



# IIFWP Newsletter

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## IIFWP Sponsors Conference on UN Millennium Declaration

by Dr. Thomas G. Walsh

On October 20-22, 2000, in New York, the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) and the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO), co-sponsored a conference on the theme, "The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations: A Response from Civil Society."

This conference was initiated as a follow-up to IIFWP's Assembly 2000 that took place in August 2000 and offered recommendations on the "Renewal of the United Nations" for presentation to the Secretary General and the principals of the Millennium General Assembly. As a complement to Assembly 2000, the "NGO Conference" provided an opportunity for the civil society to

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*NGO leaders gather at the United Nations to discuss the Millennium Declaration*

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## IIFWP International Education Programs

by Donna Selig

Just as parents feel joy at their child's accomplishments, whether a baby's first step or a young adult's graduation from college, so too do the founders, staff, and seminar graduates of the IIFWP want to see its ideals and goals manifested substantially. The IIFWP is therefore proud to announce the launching of International Education Programs (IEPs) in nations around the world.

Driven by the fundamental ideals of service and education, which are at the center of the IIFWP's vision and mis-

sion, the IIFWP has initiated a wide range of educational programs and seminars dedicated to topics such as strengthening the family, promoting interreligious cooperation, renewal of the United Nations, international public service, and character education. Recently the IIFWP completed a series of 12 international seminars on these themes. However, during the IIFWP's historic Assembly 2000 in New York City in August, a plan was developed for convening educational programs in every nation of the world before the end

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## IIFWP Newsletter

*IIFWP Newsletter* seeks to promote a global culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation amongst secular and religious leaders of all nationalities, faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Published quarterly, *IIFWP Newsletter* will provide updates on IIFWP events and activities, short articles and papers, as well as a digest of news on organizations, issues, and events related to achieving a peaceful world.

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## From the Editor

*In this issue of the IIFWP Newsletter we proudly report on two programs of which we are extremely proud. The first covers the recently convened conference in New York, on October 22-24, which brought together representatives of international civil society from more than one hundred nations to deliberate on the document which issued forth from the historic United Nations General Assembly in the year of the new millennium. This document, known as the "Millennium Declaration," offers the counsel and recommendations of the world's heads of state on matters of critical concern to humanity.*

*However, what was missing in the "Millennium Declaration," as insightful and constructive as it is, was the input of other critical stakeholders in the human quest for peace, that is, the members of civil society.*

*The IIFWP conference, hosted by the Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations, and co-sponsored with the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO), offered a golden opportunity for NGOs to voice their concerns, affirmations, and recommendations. In turn, the documents that emerged out of the conference, now published, are being made available to the United Nations and governments around the world. The quest for peace needs to be inclusive and comprehensive.*

*The other feature presented in this issue concerns the remarkable educational program initiative which IIFWP launched, again working closely with WANGO, in October, and which has as its mission to convene educational programs in 190 nations before the year's end. At present these educational programs are well under way and reaching the peak of activity. The salient themes presented in these programs focus on strengthening the family, public service, character education, values and principles, renewal of the United Nations, and interreligious cooperation. These themes are central to the vision and mission of the IIFWP, but they are also themes and concerns that in many ways are basic to the founding ideals and vision of the United Nations itself. It is in the spirit of assisting and supporting the work of the United Nations, and civil society, that these programs were undertaken.*

*These events are signs of great hope, not only for the well being of the IIFWP, but for the global goal of establishing a culture of peace. We hope you enjoy and are inspired by these reports. We welcome your input, comments, and opinions. Also, please don't forget to visit our web site at [www.iifwp.org](http://www.iifwp.org).*

## Welcoming Address of H.E. Amb. Makarim Wibisono

Delivered at the IIFWP and WANGO Conference on “The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations”

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to extend a warm and cordial welcome to all of you to this conference which explores the theme, “The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations: A Response from Civil Society.” This conference has given us the first opportunity to formulate our response to the Declaration adopted by the historic Millennium Summit held under the auspices of the United Nations in September 2000. Our meeting, therefore, apart from being timely and appropriate, has the weighty task of not only reviewing its outcome but also facilitating the implementation of its decisions, conclusions and recommendations. I would also like to express my appreciation and gratitude to IIFWP and WANGO, especially to Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, Dr. Wally N’Dow, and Mr. Taj Hamad, for organizing this conference.

Let me begin my remarks by a caveat. Many centuries ago, a great Greek philosopher, Socrates, observed that “the unexamined life is not worth living.” This wisdom implies the need for a continuous interaction between humankind and its context of living. In our context, it is essential to respond and examine the Millennium Declaration — which is a human *mode of production* in Popper’s philosophical system — in order that it contributes to the creation of the worthiest world for us to live in. Our gathering here is very germane to this wisdom.

The issues and categories to be reviewed and discussed by both the panelists and participants of this conference, which are identical to those contained in the Millennium Declaration, are critical to the future of mankind. These have been broadly grouped under values and principles; peace and security; development and poverty eradication; protecting our common environment; human rights, de-

mocracy and good governance; protecting the vulnerable; meeting the specific needs of Africa; and strengthening the United Nations. These are the dominant challenges facing the international community in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For practitioners of international politics and international organizations, the importance of adhering to some intrinsic values and fundamental principles has long been self-evident. These are epitomized, in our times, in the Charter of the United Nations. That document has an ever-lasting significance and all member states need to re-dedicate themselves to its vision which alone will strengthen the Organization and thereby lay a strong foundation for common security and generalized prosperity. The Millennium Declaration made a pointed reference to freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature and shared responsibility along with brief explanations of what they mean. I do hope that during your

deliberations these worthy concepts will be susceptible to common interpretation and general acceptance.

It is also significant that the Charter enunciates numerous principles of a sacrosanct nature whose scrupulous observance would make manifold contributions toward amity and cooperation among all nations. And over the past more than five decades, the General Assembly, based on these principles, has defined issues relating to peace and security, promoted development, combated poverty and established guidelines to deal with such new and emerging problems as environment, population and human rights. Its overarching goal has been, and must continue to be, the enhancement of the human condition and provisions for its security. These noble objectives are rooted in the Charter which mandates the United Nations to create conditions

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IIFWP Chairman Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak greets Amb. Wibisono



## International Public Service and a Culture of Peace

by Dr. Thomas G. Walsh

On September 29-October 2, 2000, the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace sponsored its tenth International Seminar in London, England. Over 400 international delegates addressed the theme, "International Public Service and a Culture of Peace." Seventy-seven nations were represented. The conference was co-sponsored by IIFWP International and IIFWP-Europe. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak served as the Chairman, and Rev. Kwang-Kee Sa, as Co-Chair.

