



all human rights for all  
**dignity**  
**international**

**annual**  
**report**  
**2008**



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all human rights for all

**dignity  
international**

Dignity International, a Non-Profit Foundation registered  
with the Kamer van Koophandel, Amsterdam, Netherlands,  
Dossier Number: 341635785

An NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and  
Social Council of the United Nations.

Published in 2009 by

**dignity international**

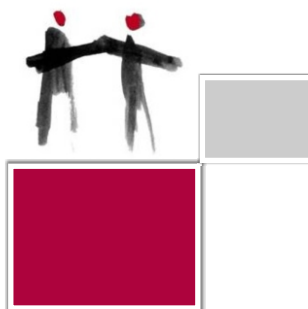
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**annual  
report  
2008**



# Introduction

## *From the Chairman and Executive Director*



Tom Waarts  
Chairman



Aye Aye Win  
Executive Director

2008 has been a tumultuous year in many ways. The year began with post-election violence in Kenya leaving 1500 people dead and over 15000 people homeless. A depressing start only a few months after the euphoria of getting together a People's Manifesto for the first time in the country and people are beginning to feel we can put our issues on the political agenda. Globally 2008 saw rocketing prices of oil and food. From the people's settlements in Kenya to India's rice paddies to Brazil's cafes, the skyrocketing cost of food has left no corner of the globe untouched. In some countries this has resulted in food riots and in the case of Haiti where food prices increased by 50-100%, the Prime Minister was forced out of office. Elsewhere people have been killed, and many more injured. While media reports have been concentrating on the immediate causes, the deeper issues and causes have not been discussed as much.

Later in the same year saw another crisis in the world's financial markets. Around the world stock markets have fallen, large financial institutions have collapsed or been bought out, and governments in even the wealthiest nations have had to come up with rescue packages to bail out their financial systems. The financial crisis of 2008 was a sad proof that globalisation based only on the values of market and profit is fundamentally flawed. You cannot endlessly go on speculating and gambling in the global casino. The bubble cannot endlessly grow. All of them eventually burst, crash and tumble leaving millions destitute as is the case now.

The crises of 2008 provide social activists an opportunity to go back to the drawing board now, and to reconstruct the global economic and financial system to be one based not on greed nor the survival of the fittest but one that rewards hard work and innovation. Essentially, a system built on solidarity and justice. There is a

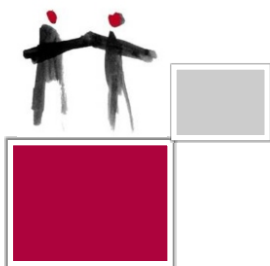
challenge before us to come up with viable alternatives move beyond ideology and find solutions that work not only at "opposing" the status quo but to and to become better at "proposing" alternatives.

In this global perspective, Dignity International is too small a fish in the global ocean too limited in its capacity to be able to make any substantive contributions to research, policy development or advocacy to any of the above mentioned global developments. However Dignity is following these global developments with keen interest with antennae alert on any new policy/legislative development that might emerge. Within our catch area consisting largely of (1) development NGOs/CBOs, (2) human rights NGOs and (3) struggling communities Dignity has been able to: raise awareness about these key global issues and make links to human rights using the Monthly News Bulletin as its main tool; and upgrading knowledge and skills (and in many instances changes in attitudes) on human rights using the Linking and Learning Programmes. The Dignity team has used its privileged position as facilitators of programmes to install the human rights spirit and suggesting to participants of the programmes and where possible to policy makers to use the human rights framework and the dignity of the human individual as a starting point for policy proposals and decisions.

Though tiny in terms of operation and core team, Dignity's outreach is big.

- ♦ The News Bulletin has a readership of over 3500.
- ♦ The Dignity Alumni number more than 460 people from 90 countries.
- ♦ Dignity International has been able to reach out to a number of key social movements from around the world and is contributing to strengthening their human rights capacity. The *Get Organised for Human Rights Programme* aimed at social movement leaders was one such example and in the coming years Dignity will continue to build on this process.

Dignity is gaining respect from many social movements as well as civil society organisations from the human rights and development circles. 2008 saw yet more demand for Dignity's intervention and collaboration at various levels in various parts of the world. There's a lot of work ahead and Dignity will certainly work together with civil society and social movement partners to rise up to the local and global challenges.





# Global Work: Global-Local Linkages

## *WE CELEBRATED! 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS*

On 10 December 2008 Dignity International and its partners around the world in Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Here are some highlights.

