



ACTION

Support Centre

BIENNIAL REPORT
2009-2011



Africa Regional Hub of a global network of individuals
& organisations committed to positive action to
transform conflict





ACTION

Support Centre



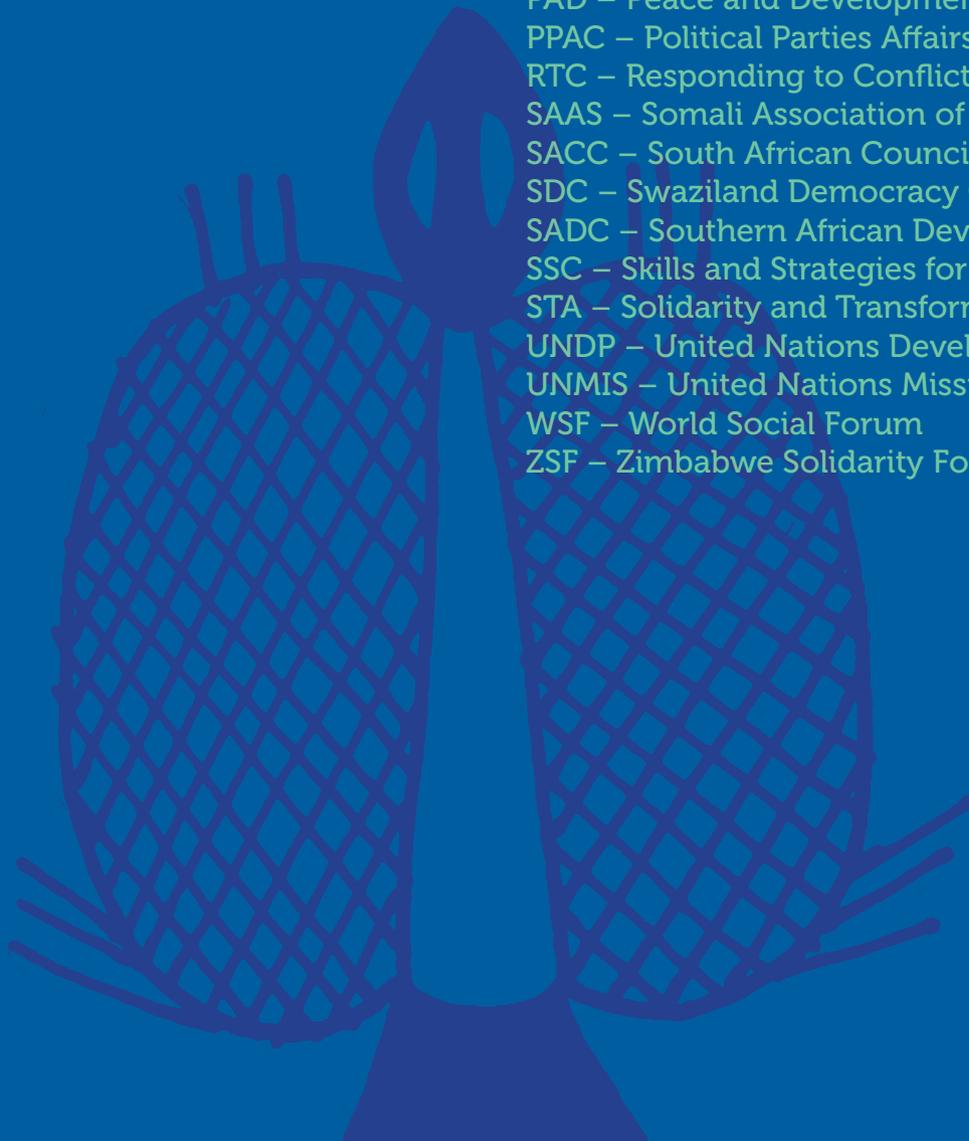
BIENNIAL REPORT 2009-2011

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Acronyms

ACTION – Action for Conflict Transformation
ASC – ACTION Support Centre
AIMP – African Insider Mediators Platform
ASC – Action for Conflict Transformation
AU – African Union
BCPR – Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Rehabilitation
AXA – Anti-Xenophobia Action
CEPAR – Centre for Peace and Applied Research
COSATU – Congress of South African Trade Unions
CPCS – Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies
IANRA – International Alliance on Natural Resource in Africa
IGAC – Insitut pour le Gouvernance en Afrique Centrale
IOM – International Organisation for Migration
NEPAD – New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NGO – Non-Government Organisation
NPA – Norwegian People’s Aid
OSISA – Open Societies Initiative for Southern Africa
PAC – Proudly African Campaign
PAD – Peace and Development Platform
PPAC – Political Parties Affairs Committee
RTC – Responding to Conflict
SAAS – Somali Association of South Africa
SACC – South African Council of Churches
SDC – Swaziland Democracy Campaign
SADC – Southern African Development Community
SSC – Skills and Strategies for Change
STA – Solidarity and Transformation Agenda
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNMIS – United Nations Mission in Sudan
WSF – World Social Forum
ZSF – Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum



