Mariam Yunusa – Coordinator for WUF – UN-Habitat
- Ms Renate Bloem – President of Congo

Elizabeth Lwanga – UNDP Resident Representative said that UNDP realize they can not support government efforts without involving civil society. As an intergovernmental body, it's important to forge partnerships. She stressed that UNDP has an affirmative policy for promoting the work of southern NGOs as they realize that the civil society are best placed to put development into the right context.

“The United Nations in particular UNDP are truly committed to partnership with civil society.”
Elizabeth Lwanga – UNDP Resident Representative

She said that civil society has a major role in stopping conflict in African society. They have the necessary connections. In many cases, CSOs jump on the band wagon to save lives during war and conflict, then it becomes too much (fire fighting) and then they loose sight of searching for solutions to stop the conflict.

She mentioned that they have seen many successful efforts to stopping conflict proving that CSO leaders have a key role to promote peace in the region. And should continue to aim at promoting peace. So as to help African countries transit from war to peace and recovery. It is only local organizations and societies who can manage these processes. She has seen a number of countries evolve into democracies. But many of these are still very weak, some of them are not real democracies. Consolidating democracies is a challenge that CSO have to take. They must be meaningfully engaged in an honest and constructive way to resolve these issues.

Ms Lwanga said that globalization is another phenomenon. It still is a challenge for Africa and those who have understanding and skills in issues of trade, must make their voices heard to provide constructive guidance to African governments during the negotiations.

She added that there are improvements in the leadership of African countries, and that there is an opportunity for development work on the MDGs as they have been accepted as a global agenda. CSOs were encouraged to look into this area for funding especially in Africa. There are increased resources coming to Africa for MDGs and various other agendas. Its up

to the CSOs to provide the means and ability to develop proposals to make sure the funds reach those who are in need.

A key challenge is organization. The CSOs must be better organized to come together around common issues in an activist way and even in a practical and professional way. She believes that most governments cannot do it without civil society. They need governance structures within NGOS and CBOs which is still a great challenge. The inability to mobilize their own resources continues to weaken the work of local NGOs so there is a need for innovation in organizing local funding sources.

CSOs were advised to have better organization and identify strategic partnerships in an activist, practical and technical way. Most governments recognize they can't do it without CSOs. So the CSOs must prove they are able to manage this first fixing the weak structures within them that create problems. She advised that they must reach the private sector as a way to funding some of the development objectives.

In conclusion, she said that UNDP has rolled out a new agenda focused on capacity building development focusing on the pro-poor growth and accountability. UNDP are ready and anxious to support CSOs with this work, so please go to UNDP offices in your respective countries to focus on those areas.

Ms Mariam Yunusa – Coordinator for WUF – UN-Habitat

Significance of the urban sector is always under-rated. Whatever civil society can do to prepare themselves as effective partners of urban government, they will do the government a world of good. CSOs must ask themselves what they can do differently, to get their leaders to assist with government policy development.

Ms Yunusa said that the Executive Director of UN-Habitat Dr Anna Tibaijuka has been called upon to continue development of cities as engine of growth. CSOs must be careful therefore not to antagonize and or confront governments on their own turfs. They must take a balanced diplomatic approach and equip themselves as effective partners in development. Her challenge is for CSOs to ask themselves what they can do differently and better to get the leaders to understand that they need a different set of skills for effective development.

She said that Africa is the least organized but the fastest urbanizing continent right now. She added that UN-Habitat is doing her best to assist governments to prepare for an urbanized situation. Africa priorities can not be achieved except through the ways the CSO are able to develop.

Renate Bloem, President of, Conference of NGOS in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) said that the NGO CONGO is an interface with the UN, seeing the CSO voice is ever larger and enhanced. Today it is an umbrella organization that needs to have an African civil society forum. She mentioned 3 issues of utmost importance to the CSOs as:

- ❖ Human security
- ❖ Human rights
- ❖ Development issues and finance

She went on to stress the importance of interfacing with UN and other multilateral organizations as key to achieving their objectives. "If the voices of people are not heard, nothing will be achieved."