### In Sao Paulo, Brazil



*Children of Sao Paulo performing outside Cathedral of Sé (São Paulo old downtown)*



*Lighting the "Torch of Struggle" outside Cathedral of Sé (São Paulo old downtown)*



*Dignity International pledges solidarity to the people of Brazil and the struggling communities around the world for the realisation of all human rights for a*



*Sao Paulo, Brazil - Human Rights Day People's Forum - Social Movement Leaders speak out!*



*Marching Together - Members of the União dos Movimentos de Moradia São Paulo together with participants of the Dignity International 7th Annual Global Programme on Human Rights Based Development*



In Nairobi, Kenya



Women and children present at the Human Rights Day People's Forum organised by Nairobi People's Settlement Network



Humphrey Oduor, Chairman of Nairobi People's Settlement Network



Human Rights Day People's Forum organised by Nairobi People's Settlement Network

In Delhi, India



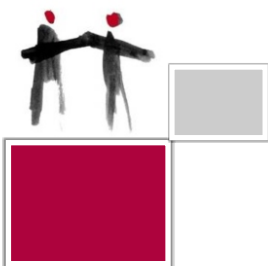
A Mass Rally on Dalit Women Discrimination organised by All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Mach (AIDMAM) and Dalit arthik Adhikar Andolan - Photos from National Coalition of Dalit Human Rights



In Gwalia, India



Demonstrations on Land Rights & Farmers Rights organised by Ekta Parishad





## In Bangkok, Thailand



*The Four Regions Slum Network contingent of the Assembly of the Poor march from the United Nations Building to Democracy Monument.*



*Members of the Assembly of the Poor and allies assemble around Democracy Monument to make a declaration marking the 13th anniversary of the Assembly of the Poor.*



*Bangkok, Ajarn Bantorn Ondam, former board member of Dignity International, speaks about the neglect of human rights in Thailand*



*Representatives of the Assembly of the Poor submit a petition to Ms. Hannah Wu, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR Regional Office for South-East Asia*



## In Alcochete, Portugal

Dignity's partners/collaborators around the world wrote a series of articles on Global Human Rights Struggles to raise awareness on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, its 60th Anniversary and to inspire and motivate the readership into action to bring about changes globally by acting locally and personally and make the pledge to the goals and principles of the UDHR.

These articles were published in the Journal do Alcochete (Portugal) newspaper in the weeks preceding 10 December and with the last article culminating on 10 December.

### From Africa:

#### [Forced Eviction in the Eyes of a Child A Poem](#)

by Jacqueline Ndina (10 years) daughter of Ester Ndina Nairobi People's Settlement Network

### From Asia:

#### [Freedom from Poverty: Thailand's Poor Claim and Win Basic Human Rights](#)

by Chinda Chaorensuk, Former President of the Four Regional Slum Networks of the Assembly of the Poor

#### [Reclaiming the Right over the Space for Intellectual and Creative Engagement: The Experience of Janasanskriti, West Bengal, India](#)

by Nayana Chowdhury, Programme Officer at Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, India

### From Europe:

#### [The Poor Cannot Wait: The Struggle to Fight Poverty and Social Exclusion in Europe](#)

by Michaela Moser, Vice President, European Anti Poverty Network

### From Latin America:

#### [Human Rights Violations Experience of Brazil](#)

by Maria das Graças de Jesus Xavier Vieira, Coordination of União dos Movimentos de Moradia-UMM and Coalizão Internacional do Habitat-HIC

#### [Uma Estrada na Estrada](#)

by Aton Fon, Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (MST) article in Portuguese

### Closing Article:

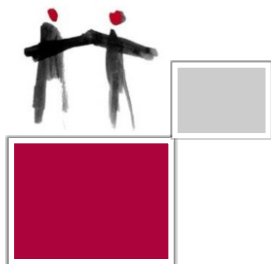
#### [Hold the Torch of Human Rights Developing a Human Rights City in Alcochete](#)

by Shulamith Koenig, Founder and President of People's Movement for Human Rights Education (PDHRE)

Read all these articles on the Dignity International Website

<http://www.dignityinternational.org/dgi/page.php?182>

10 December 2008 marked not only the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights but also the start of the International Year for Human Rights Learning. Human Rights Learning around the world will continue and so will our local-global struggle to achieve all human rights for all.



## 7th Annual Global Programme

### From 1-10 December 2008

Dignity International in partnership with local host União dos Movimentos de Moradia-UMM Sao Paulo (UMM-SP) organised the 7th Annual Global Linking and Learning Programme in Brazil. The theme of the programme was human rights Based development. 25 participants from all different corners of the world gathered for an eleven day intensive enjoyable - learning journey that aimed to equip them with the knowledge of the key elements of human rights based development, and enhance skills for its practical application.