Steering Committee

EDITORIAL



*Fatima Swartz, Steering
Committee Chair, with ASC staff*

On behalf of the Steering Committee of the ACTION Support Centre let me begin by thanking you for taking the time to read the latest edition of the bi-annual report. This report will give you some idea of the innovative contribution of ACTION and its partners to social transformation on our continent.

Across Africa, and around the world, there has been an enormous surge in forms of social mobilisation and a growing sense of anger and frustration against the manner in which ordinary people are being marginalised and excluded from the corridors of economic wealth and political power.

The inequality and uneven development that continue to fuel this frustration are a major concern for peacebuilders and conflict transformation practitioners. Equally serious are the limited opportunities for genuine engagement between the policy makers and those whose lives are directly affected by the decisions that are made.

It is these underlying forms of structural violence that provide the fuel for the raging fires that the sparks of conflict ignite. The inevitable destruction that will result if we cannot find the processes and forms of engagement that shift legitimate anger in a direction that makes people feel part of a process of positive change is a major threat and a pressing concern for all of us.

It is within this context that the period 2009-2011 has seen an important consolidation of the ACTION Support Centre's strategic contribution to conflict transformation in Africa. Within the framework of the three strategic pillars that guide our work ACTION staff and volunteers have effectively carried out a number of programmes.

The overall strategic framework of the organisation recognises the need to link personal transformation processes to

a focus on the relationships between people, groups and institutions, and the systems and structures that define, manage and sometimes get in the way of their ability to work together.

Ultimately all of the work of ACTION is about constructing a new culture, from the bottom-up. A culture defined by systems and structures that are inclusive, that enable people to talk to each other and to be heard by each other, in which new forms of relationships are forged between groups and in which individuals recognise and respect the interconnections between themselves and the world around them.

Here within this report you will find glimpses of forums, groups of people, initiatives and examples of where this world is already being constructed. The commitment and effortless contributions of the people at the centre of the work contained in these few pages are driven by the vision of this world and the belief that indeed another world is not only possible, but absolutely essential.

The developmental partnerships highlighted in this report that have linked civil society groups, the international community and even governments in the pursuit of this collective vision provide a beacon for all of us. The Steering Committee of ACTION congratulates the staff and partners of the ACTION Support Centre for the examples they have provided of how much can be done in contributing to this world.

Finally our thanks go out to all of the friends and colleagues that have walked with us on this journey. The people-to-people solidarity that is central to all of our work is mirrored by the links we have between us.

We trust that you will find the report both informative and inspiring.

Messages of Support



ACTION Asia



ACTION Asia Members Strategy Meeting 2010

ACTION Asia would like to begin by paying tribute to Dekha Ibrahim Abdi. It is with profound sorrow that we had to say good-bye to Dekha, who passed away July 14, 2011 (may God rest her soul).

ACTION Asia hosted the bi-annual Asia Peacebuilding Forum in Siem Reap Cambodia in October 2010. Seventy peacebuilders gathered from across the region to reflect on the theme 'Transforming our Woundedness for Peace' which enabled us to reflect on our own traumas and suffering which can only enrich our work as peacebuilders. We were honoured to have as our keynote speaker, Dekha, who spoke on the theme by drawing from her own wounds that she had encountered in her life and her journey to finding forgiveness, healing and transformation.

The reflections were published in a new Action Asia volume *Transforming our Woundedness for Peace: Reflections from the Frontline*.

In February 2011, ACTION Asia explored new models for leading, structuring and managing the network in the 'Leaders

Forum' hosted in Sri Lanka. Twenty-five key ACTION Asia members reviewed some of the key programmes of ACTION Asia and settled on a model of two leaders per country in Asia as the group who make key decisions on ACTION Asia priorities and future. The Leaders Forum was followed by a two-day reflection on the experience of using the 'Reflecting on Peace Practice' methodology in the Asian context.