The conference was the first collaborative effort between the international office of IIFWP and one of its continental offices. Due to very good communication and cooperation between the offices and their respective staffs, the conference was very well organized. Special appreciation is due to Mark Bramwell and Timothy Read from the European office.

The conference program centered on the theme of public service, promoting the ideal of "living for the sake of others." Session themes included the following: "Moral Foundations of a Culture of Peace," "The Moral, Social, and Global Significance of the Family," "Character Education," and "Models of International Public Service."

Speakers included Dr. Wally N'Dow, Convener of the State of the

World Forum; Dr. Neil Salonen, President of University of Bridgeport; Dr. Ninian Smart, Rowny Professor of Religious Studies at University of California Santa Barbara; Dr. Seriah Rein



*Dr. Thomas Walsh opens the conference*

of Concerned Women for America; Dr. Gordon Anderson, Secretary General of Professors World Peace Academy; Dr. Kathy Winings of the International Relief Friendship Foundation; Dr. Frank Kaufmann of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace; Mr. Robert Jordan, an activist working with United Nations NGOs; Amb. Semakula Kiwanuka, Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations; Ms. Mable Millner of Boston University; Dr. Ryszard Pachocinski of Warsaw University; Dr. Daria Brezinski of Integrated Learning Systems; Mr. Jack Corley of International Educational Foundation; Mr. Robin Graham of Global Teamtogether; Massimo Trombin and John Gehring both of the IRFF and Religious Youth Service; and others.

Many international dignitaries were in the audience, including Mrs. Mary Note, the First Lady from the Republic of the Marshall Islands; the Hon. Arnold Ruutel, former President of Estonia; H.H. Mohsin Ali Kahn of Hyderabad; Hon. Benasing Macarambon, a Sena-

tor from the Philippines; H.E. Alberto Pedrosa, Philippine Ambassador to Belgium; Amb. Badru Kettarega, Vice Chancellor of Kampala University; and Dr. Frederika Rice, Executive Member of the U.N. Association of Great Britain. Participants testified that the conference was a huge and unqualified success, helping to fill the great need for a clear moral vision for the twenty-first century.

The IIFWP is proud to be the host of these seminars, and gratified by the results. Following the conference, the IIFWP, along with representatives of the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, sponsored a day of training for IIFWP delegates from around world who volunteered to participate in the development and implementation of an international educational program which emphasizes public service, character education, renewal of families worldwide, the dialogue among civilizations, and the strengthening of the United Nations. This educational program is expected to be co-sponsored by IIFWP and WANGO, and in collaboration with the United Nations. Also, at the follow-up training program, the plans for the convening of an international conference for non-governmental organizations, co-sponsored by IIFWP and WANGO, and convened in New York on October 20-22, was announced and explained. ☺



*Discussion group*



*Guests perform at the closing banquet*

# Executive Summary of The Millenium Declaration of the United Nations: A Response from Civil Society

by Dr. Mark P. Barry

The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations: A Response from Civil Society” was held in New York at the United Nations Headquarters and New York Hilton Hotel from October 20-22, 2000. Hosted by the Mission of Indonesia to the U.N. and co-sponsored by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) and World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO), it was attended by over 500 representatives of NGOs and civil society from 105 countries. Conference Co-Chairs were H.E. Ambassador Makarim Wibisono, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the U.N., Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, Chairman, IIFWP, and Dr. Wally N’Dow, Secretary General, WANGO.

The conference took place five weeks after the Millennium Summit of World Leaders convened at the United Nations attended by 150 heads of state, government and royalty — the largest gathering of world leaders in history. The world leaders unanimously adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration at the Summit’s conclusion (approved in General Assembly resolution 55/2). The document, itself derived from U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan’s *We the Peoples* millennium report — contains a statement of values, principles and objectives for the international agenda of the new century and sets deadlines for many collective actions. It is a significant statement outlining the shared values and those critical areas in need of serious consideration as we look into the new century and new millennium.

The co-sponsors convened this conference to respond to the Millennium Declaration — the core results of the Millennium Summit — in the belief that

it is essential for representatives of civil society to enter into dialogue, as partners, with governments, and offer their wisdom, insight and recommendations, as called for by the Secretary General. The responses consisted of reactions from IIFWP, WANGO and individual NGOs who examined the Declaration in detail, including its stated values. The conference served to link constituent NGOs from within their tradition to the U.N. IIFWP’s response focused on the role of the family, while WANGO specifically focused on the six values elaborated in the Declaration. These six enunciated values were intended to be linked to the larger community of NGOs, especially the religious and spiritual community and value-oriented NGOs, from within their respective traditions.

The partnership of governments, NGOs and civil society can help realize the vision and objectives of the Millennium Declaration. This conference represented the first such effort in the process of discussion, support and advocacy of the principles and objectives outlined in the Declaration. It also represented a follow-up effort by IIFWP, which sponsored “Assembly 2000: Renewing the United Nations and Building a Culture of Peace” at the U.N. in August, just prior to the Millennium Summit, to evaluate the results of the deliberations of the world’s leaders.

The conference itself was structured around the eight major themes of the Millennium Declaration:

1. Values and principles
2. Peace and security
3. Development and poverty eradication
4. Protecting our common environment
5. Human rights, democracy and good governance
6. Protecting the vulnerable
7. Meeting the special needs of Africa

8. Strengthening the United Nations

Presenters reviewed each of these subjects and offered recommendations. Special sessions were held on three additional topics of the potential partnership roles of NGOs: “NGOs as Partners in Debt Relief and Financing for Development,” “NGOs as Partners in Values and Public Service,” and “NGOs as Partners in Strengthening the Family.” Discussion groups were then convened around the eight themes of the Millennium Declaration, in terms of how NGOs respond to the Declaration and how they can work together.