Comments from the floor:

- Some of the priorities of NGOS could be access to clean water, poverty etc MDG
- Strategic partnership is very important as we face challenges in CSOs
- Young NGOS have problems as they are unable to get a share voice and cannot get funds from places like UNDP. Also there is a lot of talk at meetings but very little impact at the grassroots level.
- What can be done to break the whole mentality that we are there for government and not CS?
- They must set mechanism in each country to see how to have consultative processes that can be put in place correctly.
- There should be a follow up on youth participation through out this whole process.
- We need to strengthen the building of our own capacity by emphasizing exchange of our own orgs.
- We hope to introduce these resolutions to the WSF to see if we can get support for what has been said in here.
- Could we document best practices so that we can find better ways to move forward?

Responses from the presenters:

Ms Elizabeth Lwanga – CSO must create checks and balances to have accountability. Lets work together to ensure resource get where they're going.

Ms Mariam Yunusa – UN-Habitat can assist to get accredited as our partners. UN-Habitat is known to all local authorities, so you do have a very important part in our processes. We are a stable partner and will not run off!

We need more women as key partners around the table. There is a pan-African movement NEPAD, which should be considered as there mandate is to fill the gaps to negotiate with donors.

Renate Bloem – In support of all the above comments. Also to be remembered is ICT as a cross-cutting issue that needs to be considered as an important part of the process.

Summit Concluding Statements

The following are the points agreed as the way forward for the CSOs:

1. Set benchmarks by sharing, challenging each other, and re-branding the sector, taking into account the role of politics to establish a set of standards of excellence, by which performance can be measured.
2. Hold annual meetings to establish this space as a meeting opportunity for strengthening, giving feedback and discussing the priorities.
3. Interface with APRM, ECOSOCC, NEPAD more effectively. Quote Steve “Unless the civil society does something, nothing will move forward.”
4. Strengthen their capacity to interface with other multilateral organizations within the concept of the Paris Declaration, as a means to strengthening the roles of the CSOs.
5. Aggressively explore ways for harnessing Government assistance without compromising their independence and autonomy.
6. Urgently move to diplomatically resolve the issues with ECOSOCC performance.
7. Strengthen and coordination an integrated approach to learning and capacity building component for the NGO sector

Content

- Gender equality and gender based violence
- Consolidation of peace and Resolution of conflict.
- Democratic consideration and Enabling Environment including strengthening of human rights and rule of law
- environment
- HIV Aids
- Economic and social justice Eradication of poverty – wealth creation, Infrastructure (for distribution purposes)

Constituency

- More effort into the consideration and integration of youth in the CSOs
- Inclusion of women
- HIV Aids
- Disabled
- Indigenous peoples in Africa
- Minority Groups
- Internally displaced people and refugees
- Vulnerable groups

Closing remarks by Anantha Krishnan, Chief of Partners and Youth Section – UN-Habitat

There are rules that limit UN participation with CSO work, but we need to try and see how these processes can take place. UNDP will soon have civil society focal points. UN will try to see that the African ECOSOC gets some support to make things easier. As we are housed here in Kenya, we will try to see how to make this possible. We're happy to be associated with this process, thanks to Ezra for taking this under his wing.

Quote: Kumi “Africa is truly one of the richest continents in the world, but we have to carry the legacy of slavery and the fact that it has been impoverished by history.”

End of summit

Annex 1: PROGRAMME

AFRICAN SUMMIT OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

DAY 1: Wednesday January 17 2007

9h00. WELCOME SESSION:

- **Getting to know one another.** *The facilitator leads an introduction session – which ends with a discussion on:*
 - Motivation and who is here
 - What we hope to achieve
 - Programme format – brief overview

After the overview they invite the context-setting presenter to share on:

- **What do we know about The African NGO**
 - Basic information, assumptions impressions.