On the quality of the participants, a participant from Ghana said it was an "...amazing group of people. Knowledgeable and competent in their own fields but open minded enough to share and learn from diversity presented".

Participants felt that the field trips organised by the local partner UMM-SP were essential to ensure that learning is rooted in the daily reality and the daily struggles of the people. A participant from Ukraine said "I have learned a lot about linking human rights from broad and theoretical level to concrete human life situations".

On the methodology a participant from Jordan said that the learning programme illustrated "...that human rights education need not come from 'traditional methodology' alone."

A participant from South Africa predicted the challenges ahead "...I am still daunted by the changes that would need to happen in the way we work in order to fully implement what we have learnt but I am sure that small changes will have some impact in the interim. In the long term I hope there will be stronger community structures that inform our work and hold us accountable".

As for the overall rating a participant from Ethiopia said "If I would rate it out of 100 it would be around 1000%. It is directly relevant to what we are doing and easy to incorporate it in my programmes. It filled the gap we had especially in the community."

"I really enjoyed the experience as a change in my way of doing things for life" said a participant from Brazil.

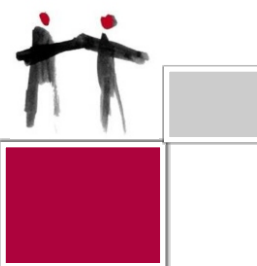
The organisers would like to thank the fantastic participants and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland for the continual support for the Annual



*Family Photo 7th Global Linking & Learning Programme on Human Rights Based Development, Ilha Bela, Brazil*

Global Programme and to Oxfam NOVIB for its core support to Dignity International which made this programme possible.

The Full Report, List of Participants and a selection of photos can be found on the Dignity International Website.

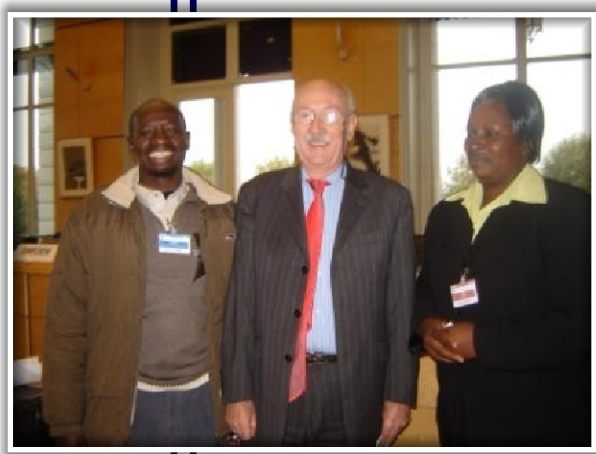




## Together We Can - From the Settlements to the UN People Speak Out!

**On the occasion** of the Kenyan Government's first report to the UN Committee on ESC Rights in Geneva, Dignity International supported a representative of its grassroots partner Nairobi People's Settlement Network (NPSN), Ms Minicah Otieno, to participate in people's advocacy work related to this meeting. This initiative was a part of Dignity's commitment to get people's voices heard and their faces seen. During the few days in Geneva Ms Otieno met with many members of the UN Committee including the Committee's Chairman Mr Philippe Texier and spoke with them about the conditions of the people living in the people's settlements of Nairobi struggling for a life in dignity. Ms Otieno was also able to interact with the Kenyan delegation including the head of Delegation Honourable Martha Wangari Karua, Minister for Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs to whom she handed the People's Manifesto prepared by the NPSN in 2007 prior to the election and the 2008 People's Budget Booklet.

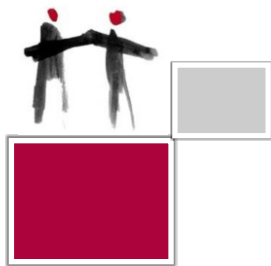
During the civil society lunch time briefing, on 6 November 2008, Ms Otieno provided a moving testimony on the recent forced evictions at Dam Village, Nairobi, Kenya to the members of the UN Committee. She appealed to the committee members to help improve the lives of the poorest in Kenya and to help put an end to forced evictions in her country. Inspired by the Obama message of change she said "...together with your help at the international level and with our strong presence on the ground we can bring about change. Together we can!"