## Opening Statements

At the opening of the conference, Dr. Neil A. Salonen, Secretary General of the IIFWP, welcomed the participants. He observed that many of the problems of our world transcend the traditional political questions with which the U.N. has traditionally dealt — oftentimes, they become questions involving an entire region or the globe. Often the roots of conflict can be found in culture or religion rather than nationality. Thus, only a broader discussion and examination of a question that can bring about certain solutions. “The IIFWP vision,” he said, “is to create one network where members of the religious community can come together and give their advice to members of the political community with an eye toward broadening and transcending some of the solutions that have been limited by political questions in the past.” The IIFWP has proposed a broader construction of the United Nations system so that there would be a formal way for world religious leaders to provide advice to the world political community. Dr. Salonen urged the NGO community represented in the conference to act in order to make a difference

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ence in the world: “if we do that...it will be a catalyst because I believe the time is right,” he said.

Mr. Taj Hamad, Executive Director of WANGO, reminded NGO representatives of the significance of Habitat II, held in Istanbul in 1996, which was a landmark meeting for NGOs who were called to attend as full U.N. partners. Similarly, this conference is also a watershed for NGOs because it represents the inauguration of the first global association of NGOs. He observed that the Millennium Declaration made many promises to the next generation, and it is our responsibility to keep them; NGOs must work harder than before. He asked participants: What do you want to do with this Declaration? How can WANGO help you achieve what you want to do? How can we enhance NGO interrelationships, U.N.-NGO relations, and NGO-state relations? It is up to NGOs to seize the moment, he concluded.

Each of the Co-Chairs made preliminary remarks that set the tone for the deliberations. H.E. Dr. Makarim Wibisono observed that it is essential to examine and respond to the Millennium Declaration, the magnum opus of the world community through the U.N., so that it contributes to the “creation of the worthiest world for us to live in.” He said the eight categories of issues dealt with in the Declaration are the dominant challenges facing the world community in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He stressed that the United Nations Charter epitomizes the intrinsic values and fundamental principles of international relations; its overarching goal is the enhancement of the human condition and the provision of human security. The Charter mandates that the United Nations create stability and well-being to promote socio-economic progress. Today, he said, the challenge for governments and civil society is “how to collectively fashion an effective system

of global governance to manage the massive changes...transforming the shape and substance of international relations at the onset of the millennium.” Thus, in this context, the role of civil society, he noted, as partner of governments and the United Nations, cannot be over-emphasized, particularly in the



*Dr. Nicholas Kittrie*

follow-up of recommendations adopted by the Millennium Summit. Future global decisions will not only be decided by government representatives, but by representatives of global NGOs.

Co-Chair Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, speaking from the perspective of the IIFWP, said that the world cannot achieve lasting peace without a greater partnership and cooperation between governments, civil society and the world’s religions. Secondly, he stressed that the family as the foundation for world peace must be strengthened as it has profound social, moral and global significance. He then mentioned the three proposals made at Assembly 2000 at the United Nations by IIFWP Founder Rev. Sun Myung Moon: to establish a council of religious leaders within the structure of the U.N.; to establish peace zones under U.N. jurisdiction between the borders of nations in conflict; and, to establish a day of international appreciation for the family. Dr. Kwak noted that the IIFWP pro-

posed at Assembly 2000 the development of an international educational program which emphasizes:

1. The importance of character education;
2. The profound social significance of the family;
3. The value of interreligious and international harmony and cooperation;
4. The need for a close cooperative relationship between NGOs and the U.N.; and,
5. The need to cultivate a universal attitude of living for the sake of others and build a team of global peace volunteers who embody these ideals.

In particular, he said that NGOs and civil institutions should act according to the highest moral standards and ethical norms, and avoid becoming too narrowly focused or self-interested; special interests should never cause us to overlook universal interests. Finally, he asserted that the “world is on the threshold of a great new moment, one in which the history of suffering, injustice and selfishness...can be transformed.” This change will come through a change in culture or consciousness, which will also have the capability of providing practical solutions to global problems.

Co-Chair Dr. Wally N’Dow termed WANGO a new house for civil society and NGOs. In particular, he applauded its inclusion of the religious and spiritual dimension — one which addresses human solidarity and the need for civilizational change. He noted that the rise of NGOs has been described as a power shift away from the government as the only authority over the human future, and to the non-state sector in the lives of people the world over. N’Dow said it was a watershed moment in the history of the U.N. when the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders convened inside the U.N. Headquarters in late Au-



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gust. It was a “fundamental acknowledgement...that it is not enough to view the world mainly as a political arena for contest and competition, but it is more important as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century that we work for all or work for none, to bring the spiritual dimension into full focus.” He said NGOs are teaching there is another kind of globalization, that counters or mitigates the negative effects of economic globalization: the globalization of the human spirit, of faith, a globalization from below, mediated by love and understanding by the non-governmental sector of humanity. N’Dow spoke of several ideas that should govern the partnership between NGOs and governments:

1. Global partnership as a way of reaching out across the boundaries of community, race and nationality;
2. Enablement so that partners can act properly and with energy;
3. Information technology as the backbone of NGO collaboration; and,
4. Leadership training as a foremost task of NGOs.

He contended that human security must no longer be seen in terms of how to protect national territory with military power, but in terms of educational, health, nutritional and other basic needs being met. He said NGOs are more than ever involved in a new humanitarianism of both conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction. Regarding economic globalization, he asserted that the world must not be viewed as a journey for trade and commerce, with life driven by market forces, but as the unfolding of a divine drama, where others’ problems are one’s own concern.

### Reviewing the Millennium Declaration

The major points of the Millennium Declaration were then examined and evaluated by several scholars and NGO leaders. Ms. Deborah Moldow, Co-

Chair of the Values Caucus, said thinking about **values and principles** uplifts our consciousness, putting us in touch with our sense of purpose and that which is noblest in the human spirit. Her belief is that all people share our highest values, and that a sense of shared values can be an important cross-cultural bridge to understanding and concerted action. She cited the six values and principles in the Declaration: freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, and shared responsibility, which are reaffirmations of the principles of the U.N. Charter. The U.N. is the only repository for the world’s values, and for 55 years has served as a laboratory for finding common expression of shared values, the common good. Of course, governments can sign on to a statement of values and go home to business as usual. But, in her view, governments are made up of people who have consciences, and can be prodded by the NGO community. She said that NGOs are known as the conscience of the U.N.