10h00 WORKING SESSION 1:

- **Learning from Experience**
What Drove Us Then – What Drives Us Now?
-Three NGO practitioners drawn from different “eras” of NGO existence will share their views on their work in the sector. The panel chair will attempt to capture the main motivating factors from panelists and moderate a discussion between panelists and with participants in the plenary session.

11h10 Tea/coffee Break

11h30 WORKING SESSION 2:

This will be a plenary Presentation

Who Defines our Roles, Image and Relationships? Looking Beyond Stereotypes

This presentation explores the differences between how the African NGO is perceived how African NGO practitioners perceive themselves.

12h30 Lunch Break

14h00 WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS 1:

Regional Integration

- What are the hooks?
- What role can we play?
- Do we lead or follow?
- Who do we work with?
- Main themes and interests
- Informing our constituencies
- Future prospects

EVENING COCKTAILS

DAY 2: Thursday January 18, 2007

9h00 WORKING SESSION 3: Part I

“Whither ECOSOCC?”

This session will consist of a question and answer conversation during which ECOSOCC Interim Committee members will respond to the questions of NGO practitioners regarding the processes that created ECOSOCC, the status of the mechanism now and how committed the AU really is, to working with Civil society. This will be a moderated conversation, which will bring the audience in after the initial introductions/questions.

9h45 WORKING SESSION 3: Part II

Lessons from involvement in the African Peer Review Mechanism

10h45 – 11h15 Tea/Coffee Break

11h00 WORKING SESSION 4:

The NGO debate:

Is the African NGO an “Endangered Species”?

Questions of sustainability and effectiveness of NGOs would seem to suggest that NGOs remain a ‘foreign phenomenon’ many decades after they became a feature in African Societies. What does this mean for the future of NGOs on the continent?

The moderator will summarize the conclusions at the end of the debate and take a vote, which will be recorded for the final report and recommendations

12h30 – 14h00 Lunch Break

14h00 WORKING SESSION 5:

- Frank talk in the family:

Can We Really Face Up to Scrutiny?
The Case for Peer Review Within the sector

This will be a working session comprising discussions around what challenges confront the sector and how we might attempt to address these in a practical way. A panel of respected practitioners will share their personal critical views on challenges that confront the sector in respect of image, integrity and effectiveness – and suggest how we might want to address some of these challenges both at the organizational as well as personal levels. Questions such as the value of naming and shaming will feature here. The panel will then proceed to speak to the building of the image of the African NGO and in turn the sector in Africa by establishing a charter, which spells out our aspirations and the standards by which, we should be judged. They will explore ways of linking this to questions of solidarity across the continent and how to improve resource flows into the sector through innovative resource mobilization initiatives.

DAY 3: Friday January 19, 2007

09h00 WORKING SESSION 6:

It is all about leadership and strategy!
The question of leadership – how do we move forward?

10h00 WORKING SESSION 7:

Identifying African Priorities

Two presenters will be invited to speak to the Key African Development priorities and how the African NGO fraternity might best pursue these.

11h00 Coffee/tea break

11h30 The meeting will break up into groups to discuss NGO priorities in respect of the following:

- Maximizing impact via strategic relationships
- Research and development from an African NGO Perspective
- Policy advocacy and how to build our capacity
- Supporting principles participation/empowerment
- Increasing NGO visibility.