*Dignity's partners Hakijamii Trust (Elijah Odhiambo left) and NPSN (Minicah Otieno, right) together with the Chairman of the UN Committee on ESC Rights (Phillipe Texier middle)*



*Head of the Kenyan delegation Honorable Martha Karua leaves the room after Ms Minicah Otieno of NPSN handed over the People's Budget and People's Manifesto booklets*



## Get Organised for Human Rights

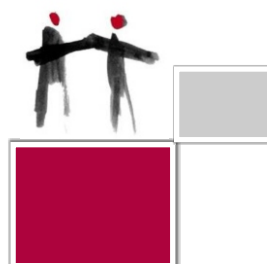
**24 community organisers** from different urban social movements from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe gathered in Nairobi from 7-15 June for what was termed as an "...an amazing experience of mutual learning and exchange". The Get Organised for Human Rights Global Linking and Learning Programme for Urban Community Organisers was organised by Dignity International in partnership with the Nairobi People's Settlement Network who formed the local organizing committee and Hakijamii Trust with the support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and Oxfam-Novib (The Netherlands).

The programme not only sharpened knowledge and skills on organising community around human rights but also charted the way forward in local-global linkages and joint action. Participants also discussed bottom-up mobilisation towards the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights including joint action by the social movements present.



Inspired by the successful Janadesh March (People's Verdict on Land Rights in India) in October 2007, there were talks also of taking steps towards a Global Janadesh (People's Verdict) on Human Rights! Several concrete suggestions were made by the participants including turning this into an annual learning programme rotated in different regions of the world including a specific programme for slum dwellers.

The Full Report, List of Participants and a selection of photos can be found on the Dignity International Website [www.dignityinternational.org](http://www.dignityinternational.org).



# Regional Work

## Asia

### South Asians Unite in the Fight for Human Rights

**31 participants** from the South Asia Countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka) gathered at the host institution Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai for the first regional Linking and Learning Programme on Human Rights Based Development from 28 April to 3 May. Participants included development and human rights workers at local, national and regional levels as well as staff of national and state human rights commissions from several countries. A few journalists also joined the programme.

In six full days of content and fun-filled learning grounded in actual human rights struggles, participants learnt the integral nature of human rights and development, the key elements of human rights based development, and enhanced skills for its practical application. A change in attitudes, including seeing human rights as a means and an end including human rights as a way of life was also evident towards the end of the programme.

"The borders are artificial the struggles of the people are the same" commented Shakil Ahmed, a housing rights activist from Mumbai.



SAARC Participants, May 2008

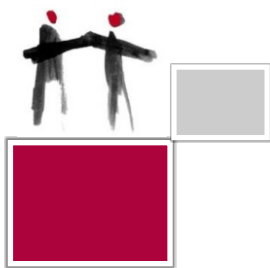


### The Reality of Rehabilitation

The participants are now looking to take the regional level programme to the national levels. "As a start TISS is ready to engage in a similar programme for the national and state human rights commissions here in India" said Dr. Neela Dabir of TISS. "Based on the demand and success of this programme, we will also be organising the regional programme on an annual basis with Dignity International".

The Full Report, List of Participants and a selection of photos as well as press coverage of the programme can be found on the Dignity International Website.

**On Monday** 5th of May, a Maharashtra state level consultation was organised on the "Rehabilitation Bill and Reality of Rehabilitation" at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai. The consultation brought together a wide range of people from pavement dwellers to shop owners who have been displaced as a result of the many infrastructural projects recently undertaken in Mumbai. Affected people shared their rehabilitation experiences acknowledging the "roof over their heads" as a welcome step but that much remains to be done for infrastructural support and basic services for rehabilitation sites as well as to restore and enhance livelihood opportunities. Some international experiences were also shared and the emphasis of the consultation was placed on the use of a human rights framework for rehabilitation.



## West Africa

### Development as a Human Right: Learning Together in Sierra Leone

**From 18-22 August,** Dignity International was invited by Concern Worldwide to facilitate a workshop on Human Rights Based Approaches (HRBAs) for their staff and partners in Sierra Leone and Liberia. The workshop aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the concepts and potential strategies of HRBAs; provided participants with tools for human rights based development to strengthen the work on the ground; and worked out ways and concrete steps to integrate human rights based development into Concern's programmes. The workshop was co-facilitated by Aye Aye Win of Dignity International and Sinead Walsh of Concern Worldwide.

The workshop was considered useful by the participants and discussions are underway for more strategic and longer-term follow-up to keep up the momentum for integration of human rights in development work including a solid on the ground process for human rights mobilisation and empowerment at country/community levels.