Mr. Solo Dowuona-Hammond, President of the Olof Palme Peace Foundation, on the theme of **development and poverty eradication**, noted the lofty objectives in the Declaration, such as halving the world’s extreme poverty by 2015. All of these goals hinge on the “recognition, promotion and protection of human rights and good governance.” The right to development is an inalienable human right, and sustainable development places people at the core, viewing them as both a means and end of development, not as a means to other people’s ends. Human rights and sustainable development, he said, are inextricably interwoven and mutually reinforcing. Regarding the North’s apparent reluctance to implement debt forgiveness for lesser developed countries (LDCs), he suggested that the U.N. set up a committee within the Economic and Social Council that would operate an escrow account for LDC payments; from these payments, projects could

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*Conference delegates ponder a point*

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then be undertaken in conjunction with LDC governments, the private sector and civil society. Thus, such an arrangement could ensure the efficient and judicious use of resources, avoiding corruption and the cancellation of debt.

Dr. Nicholas Kittrie, Chairman of the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute for Justice and Peace, addressed the theme of **human rights, democracy and good governance** by first highlighting the chasm between the Declaration's espoused values and the reality. He asked how much credibility lies behind a resolution of an international assembly which, after 55 years since its creation and the issuance of innumerable declarations, permits nearly half of the world's population to subsist on less than \$2 per day. The Declaration sets out to attain seven specific human rights objectives, including upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Yet, for example, of the 190 U.N. member states, only 95 have signed the existing protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Thus, there are many words, promises and resolutions, but far less in the way of actions. There is little hard evidence of how many Declaration objectives are indeed being implemented. Moreover, the Declaration demands that governments not merely refrain from doing wrong and evil, but requires, in effect, "participation, sensitivity, and cooperation by...people, churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, [youth] organizations, labor unions, scholars, and philosophers," he said. True implementation of the U.N. objectives calls for popular support and popular vigilance, not merely governmental pronouncements. This is why, Dr. Kittrie said, that a civil response is required, and a civil mobilization needed, to build a better world.

Dr. Yvette Stevens, Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the

Least Developed Countries, U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, discussed **meeting the special needs of Africa**. She said that in the Millennium General Assembly there was general support for a comprehensive and integrated approach to be taken toward conflict prevention in Africa, including peace-building, poverty eradication, development and democracy. The Security Council's agenda centered on how to enhance U.N. effectiveness in the maintenance of international peace and security in Africa. It spoke to the need to address pressing social and economic problems, to ensure ro-



*Karen Judd-Smith*

bust African economic growth, and integration into the world economy as essential elements of conflict prevention. It also gave prominence to post-conflict peace-building, reducing the spread of disease, especially HIV/AIDS and malaria, and the problem of illicit trade in natural resources, including diamonds. At the Millennium Summit, 35 African heads of state spoke, noting that Africa is a microcosm of the challenges the U.N. will face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Several called for the creation of a global assistance fund to be used for poverty eradication. Many leaders also called for debt cancellation so that resources could be reallocated for pressing economic and social needs. Dr. Stevens noted that Southern African leaders said HIV/AIDS is the challenge of the mil-

lennium for their countries, and that the U.N. and the private sector must work together to seek an effective remedy to this pandemic. Leaders also complained that African countries have been unable to harness the opportunities of globalization. They advocated fair terms of trade, open markets, strengthening capacity and narrowing the digital divide. British Prime Minister Tony Blair called for a "new partnership for Africa... where all the problems are dealt... in a coherent and unified plan." Leaders also observed that in order to reduce poverty, concrete steps need to be taken to increase official development assistance (ODA). Overall, she noted, the Millennium Summit deliberations, as reflected in the Declaration, called for a new deal for Africa to address the plight of poverty, conflicts and HIV/AIDS, based on the independent thinking of Africans and a comprehensive approach by its partners.

Dr. Allan Gerson, Director of the War-to-Peace Transition Project at the New America Foundation, discussed **strengthening the United Nations**. He observed the post-Cold War period has been primarily characterized by civil wars and internal or intrastate wars. These forms of warfare result from the vicious cycle or reactions of war and poverty: armed conflicts weaken the ability of the state to provide minimal social services and development, and this inability further fuels grievances and a readiness to take up arms. Only the creation of employment opportunities can nurture and sustain fragile peace agreements, and this will require a greater partnering between the U.N. and international financial institutions. The U.N., he said, is essentially a political institution which does not know much about economics. NGOs can successfully act as intermediaries between the U.N. and these international financial institutions. Finally, he called for a



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new structure in the U.N. which gives a voice to NGOs and the private sector so that they can work better together in a collaborative way.

The other three major themes of the Millennium Declaration — **peace and security, protecting our common environment, and, protecting the vulnerable** — were addressed by a reading of the relevant article of the Declaration itself.

### NGOs as Partners in Debt Relief and Financing for Development

Dr. N'Dow gave an overview of the problem of debt and financing for development. He noted that many governments are at war with their own people, and that a large part of that war is caused by abject poverty and the lack of meeting basic human security needs. He stressed that the poor are not only poor but also vulnerable, especially women and children. He discussed the subject of debt relief, which has been led by NGOs throughout the world with some success. Raising the subject of unequal trade, and the achievement of trade with equity, he recounted that indexation — indexing what one nation produces to what that nation needs to purchase — had been extensively worked on by world leaders a quarter century ago, but the deliberations did not bear fruit. After the Cold War, he observed that we now have a war for resources and markets, which impacts on development. We must examine, he said, the relationship between the arms trade and poverty, under-development and civil strife. Finally, he reminded participants that 2001 will see a major United Nations conference on financing development, in which NGOs must actively participate.

Dr. P. Basak, speaking on behalf of Mr. Oscar de Rojas, Executive Coordinator of the Financing for Development

Secretariat of the United Nations, agreed with Dr. N'Dow that a new war of grabbing natural resources is taking place. He said 80 per cent of the Declaration directly or indirectly concerns environmental degradation. Three questions need to be answered: what can be done to keep the planet healthy, lively and full of vitality; what types of sustainable development programs can be undertaken to obviate environmental problems; and, from where can the finances be mobilized for such development? He focused on the last question, and emphasized that all economic decisions have to be integrated with the environment of that country. This is because conservation and restoration that ignores human needs is not sustainable. He then proceeded to give six examples of how this integration may be accomplished, and in the process, funds obtained without asking from major world bodies.