12h30 Closing Plenary
- Concluding statements on how to gear up for the future

SUMMIT CLOSING STATEMENT and closure

Annex 2: List of Participants

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Abie Dithake	SADC-CNGO	Botswana	27727466397	abied@sadc-cngo.org.bw
Leandre Yameogo	ASPDROL	Burkina Faso	00226 76 67 01 63	aspdrol@yahoo.fr / masadaconsult@yahoo.fr
Sore Zongo Fatimata	C.N.H.A.	Burkina Faso	22676625936	wendtiri@yahoo.fr
Fatimata Burkinabe	Coalition Nationale pour L'Habitat	Burkina Faso		
Emmanuel Bayeni	CDHD	Congo-Brazzaville	242 548 50 26	ebayeni@yahoo.fr
Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi	AWDF	Ghana	233321780476	bisi@awdf.org
Stella Kofie-Yariga	AWDF	Ghana	23321780476/7	stella@awdf.org
Mardey Ofoe Ohui	Foundation for Female Photojournalists	Ghana	00233-244-658900	ffpnet@yahoo.com
Rudo Chinga	Oxfam GB	Great Britain		
Phillippe Obure		Kenya	20248456	obure@youngvoersior.ke
Janet Nzomo		Kenya	20312073	janetlangat@yahoo.com
Tade Aina	The Ford Foundation EA	Kenya		t.aina@fordfound.org
Aseghedech Ghivirmazion		Kenya		aghinwaiou@yahoo.com
Betty Murungi		Kenya	254202731094	kaari@urgewactionfund_africa.or.ke
Charles N. Mbugua		Kenya	254722517852	mbuguacharles@yahoo.com
Kennedy Masime		Kenya	722907918	kmasime@cgd.or.ke
Brian Kagoro	Action Aid	Kenya	724268150	brain.kagoro@actionaid.org
David Mugah	Youth for Habitat	Kenya	202214820/218339	dmugah@gmail.com
Aristarchus Munish	Youth for Habitat	Kenya	0721968044/020214820	starroi@yahoo.com
Bedi Tshinema	World Service of Mercy	Kenya		bedi@worldserviceofmercy.org
Linus Onyango	Kibera Community Youth Programme	Kenya	734561259	onyongo_linus@yahoo.com
Cristabell Opudo	Stay Alive Group	Kenya		copudo@gmail.com
Peterson Githinji	Children Homes of Africa Network	Kenya	725926100	chanhomes@yahoo.com

Johnah Josiah	Commonwealth Youth Programme	Kenya		
Brenda Isabel	USAID/Shadz Classics	Kenya	725752409	sweet_ezzybee@yahoo.com
Paul Mwangi	CRUT	Kenya		transmara_net@yahoo.com
Sylvester Abuonji	CRD	Kenya	722857046	sranyondo@yahoo.co.uk
Gladys Macharia	CRUT	Kenya		transmara_net@yahoo.com
Gerald Kimeu		Kenya		kimeuge@yahoo.com
Mutea Rukwaru	NASW	Kenya		nutearukwaru2003@yahoo.com
Jane W. Wamburu	IFSW	Kenya		
Samuel Auma	PEI	Kenya		asamkarema@yahoo.com
Janet Mawiyoo	KCDF	Kenya		janet.mauijou@kcdfoundation.org
Stella Agara	YES	Kenya		stellamelus@yahoo.com
Kennedy James Gichuki	BCEDG	Kenya		jakugi@yahoo.com
Albert Chagama	YECO	Kenya		algemavs@yahoo.com
Carolyn W. Muigai	MAPESO	Kenya		shirumuigai2002@yahoo.com
Purity K. Nduru	YECO	Kenya	722277581	purity.kariko@yahoo.co.uk
Robert Njoroge	Africa Youth Trust	Kenya		robert@africayouthtrust.org
Phares Karanja	CHD	Kenya	722795958	phareskaranjo@yahoo.co.uk
Charles Abani	Action Aid-Africa	Kenya		charles.abani@actionaid.org
T. Ole Parkire	Narasha Cultural Group	Kenya		narasha64@yahoo.com
Edwin Wachira	C.R.D.	Kenya		ewachiraw@yahoo.com
Esther Aleyo	S.D.O.	Kenya		estheraleyo2006@yahoo.com
Philise Nyagoha	S.D.O.	Kenya	724348398	
Hesborn Onchieku	C.P.A.	Kenya		hedunnie@yahoo.com
Faith Mullumba	Seeds for Sustainable Trust	Kenya		faith.mullumba@gmail.com
Felistus	C.T.R.D.	Kenya		
Thierno Kane	UNDP/New York	Kenya		thierno.kane@undp.org
Stephen Odhiambo	NEPAF	Kenya		odisja@yahoo.com
Steve Kirimi	CYKV	Kenya		kirimi@youngvoters.or.ke