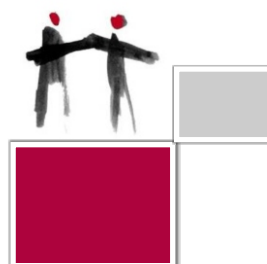


*Non-Discrimination Module - In a rural household in Sierra Leone and Liberia , (1) who performs most of the daily tasks and (2) who controls available resources?*

## Europe

### Participation & Empowerment: Can Globalisation Work for the Poor?

Following the "Can Globalisation Work for the Poor?" seminar organised by the European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN) together with Dignity International, Concord and Solidar in April 2008 a follow-up discussion will be held in the context of the European Social Forum in Malmo, Sweden on Saturday 20 September. The discussion will be hosted by EAPN Sweden and will give an emphasis on participation and empowerment of people living in poverty. The seminar is part of a process of developing a better understanding between Development NGOs, Social NGOs and Human Rights NGOs on the impact of globalisation on poverty. It will be held in the Panorama Theatre at the ESF venue in Malmo on the morning of Saturday 20 September.





# Networking, Alliance Building, Participation

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## In Other Meetings

### Alumni Association

By the end of 2008 Dignity international's Alumni Association has over 460 development, human rights and community activists from 90 countries.

### Alliance Building

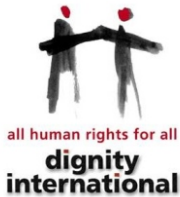
Throughout 2007, Dignity continued to work with the three main constituencies human rights, development and the struggling communities. Dignity was invited by several well established development agencies including Concern Worldwide and by human rights institutions like the Danish Institute of Human Rights to facilitate Human Rights Based Development Learning Programmes for their staff and partners.

### Partnerships

As can be seen from all the activities Dignity is working together with partner organisations to pursue joint goals and will continue to do so in the future.

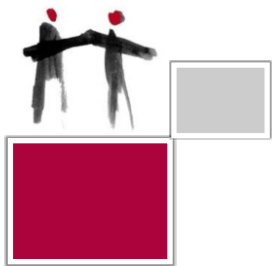
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#### Local - Global Linkages 60th Anniversary of UDHR



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#### Global Learning Programme on Human Rights Based Development Brazil December 2008







**Four Regions  
Slum Network**



**UNIÃO**  
DOS MOVIMENTOS  
DE MORADIA  
SÃO PAULO



all human rights for all  
**dignity  
international**

**South Asia Learning Programme  
Mumbai May 2008  
TISS & DIGNITY INTERNATIONAL**



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**Can Globalisation Work for the Poor Seminars**



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**dignity  
international**

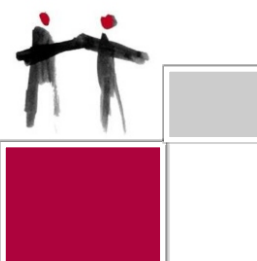


**Consultancies  
Facilitation work for:**



**CONCERN**  
worldwide

**Danish Institute for Human Rights**



# News Bulletin

12 issues of the news bulletin were published in 2008. The news bulletin now has a circulation of over 3500 persons and organisations, over 35% increase from 2007. As a testimony to the quality of the news bulletin, some organisations are posting the bulletin on their own website and forwarding the news bulletin within their networks.

## Welcome To The New Multi-lingual Website

In 2008, Dignity International was able to launch the multi-lingual web site (English, Spanish and French). This web site is a response to the demands made by colleagues/friends/website visitors from the Spanish speaking Latin America and French speakers from within France and from Africa to have at least basic information on Dignity's work available in those languages.

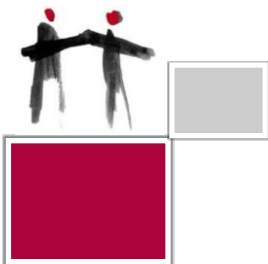
The Spanish and French versions of the web site do not contain all original English content such as reports and other documents, but

the main content of the web pages is fully available. In 2007, the Board of Dignity

International also encouraged the Secretariat to move ahead with the multi-lingual website to better reflect the international nature of Dignity's work. Naturally, other major languages of the world are still missing. Rest assured that as Dignity's work grows in different language areas and as the demand increases Dignity will surely do its best to respond. For now for the French and Spanish web site we owe huge thanks to many people outside the team including for reviewing the translations.