### NGOs as Partners in Values and Public Service

Dr. Frank Kaufmann, Executive Director of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace, discussed the theme of values in a theoretical and philosophical level. He observed that a clear delineation of values must underlie all attempts to chart a positive course for the United Nations in its second fifty years. He described in greater detail the formulation of curricula, as mentioned earlier by Dr. Kwak, that infuses the wisdom of the ages into the contemporary values listed in the Declaration, as well as arriving at sound and tested pedagogical methods to transmit these values to others.

Dr. Kathy Winings, Vice President, International Relief Friendship Foundation, discussed integrating values and service. She argued that NGOs have learned that for sustainable change to

occur, it requires the efforts of more than one generation and more than one sector of society. Now is the time to go beyond the confines of our own particular spheres of responsibility if we are to fulfill the Declaration. Education is needed not merely for literacy and intellectual development, but for the “knowledge that we gain through learning from our past and from the wisdom of our cultural and religious heritage. This is education in the six values in the Millennium Declaration.” Such education, she said, provides the vision, motivation and direction toward which we must go, as a global society, but it is especially needed by the coming generations who will substantially shape the future. Service projects are one way to bring to society those values that can contribute to creating a culture of peace. Dr. Winings said that the “beauty of responding to these values is that it challenges our tendencies toward isolated disciplines and provides an arena in which intercultural, interreligious and interdisciplinary cooperation can occur naturally and harmoniously.”

Dr. Andrew Wilson, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Unification Theological Seminary, spoke of crafting a global curriculum for WANGO that offers the wisdom of the world's religions and cultures as they elucidate the values underlying the Millennium Declaration. He stated he is against the notion that globalization must flatten the world's cultural diversity. The world's cultures will address values rooted in their respective religious traditions. Of course, this raises the question if various cultures will arrive at divergent rather than common values. American educators, Dr. Wilson noted, have successfully overcome the problem posed by culturally determined values through a process of evaluating values by consensus. Character education today in the

*(continued on next page)*

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United States emphasizes values remarkably similar to the six listed in the Declaration. He said he was therefore convinced that we can meet in a common affirmation of these six values. Moreover, he suggested that the centrality of the family, including respect and care for the elderly, be additionally affirmed given that it was not included in the Declaration.

### NGOs as Partners in Strengthening the Family

Mr. David Blankenhorn, President of the Institute for American Values, discussed why all states should recognize and protect the family. He said, “[G]overnments must recognize and respect the natural family in much the same way, and for exactly the same reason, that they must recognize and respect human rights, since the natural family...is a gift from nature and nature’s God, thereby constituting a fundamental dimension of human flourishing...” The family is cradle of civil society, its first and most important institution. He decried “no fault divorce” in the United States, which he termed unilateral divorce. For the state arbitrarily to declare that a marriage may be immediately and unilaterally broken by either spouse for any or no reason is, in essence, to abolish any legal recognition of marriage. He urged that a coordinated, international, multi-sectoral social movement be begun to strengthen and defend the institution of marriage.

Ms. Phyllis Bennett, faith-based liaison for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, noted that this year’s World Summit on Social Development, sponsored by the U.N., declared the family as the basic unit of society, playing a key role in social development, and pledged to promote a strengthened role for the family. She said we must recognize that the profound importance of the family transcends cultural and religious boundaries.

Karen Judd-Smith, IIFWP Director of Development and Public Affairs, said the family is the vehicle to implement the very things which allow us to create a culture of peace on earth. “Every single person builds peace through day-to-day relationships within the family,” she said. It is within the family that one first learns, through the example of parents, how to live for the sake of others. The issues of poverty and sustainable development can first be creatively solved within the family framework. Thus, the marriage relationship and family is the core from which we can transform our society, she said.

### Building Cultures of Peace and Leadership

Rev. Dr. David Randle, President of Wellness Health and Lifestyle Education, discussed the interrelationship of global perspectives, culture and religion, and leadership education. He noted that the process of leadership has everything to do with being effective in facing challenges of the material world, and today, it has been discovered that challenges are most successfully met and overcome by whole groups tapping into such things as purpose, passion and compassion, which lie at the core of human beings. He said the call to leadership is now more like a journey than a job, a journey to the heart and soul to remember the values and visions that most inspire us and reawaken the experience of deeply caring for ourselves and others. When it comes to the effectiveness of an organization or program, it depends upon people and how well they are able to interact to make a difference. He stated the chief relationship skill is communication that can create breakthrough results.

### NGO Discussion Groups

Eight discussion groups met simultaneously on each of the main themes

of the Millennium Declaration:

The **Values and Principles** group noted the roots of Western culture are grounded in the wisdom of the community, but has degenerated today into an obsession with the rights of individuals. Some participants felt that the Declaration reflected the values of only the North not the less developed South. Representatives called for the creation of a values structure that all can agree upon.

The **Peace and Security** group asked WANGO to develop a culture of peace, which would include education against drugs and armaments, and for education in peace and tolerance. They called for WANGO to be a mediator, negotiator and implementer of peace zones, as elaborated by Rev. Moon.

The **Development and Poverty Eradication** group called for NGOs to be interconnected on the local, national, regional and global levels. They noted that education of those in poverty is important as oftentimes the poor simply do not have the opportunities to develop themselves. NGOs should help manage official development assistance, especially to safeguard it from corruption.

The **Protecting Our Common Environment** group suggested WANGO offer input into the ten-year review of the Rio Summit in 2002. The group identified the critical importance of water, and the possibility of water as a source of conflict. Water should be seen as a human right. Leadership training for NGOs was seen as vital, whether to withstand the pressures of commercial interests upon NGOs or to assist elected officials who respect the environment to find alternatives in the process of development. The group stressed a consistent representation of the South in U.N. processes and the importance of South-South cooperation.

The **Human Rights, Democracy and Global Governance** group recom-

## Executive Summary

mended that WANGO take the lead in education on human rights. Much of the world's population does not know what their human rights are or how to implement them. The group also suggested that WANGO create an index of good governance. It was noted that government is by a small group over the whole population, but governance, which starts with oneself, is something in which everyone can participate. Transparency and accountability of governments was also stressed.

The **Protecting the Vulnerable** group stated that the category of vulnerable includes not only children, but the elderly and the physically-challenged. War-torn areas also have refugees who are exceedingly vulnerable. In terms of working together to implement the ideas in the Declaration, it was recommended that WANGO act as a facilitator among the spectrum of NGOs to assist in networking. Younger NGOs need to learn from older NGOs, and vice versa. Regional collaboration is particularly important.