Robert Nzioki	Commuters Welfare Association	Kenya	coweg2004@yahoo.com
Titus Kibue	KENDREN	Kenya	tito@yahoo.com

Ekuru Aukot	Kituo Cha Sheria	Kenya		
Monica Njoki Muniv	Maerdele Poverty	Kenya		
Mercy Muthon Mbugua	Maerdele Poverty	Kenya		
Emmanuel Manyasa	CFEM	Kenya	723845707	emanyasa@yahoo.com
Jacquie Kegode	Rapporteur	Kenya	733741700	jacquie.odanga-kegode@unhabitat.org
Molef Mafanti	Lesotho Council of NGOs	Lesotho	22312705	
Parfait Randrianitovina	SAHA	Mauritius		saha.com@iris.mg
Patrice	KMF/CNOE	Mauritius		cnoe@wanadoo.mg
Noormamode Yousoof	MALOSS	Mauritius		macoss@intnet.mu
Saadi Mohamed Said	CERAB	Morocco		saadi113@yahoo.com
Oloyede O. Emmanuel	NNNGO	Nigeria	2348054506651	cyigitemmy@yahoo.com
Antony Akpan	Pan African Vision for the Environment	Nigeria	2348033570419	nnngo@nnngo.org / aydpon@yahoo.com
James Gadin	West African Civil Society Forum	Nigeria	2348054435042/23496725158	mrgadin@yahoo.com / j.gadin@wacsof.com
Oluyemisi Obilade	WARSHE	Nigeria	234-803-7196667	oobilade@yahoo.com
Bachir Kanoute	Enda Tiers Monde	Senegal		ulkanoulie@enda.sn
Madjguene Cisse	REFDAF	Senegal		refoldaf@seutoo.sh
Charlie Hughes	FORDI	Sierra Leone	232-30-213-554	tormabum@hotmail.com
Zanele Twale	SANGOCO	South Africa	27114037746	zanele@sangow.org.za
Helder Macauene		South Africa	258823150050	hmalauene@foc.org.mz
Steven Gruzd	SAIIA	South Africa	2711332021	gruzds@saiia.wits.ac.za
Tina Thiar	INWF	South Africa		tina@inwf.org
Elhussein Mohamed	Freedom Equality Peace Society	Sudan	24992973819	husseinpeace@hotmail.com
Renati Bloem	Conference of NGO's (CONGO)	Switzerland		rbloem@mgolougo.org
Kalugendo Gadi	TAWLAT	Tanzania	2550754565857	gmkalugendo@yahoo.com
Doris Marealle	TAWLAT	Tanzania	12+255713270535	tawlat@yahoo.com

Mosi Kisare	EASUN	Tanzania	255-75-4552542	easun@habari.co.tz
David Driskell	Cornell University	U.S.A.		dd96@cornell.edu
Regina Bafaki	AFCODE	Uganda	256-41-531815/256-78-2516006	btrejis2002@yahoo.com
Warren Nyamugasira	NGO Forum	Uganda	256 31 260373, +256 41 510272, +256 41 501674	ngoforum@infocom.or.ug
Mama Koite Doumbia	FEMNET	West Africa		mamakoite@yahoo.com
Karuti Kanyinga			733615826	karuti@south-co.ke
T. Abdul Raheem			726503315	
Henri Valot	Civicus			henri.valot@civicus.org
Jeannette Eno	ANWA			enocsl@aol.com
Francis Nganga Nyotu	CEMO			frany099@yahoo.com
Daniel Lago	Nyawawa Forest Watch			mrlagodan@yahoo.com
Naftali Mwaura	Africa Science M. Services			naftalimwaura@yahoo.com
Jesse Gichini	COTRAD			jessegichin@yahoo.com
Mawuli Dake	New Field Foundation			mawuli@newfieldfound.org
Adwoa Bame	WISE			abame@wise-up.org