The webteam includes webmaster Aleksandar Nikolic, volunteer translators Adriana Rojas, Eric Sikorsky (Not in photo), Latin America Advisor Simone Andrade, Information & Communication Technology Advisor Luis Gavinhos (not in photo) and Donald Donato, Dignity's Research, Publications & Communications Advisor.

Many thanks to everyone of our team who made this quick launch possible!



# Participation In Other Meetings:

During 2008, Dignity International was invited to participate in several meetings which are outlined below.

**ESCR-NET General Assembly** - ESCR-Net, in partnership with the Kenyan ESCR Coalition, held a four-day International Strategy Meeting of its Working Groups, Members and active participants in Nairobi, Kenya. This landmark gathering brought together approximately 250 key human rights, social justice and grassroots' activists from around the world.

Building on the collective achievements of ESCR-Net and its Members since its Inaugural Conference in Thailand in 2003, as well as the strong trajectory and experience of local Kenyan organisations over the past decade, this meeting was envisioned as a significant occasion to create new, substantial and more systematic pathways for greater global action for social and economic justice through human rights. Participants in ESCR-Net's Working Groups and Initiatives benefited significantly from meeting together in one location

with interpretation and preparation to network, strategize and advance their collective agendas as well as to explore the intersections of their work. <http://www.escr-net.org>

Dignity International at the ESCR-Net General Assembly: Ms. Aye Aye Win, Executive Director of Dignity International was invited to participate in the General Assembly (1-4 December) as well as in the Social Movement gathering held 29-30 November 2008. Ms. Win was nominated and elected to the new board of ESCR Net and will be joining 6 other Board members from the different world regions. "We are very excited to now begin together this new stage of ESCR-Net's development" said Julieta Rossi, Director of ESCR-Net.

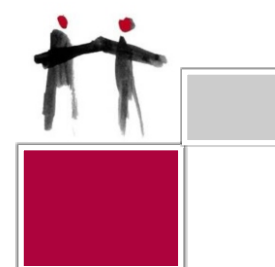
## Fifteen Years after Vienna: Achievements and Challenges since the World Conference on Human Rights

**Dignity International** was among the one hundred human rights activists invited by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs for the International Conference on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights on 28-29 August 2008 in Vienna, Austria.

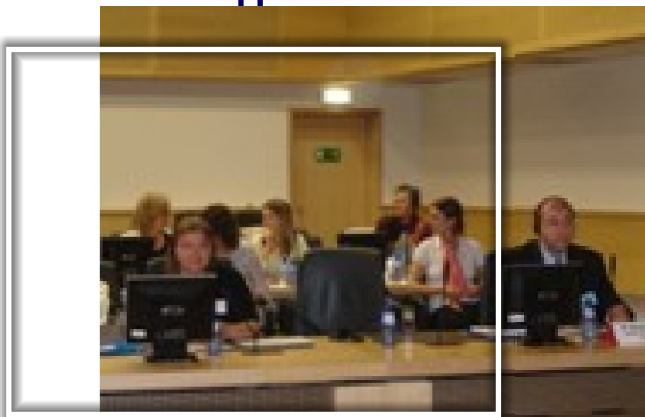
During two days of discussion, through three key Working Groups workshops and plenary sessions, participants considered: Challenges to national implementation of international human rights standards; ways to spread the "All Human Rights for All" Message and the role of OHCHR and UN human rights mechanisms in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Acting UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Kyung-wha Kang in her plenary keynote assessed States' implementation of the commitments they made at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna. In her

speech she said the United Nations human rights programme has moved from standard-setting to standard-implementation, from headquarters to the field, from disconnected endeavours to an integrated approach.

Dignity contributed to the Working Group discussions on "All Human Rights For All How to Spread the Message" bringing in its experience from the "Get Up - Stand Up Stand Up For Your Human Rights" project which focuses on human rights learning with the communities living in extreme poverty. More on the Dignity International contribution on our website.



## European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty



*Speaking out Nina Benova (Slovakia) left, presenting the Housing Workshop report to the plenary. Mr Marian Hosek (Czech Republic) - right, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and Housing Workshop guest.*

**From 17-18 May** people experiencing poverty from all member countries of the European Union and decision makers as well as European and national authorities gathered in Brussels for the 7th European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty. These yearly meetings have been taking place since 2000 at the initiative of the EU Presidency and of the EU Commission and organised by the European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN). The annual meetings aim to have a comprehensive picture of poverty in Europe from the perspectives of those experiencing poverty and to enhance their participation in decision making processes that affect their lives.