The **Meeting the Special Needs of Africa** group recommended several points: that NGOs in cooperation with governments ensure that every child receives a basic education; that delivery of health care must reach the intended beneficiaries; that African countries introduce major languages into their respective curricula (French, English and Portuguese); that NGOs educate civil society as to their basic rights and empower them to bring good governance to African states; that debts that African countries owe should be forgiven; and finally, that the U.N. Security Council be restructured so that an African state could be given a veto power.

The **Strengthening the United Nations** group said the U.N. must reach out to NGOs in all communities and give them more input and participation. It should be clear how U.N.

funds are allocated since how much goes to administration was at issue. NGOs should have more power, the group said, for they are the backbone and grassroots of the U.N. There should be more representation from both the youth and the elderly. They noted the U.N. needs to be a leader by example: more action and less words. It should recognize and award exceptional programs. The Security Council should be restructured with the Third World given more voice.

### Closing Statements

Amb. Dr. Clovis Maksoud, Executive Director, Center for the Global South, observed that it is important to realize that not whatever is legal is necessarily legitimate, and in some instances, what is legitimate is not necessarily legal. Civil society, as the repository of legitimacy, must ensure that legitimacy is a matter of dynamic consent to governments — this is because many governments, under the pretense of being custodians of sovereignty, practice human rights violations in a systematic way. He argued that we must rectify the North-South equation, which is a matter of shame and a challenge for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We must deepen our sense of commitment to internationalism in order to allow sovereignty to become a legacy of human liberation rather than a shield and pretext to dehumanize human relationships. He added, “The United States, as now the only superpower, must be deterred so that [it] rediscovers its own values, so that its values are no longer a negation of some of its policies.”

Ms. Maria Figueroa Küpçü, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Development Conference, noted that there is understandable skepticism about the Millennium Declaration, but the dangers

of not trying to achieve its goals are too great a risk; together, we can succeed. She said the Declaration could have gone further to include how governments will help parents, grandparents and the extended family—all of which is so critical toward nurturing young people toward their full potential. NGOs can best show how these ideas can become reality by modeling change in their own organizations and expecting high standards of behavior from those who represent NGOs. NGOs should serve as role models to others. She said they have a “unique ability to reach into communities, to get closer to the people than any government agency could because we can change attitudes, persuade friends [and] encourage them.” She urged that NGOs become the training ground for tomorrow's government and business leaders, adding, “Only when there is cross-pollination of these sectors will the values that we think are important in the NGO sphere become internalized in the policies of society and the business practices of our corporations.” She stressed that NGOs not remain isolated but learn to speak the language of their partners.

In closing the conference, Dr. N'Dow once again proclaimed that WANGO is an idea whose time has come, and will become the premier global network of civil society in nations large and small, and the premier world body for training in human leadership. Dr. Kwak, in concluding remarks, stressed that NGOs should avoid the dangers and temptations which have toppled individuals and governments — selfishness and moral failure. Rather they must maintain the attitude of service to others. Participants were invited to attend future IIFWP and WANGO educational programs in their respective nations. 🌍



## International Education Programs *(continued from page 1)*

of the year 2000.

To implement this plan, an international seminar was held in London that drew more than 400 participants from more than 100 nations and many leaders of IIFWP chapters from around the world. During this seminar, held on September 29 to October 2 and focused on “International Public Service and a Culture of Peace,” a bold plan for the worldwide educational program was formulated. It was agreed that the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO) would co-sponsor the educational programs.

Since the London conference, IIFWP chapters around the world have been working round the clock, putting together seminars, each uniquely designed, but clearly focused on the central themes as described above. The vitality, enthusiasm, and vision engendered through these seminars are energizing the IIFWP network and serving to make the IIFWP a more effective and active force for peace.

Just one month after the programs were announced, the first of the IEPs was held in South America. On Nov. 2-4, **Colombia** hosted a continent-wide seminar that gathered hundreds of high-

level participants from 18 nations in the city of Girardot, a few hours’ drive from Bogota.

With the enthusiastic support of people who had attended earlier international IIFWP conferences in Washington, DC, New York, and London, the organizers brought together 95 academic leaders, 49 religious leaders, 18 politicians, 13 media representatives, 23 leaders of NGOs, 27 student leaders, and numerous other prominent professionals—a total of 401 guests. One Roman Catholic priest, who had attended a conference in Washington, DC, by himself brought 30 religious leaders from several faiths and served as a panelist. The seminar’s theme, “Character, Family, and Public Service: Establishing a Culture of Peace,” was discussed in five sessions. Dr. Thomas Walsh represented Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, the president of IIFWP International.

The rector of a university said, “The IIFWP programs bring valuable insights to solve the great problem of peace, and they reveal the importance of the family as the basic unit of society to achieve peace.” According to another participant, “The readings of Rev. Moon are nutrition for the soul.”

Following this success, conferences were held during November in **Brazil** (four separate conferences in different regions), **Ecuador** (also four), **Mexico**, and **Uruguay**. In December, 24 more conferences were scheduled in South America. Typical of these was the seminar held in Asunción, **Paraguay**, on Dec. 1-3. More than 300 participants—religious leaders, politicians, student leaders, and educators—discussed the theme of “Building a Culture of Peace: Universal Values and Voluntary Service.”

In the Caribbean, **Barbados** hosted a conference for 140 guests, and the **Dominican Republic** gathered 200 guests in early December.

The IIFWP of the **Philippines** sponsored a very successful conference on Nov. 7-8, 2000, at the Westin Philippine Plaza in Manila. The participants were honored by the presence of Rev. Kwak, who gave the keynote speech and the closing remarks. The luncheon speakers, presenters, discussants, and moderators represented a cross-section of leaders from politics, religion, academia, media, and public service.

Conferences were also held in the **Marshall Islands** and **Papua New Guinea** at the end of November, and in **Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Vanuatu**, and **Tonga** in December.

On Nov. 25-26 in Kanagawa Prefecture in **Japan**, 130 leaders gathered for a seminar on “Building a Culture of Peace in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century—Based on Character, Families and International Public Service.” More than half of the participants were distinguished scholars and educators, with the rest made up of religious leaders, journalists, lawyers, and diplomats.

**Pakistan** hosted an IIFWP conference of 300 participants from all over the country Nov. 24-26. They were honored to have many national-level leaders attend, including a former president, former chief justice of the Supreme Court, and many leaders from religious groups, as well as



*Conference participants in Colombia gather for a group photo*

## International Education Programs

the media, NGOs, and representatives of foreign missions serving in Pakistan.

The **Afghanistan** chapter of the IIFWP held a significant meeting in New Delhi, India, with 70 enthusiastic participants, including representatives from the Afghanistan embassy, the military, academic leaders, the leaders of the Association of Afghan Refugees.

**Mongolia** has a very active chapter of the IIFWP, holding one conference in early November (140 Participants) and another in early December (280 participants) for current and former members of Parliament, heads of universities and other educational institutions, and leaders from the world of television, radio, and newspapers, as well as outstanding religious leaders—Buddhists, Muslims, Catholics, and Protestants. They also had strong representation from youth leaders, women's groups, and NGOs.

Tashkent, **Uzbekistan**, hosted 235 guests at the Intercontinental Hotel on Nov. 27-28. The seminar's theme was "The Social Significance of the Family." The minister of education of the Republic of Uzbekistan particularly appreciated the value of the materials presented for the youth of his country and pledged support with translation and training of teachers to present the lectures.

With 25 African countries holding conferences in the month of December, **Kenya** took the lead on this continent by holding its conference Nov. 11-12 in Nairobi at the Grand Regency Hotel. Participants came from all over the country to discuss and hear presentations on the theme "Global Character Education for a Culture of Peace." The organizers had a goal of 360 guests, but 400 attended, despite the short notice on invitations. Rev. Kwak himself gave the opening address, and the day before the conference he was able to meet the president of Kenya, Daniel Totoitich Arap Moi, who gave his blessing on the seminar. Typical of the participants' response to the seminar is



*Uzbekistan participants applaud IEP speaker*

this comment: "As we learned, Rev. Moon has shown his concern and sacrifice for the sake of creating true peace and harmony globally starting from the grassroots level. The IIFWP must be given our collective support."

At the end of November, **Zambia** held a three-day conference in Lusaka at the magnificent Taj Pamodzi Hotel. The guest of honor on the opening night was the country's minister of communications and transport. The conference chair was Rev. Edith Mutale, a participant in the first IIFWP international seminar in Washington, DC, in July 1999, who had longed since that time to hold a similar conference in her own country.

With just three weeks to plan the conference, Rev. Mutale and the other organizers brought more than 250 guests, including a former vice president, a cabinet minister, a deputy minister, three former cabinet ministers, the mayor of Lusaka, two current and five former members of Parliament, representatives of all political parties, presidents of universities, and many religious and youth leaders.

Discussion was lively and enthusiastic throughout the conference. The

session that attracted the most attention was the final one on "Renewing the United Nations." One participant suggested that the Zambian constitution be amended to establish a body similar to Rev. Moon's proposed senate of spiritual leaders to advise the U.N.

The IIFWP has been busy in Europe also, holding 11 IEPs in November and 23 in December, most the first week of December. In **Bosnia Herzegovina**, 376 guests gathered on Nov. 25-26 in Sarajevo. They were government ministers, priests, professors, medical doctors, lawyers, journalists, student leaders, and NGO representatives. On that same weekend, 300 political, religious, academic, student, and women leaders met in Prague, **Czechoslovakia**. In December (according to preliminary reports received as of this writing), 210 attended IEPs in **Albania**, 330 in **Bulgaria**, 100 in **Germany**, 245 in **Hungary**, 236 in **Poland** (at their second conference), 250 in **Romania**, 120 in **Slovakia**, and 70 in **Slovenia**. The response in all cases was beyond the expectations of the organizers, both as far as numbers of participants and their positive response. ☺

## Amb. Wibisono *(continued from page 3)*

of stability and well-being to promote socio-economic progress.

While there have been revived expectations for a peaceful and more secure world, the reality in the new millennium is that we are far from achieving this goal. Weapons of mass destruction continue to threaten the survival of humanity. Conflicts abound and nations are struggling to adjust to drastically changed and changing political and economic circumstances. These have given rise to a growing sense of uncertainty, disquiet and disillusion. Consequently, there is far less assurance now on how best to respond to the demands and vicissitudes of a world of deepening inter-dependence among countries and the globalization of ever more intricate and inter-linked problems of peace, security and development. The pursuit of these aims involves not just preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and conflict resolution. Rather, they should resolutely tackle economic, social and environmental problems and thus the underlying causes of national and international conflicts.

Reshaping global economic relations is a formidable challenge facing us. Present development patterns cannot continue indefinitely to the detriment of the interests of the vast majority of developing countries. Global inequality continues to rise as about 1.3 billion people are estimated to live in abject poverty. For, while hunger rules, peace cannot prevail. It is a paradox that in this era of globalization, for many people on the planet, the United Nations' goals of peace and prosperity remain as elusive as ever.

While economic and social development suffer from severe imbalances, threats to the environment have become global in scale and devastating in impact. But changes are possible and, following the Millennium Summit, we now have unprecedented opportunities to break out of the negative trends of the past. This would, however, require

a more just and equitable distribution of resources both within and among nations.

Hence, the challenge for governments and civil society alike is how to collectively fashion an effective system of global governance to manage the massive changes that are transforming the shape and substance of international relations at the onset of the millennium. We can only succeed if nations will rise above parochial concerns and focus their attention on common long-term interests which are succinctly stated in the Millennium Declaration and which bind us all in a global neighborhood.

If these objectives are to be realized, then dialogue among nations is indispensable. It is only through dialogue that differences can be resolved peacefully and lasting solutions can be found to vexing problems. I submit that dialogue has become more urgent than ever particularly in the economic sphere that must be anchored essentially on the basis of mutual interests and benefits, shared responsibilities and genuine interdependence. And in this era of the interdependence of countries and the integration of markets, ideas and societies, the strengthening of partnerships between governments, civil society, international organizations and the private sector, including multinational corporations, has become of paramount importance.

I am used to speaking before members of the delegations of other countries. But today I meet with NGOs from all over the world. This is a milestone in the process of my career because right now the world has been changed. In the past, all of the global issues were decided only by diplomats. If you remember, the Vienna Convention was formulated by only diplomats or ambassadors. But right now, after the Cold War, global diplomacy has changed. The actors are not only governments or their representatives. The actors have proliferated and include the private sec-

tor, international organizations, NGOs, religious leaders, academics, mass media, and others.