*Forging Friendships: Aye Aye Win, Dignity International left and Eva Racicka (Slovakia)*

The 7th Meeting worked in depth on 4 themes: Housing; Minimum income; Social services; and Services of general interest. Dignity International was invited to collaborate with this meeting. Dignity's Executive Director Aye Aye Win facilitated a workshop on Housing which looked into depth on policies and practices that are working well and not well as well as specific proposals that People Experiencing Poverty wish to be put to European and national authorities.

**Standing for the Rights of Roma** the same meeting listened carefully to the testimonies of participants who were directly effected by the recent attacks on Roma and migrants in Italy and further dismayed by the range of tough new measures to tackle 'illegal' immigration the new Italian government unveiled at the end of May, the European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN) calls on the European institutions to ensure that human rights obligations are respected.

## Towards an Asean Human Rights Body



*Civil society organisations together with the High Level Panel*

**Solidarity** for Asia People's Advocacy (SAPA) and Forum Asia through its Task Force on ASEAN Human Rights (TFAHR) has been instrumental in bringing civil society organisations in the ASEAN region to be engaged in the ASEAN intergovernmental process of setting up an Asean Human Rights Body. ASEAN governments have established a High Level Panel (HLP) of eminent persons from each of the member countries who are tasked to come up with the charter.

On 12 November 2008 a joint consultation between Indonesian High Level Panel and Civil Society Organisations was organised to update on the progress made and to share some NGO concerns

*Continue on page 19*



From page 18

with the process including the difficulties that NGOs face to get information from the High Level Panel to participate meaningfully in the process. Jerald Joseph of Dignity International followed this consultation process. He said "...there are many challenges ahead including to get the general public excited and convinced of the need for a human rights mechanism the media will play a key role in that. We also need to coordinate our NGO strategies with those of the national human rights institutions so that there is a coherent approach in getting a proper regional human rights body set up."

## Loss of Two Human Rights Defenders

June was a sad month as Dignity lost two of our close friends and human rights defenders.

**Thomas Nzumbi** - On 18 June 2008, Mr. Thomas Nzumbi formerly of Tanzanian Council for Social Development (TACOSODE) and consultant for Dignity International passed away and was put to rest near his home in Tegeta Dar Es Salaam on 18 th June, 2008. He had been suffering from failure of the kidneys. Thomas was due for an operation but in the end sadly passed away before the operation. "I remember his kindness, human approach and his critical commitment to our fields of interest. We loose a great man and a charitable friend. I wish us, but especially his family, strength and comfort. May he rest in peace." said Ton Waarts, Chairman of Dignity International.



**Toni Kassim** - In the early morning of 4 June Toni Kasim a human rights defender par excellence passed away at her sister's home as a result of duodenal cancer. Toni was a guest facilitator at the 5th Global Linking & learning Programme on Human Rights Based Development that was held in Malaysia in December 2006. In an e-mail communication, the Suaram secretariat, where Toni previously worked, said "Toni had a wonderful zest for life, and her sparkle, wit and boundless energy was contagious and never failed to brighten up any public gathering or meeting. But most of all, Toni was known to be especially passionate about defending human dignity and the rights of individuals and communities. She is no longer with us, but her spirit will continue to live on. The nation has lost a true human rights defender."





# Governance, Finance & Administration

## Board Of Directors

The Board of Directors met in Nairobi, Kenya in June 2008 where Ms Daria Caliguire (USA) and Mr Theophilus Mlaki (Tanzania) were confirmed as Board Members for the term (2008-2011). The Board meeting chaired by Mr Ton Waarts (Netherlands) proposed two more members from Latin America and Asia to join the Board and discussed a whole range of issues including updating of the Statutes and a substantive discussion on a new strategy for "Advocacy and Campaigns" for Dignity International. "I would like to commend the Executive Director, the team,

consultants and volunteers for building such strong alliances around the world. Alliances with grassroots organisations and "political" friends. They are a firm basis for the start of our worldwide advocacy campaign from the fall of 2008 onwards". Present from the secretariat were Aye Aye Win, Executive Director and Jerald Joseph Advisor Capacity Building and Valerie Traore Advisor Advocacy and Campaigns.

## Staff Situation

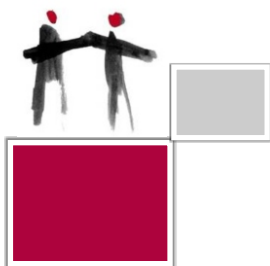


In 2008 the staff situation was as follows: Executive Director, working from the Secretariat, France, and a core team consisting of Jerald Joseph, Advisor Capacity Building Programme working from Malaysia, Valerie Traore, Advisor for Advocacy and Campaigns working from Senegal, and Donald Donato, Advisor Research, Publications and Communications working from USA. Simone Andrade, formerly Programme Associate working from the main secretariat in Strasbourg moved to Spain. She continues to advise Dignity

International on its work in Latin America. Natalie Danilan (France) attached with Gestion and Strategies is responsible for our accounts and Alexandar Nikolic (Serbia) is the webmaster.

Dignity has a great team of volunteers including Luis Gavinhos (Portugal); Fabio Gama (Brazil); Claire Grandadam (France/USA); Adriana Rojas (Mexico); Eirc Sikorsky (France), and Ana Ramos (Portugal) who has helped greatly in various aspects of Dignity International's Work.

Although core team members and volunteers are working out from different locations, the main secretariat continues in Strasbourg, France.

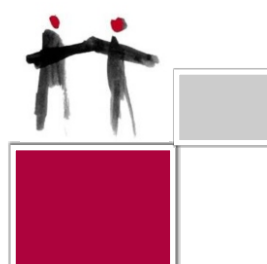


# Fundraising & Financial Situation

Dignity would like to express its sincere gratitude to our donors for their valuable contribution and confidence in our work. Our donors include:



Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Finland



# 2008 Balance Sheet (In rounded Euro)

ACTIVA	2006	2007	2008	PASSIVA	2006	2007	2008
<b>Liquidities</b>				<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current account Portuguese bank				<b>Transitory liabilities</b>			
Savings account Portuguese bank				Staff payment from 2007	17,789	19,265	15,767
Portuguese account USD	7,468	12,850	13,378	Payment due for received advances	4,306	4,177	2,972
Current account Netherlands bank	154,908	117,680	137,755	Supplier to pay	7,094	4,887	7,701
Savings account Netherlands bank	66	38	11	Grant to pay	1,000	6,804	1,903
Balance Petty cash				Unearned Income		192,327	75,000
<b>Total liquidities</b>	<b>162,442</b>	<b>130,568</b>	<b>151,144</b>	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>30,189</b>	<b>227,461</b>	<b>103,342</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>4,726</b>	<b>2,181</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>Reserves</b>	<b>296,515</b>	<b>99,243</b>	<b>139,554</b>
Bookvalue Office Equipment	4,726	2,181	1,198	donor balances to be used	302,668	152,749	128,142
<b>Amounts to be received</b>	<b>5,154</b>	<b>193,954</b>	<b>90,553</b>	Résultat	-6153.6	-	11,412
Interest to be received	3,543	-	-				
Transitory for advance payment	1,611	1,627	348				
Novib		175,000	75,000				
Primate's world relief and development		17,327	15,205				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172,322</b>	<b>326,704</b>	<b>242,896</b>		<b>172,322</b>	<b>326,704</b>	<b>242,896</b>

# Income & Expenditure Summary *(In rounded Euro)*

INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	2008	2007	2006
<b>INCOME</b>			
<i>Funds and donations received</i>			
NOVIB	107,092	124006	103208
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland	87,768	48049	70000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain		8000	
Primate's World Relief and Development	9,445	13634	
Ford Foundation	0	0	0
Instituto Del Terco Mundo	0	1000	
Contributions - Programme HRD	2,000	4013	
Contributions - Publications	1,053		
Contributions -Honorariums and revenue	14,023	3634	
Interest	2,075	3229	5680
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>223,456</b>	<b>205566</b>	<b>178888</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
<i>Expenditure on programmes and projects</i>			
Capacity Building	119,914	82635	61451
Regional Programmes	14,278	68388	58301
Globalisation & Human Rights	23,974	30512	18107
Membership&Alliance	14,255	19975	19957
Fundraising	861	8695	0
KIC	0	24388	0
Special Project Programme Development	15,850		
External Trainings	826		
<i>Organisational costs</i>			
Governance	6,225	5117	8810
Staff & Administration	9,314	12585	13701
Office costs	6,547	6777	4714
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>212,044</b>	<b>259072</b>	<b>185042</b>
<b>NET RESULT</b>	<b>11,412</b>	<b>-53506</b>	<b>-6154</b>



all human rights for all

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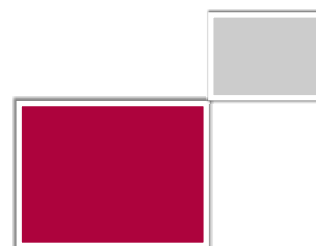
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