Right now the new global diplomacy is similar to parliamentary diplomacy. The actors are more than government representatives only. So I have to remind you that today's global decisions, as well as future global decisions, will not only be decided by government representatives but also by you, representatives of global NGOs. This is the trend of global diplomacy right now and in the future.

All in all, the Millennium Declaration is the magnum opus of the world community through the U.N. to address the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and to outline the direction in overcoming them. As the resources of the U.N. and member states are not always available and sufficient, participation of civil society, like IIFWP and WANGO, organizations that all of you represent, has indeed become indispensable. You are the actors now and will be the actors in the future.

Since its birth in the Scottish Enlightenment tradition, civil society — many will call it the Third Sector — has been referred to that sphere of voluntary association and informal network in which individuals and groups engage in activities of public consequence. It is distinguished from the public activities of government because it is voluntary and from the private activities of the market because it seeks common ground and public good. For democratic society, it provides an essential link between citizen and state, and for international society, between citizens of various countries and international organizations. As per the United Nations, it fundamentally is an attempt to synthesize public and private good.

The civil society argument is most useful as a corrective to those who see government and formal politics as the primary focus of good citizenship and source of public goods, as well as to



## Amb. Wibisono

those who see the market action of individual consumers and corporate producers as largely irresponsible for freedom and good life. Since these positions are often attached to political ideology, the civil society argument is directive as a critique of both the left, too ready for government action, and the pursuit of distributive justice on the right, too unconcerned about the destructive impact of competitive markets on the fabric of associational life.

In the American tradition, Tocqueville's writings on civil society in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century have been central. At this juncture of the conference, we might ask whether we are inclined to be left, right, or center. There is no easy answer to this question right now. Yet in my opinion, no matter what our position, the most important thing is that we can contribute constructively and positively to the realization or implementation of the objective contained in the Millennium Declaration as being partner to the United Nations and governments toward a more prosperous and more peaceful world.

The United Nations as a forum traditionally adopts resolutions, decisions and recommendations on a myriad of issues pertaining to the advancement of

the welfare and well-being of humanity as a whole. Yet, empirical evidence has shown the wide gap between their adoption and implementation. It is in this context that the role of civil society, as partner of governments and the United Nations, cannot be overemphasized, particularly in the follow-up to those actions and measures adopted by the Millennium Summit.

For these reasons, and since it is universal in membership, the United Nations is uniquely placed to play a major role in fostering such partnerships. The U.N. has proven itself capable of promoting such partnerships and inclusive participation by facilitating multiple interactions across a broad spectrum of stakeholders in economic development. I hope that this successful formula can be built upon in the future.

It is with the same commitment that we must also approach problems of social development and translate our respective ethics and ideals into meaningful action. Again, only the United Nations can weave our diverse points of view into solutions to tackle complex and interrelated problems.

Through the United Nations we must work to foster democratic principles that

not only rest authority with the people but also protect the legitimate rights of all peoples. So too, the less powerful should not become disenfranchised from the decision-making process at the international level as we work towards more genuine participation at national levels.

As we enter the new millennium, the opportunities for international cooperation during the 21<sup>st</sup> century are greater than ever before. Durable peace can be achieved. Poverty can be reduced, and even eliminated. Environmentally sustainable development can be within reach. Democracy and human rights are universal and increasingly potent values. We can restore global morality which is symbolized by the objectives set by this conference. We can achieve a new global order based on peace, progress and prosperity. It is my hope that our deliberations and efforts will make a concrete contribution to achieve these ends.

Let us conclude these remarks by offering the reminder that the world of tomorrow belongs to the person who has the vision today. It is my firm hope that this conference will embrace the vision contained in the Millennium Declaration and will adopt recommendations for the realization of that vision.

I thank you for your attention. ☺

## NGO Conference *(continued from page 1)*

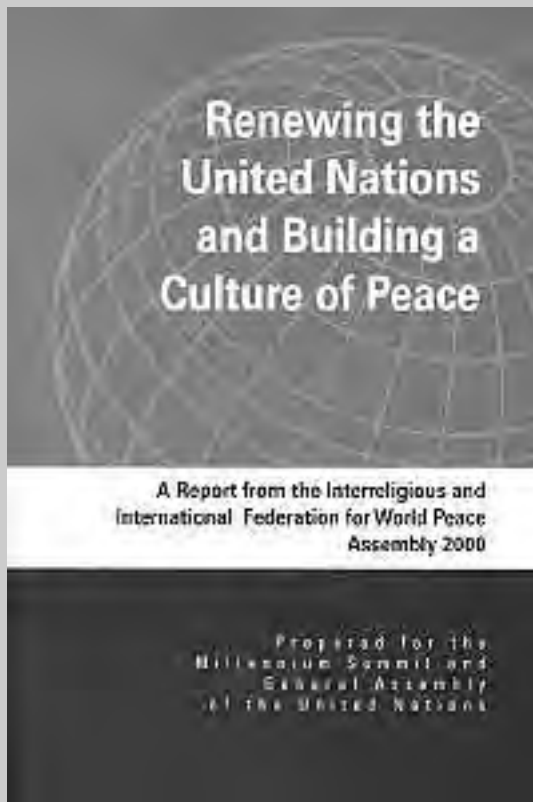
formulate a response to the Millennium Declaration that emerged from the historic Millennium Summit of the heads of United Nations' member states in September 2000.

More than 500 representatives from a wide range of non-governmental organizations and from more than 100 nations gathered. The conference was blessed with great leadership in the persons of the conference co-chairs: Amb. Makarim Wibisono, the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations; Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, the Chairman of the IIFWP and

Chairman of the Board of WANGO; and Dr. Wally N'Dow, the Secretary General of WANGO.

For three days, delegates deliberated with intensity and enthusiasm on the contents of the Millennium Declaration. The program itself was structured around the eight major themes of that declaration: Values and Principles; Peace and Security; Development and Poverty Eradication; Protecting Our Environment; Human Rights, Democracy, and Good Governance; Protecting the Vulnerable; Meeting the Special Needs of Africa; and, Strengthening the United Nations.

The presentations, commentaries and discussions were focused, insightful and constructive. As was made crystal clear in the course of our discussions during the conference, we stand on the threshold of a dramatic change in the way we perceive and practice global governance. Governance is not only for governments. The institutions of civil society, which bridge the gap between individuals and states, are needed. These institutions are indispensable as partners, players, and participants in planning and implementing policies aimed at creating a better world and a culture of peace. ☺



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