As ACTION Asia has been training practitioners across the region in this approach for the past two years, it was necessary to consider the method and assess how it has been used. The findings of this reflexive analysis have also been compiled into a small publication.

ACTION Asia considers all violent conflicts in the region critical, but due to financial limitations, identifies and prioritises a selected number on which to focus and promote solidarity. In the coming two years these conflicts include - Manipur and Orissa in India, Myanmar, Mindanao, Thai Cambodia border and Sri Lanka.

ACTION Americas



Delia María Davila Illescas - ACTION Global Communications Hub, Guatemala.

Fraternal Greetings to our colleagues and comrades in the ACTION Support Centre. It is our pleasure to share some of the key challenges we are facing and to contribute these to the report you are producing.

Over the past two years the Americas have undergone a number of transitions and with the advent of this new 'democratic' continent new challenges and new disparities have arisen.

One of our members based in Chile, Mauricio Laborde, reflects about one of his long time ago concerns from the Americas. Mauricio is worried about the discrediting of 'associative spaces' in Latin America; this includes spaces that bring together governments, parties, unions and other social organisations. As Mauricio points out this disassociation of stakeholders is "our Achilles heel" and it's the biggest expression of "latent conflict". Sooner rather than later social and political open conflicts will arise as a result of this.

Many ACTION America members agree that today Latin America is not facing military conflicts, except by some punctual expressions, or at least is not the same political military expressions as it used to be. And it's not even the poverty that is the biggest issue, or our natural resources. The major problem comes in the weakness of the political apparatus, in other words the political institutions that cannot contain the demands and aspirations of the society.

Luis Sávilá Sánchez shared an article from J. Villalobos, which says: It's

impossible that a unique way of thinking develops progress; the key to progress is in the dialectical interaction between diversity, differences, power and alternatives. Freedom, law and institutions are more important than the authoritarian paternalism (of so many of our governments).

From Tunisia and Egypt to Latin America, and even during my own learning at the Summer Peacebuilding Institute in USA, talking with friends and colleagues from Nigeria, South Sudan, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia and Liberia, the common search is for this new form of democratic exercise. It is a human search for human forms of freedom and development. From Asia to Europe, from Africa to America it's a matter of humans and the need for humanity.

From the Americas we challenge this global culture of "putting down fire" instead of "preventing the fire". We know we will face more challenges, and they will be soon to come, so we keep mutating in the ways that we must do to keep building a different world. We keep our spirit and bring our essence to the peacebuilding places in different ways, but always treasuring the richness of our global cultures in this constant search of freedom, equality and justice for all.

With much happiness ACTION Americas celebrates this Biennial report of ACTION. We look forward for more collaboration in this constant work for peace.

Another world is possible!



Responding to Conflict
www.respond.org

Responding to Conflict (RTC)

The last two years have been an exciting and challenging time for us, which has seen new possibilities in our long-standing partnerships, and new partnerships developing.

RTC has undergone a number of interrelated and significant changes. Amongst these has been the Strategic Partnership with Skillshare International and a review of our consultancy and tailor-made learning programmes to meet the emerging needs.

Our key focus remains the developing of partnerships for influence and project development; undertaking conflict assessments and deriving learning from practice; continuing to engage with organisations, networks and partnerships in order to influence practice and policy.

Some of the innovative approaches that have come to the fore include combining conflict transformation skills with street theatre and mass media in order to enhance dialogue between youth (male and female), politicians

and donors on peacebuilding issues; and utilising mass media to inform and influence a broader population.

We have also, with our partners, had the opportunity to explore the interface between conflict transformation and the provision of services to meet the needs of former child soldiers as they are reintegrated into their communities. This particular work is designed to lead to an integrated approach for policy-advocacy work for the protection of former child soldiers.

We welcome this opportunity to support the work of all those who are engaged in transforming situations of injustice, and seeking to build sustainable peace with justice. It gives us pleasure to acknowledge the work of ACTION both at the global level and at the ACTION Support Centre (ASC). We hope that the next two years sees our relationships continuing to develop and expand to meet the challenges of the times. It gives us pleasure to acknowledge the work of ACTION at a global level and the ACTION Support Centre (ASC) regionally.

"to transform one's own woundedness is one thing, to transform that of others and of the society requires collective wisdom. I have learnt two key ingredients: those are the ability to take risks and the ability to have hope and faith in the face of difficulty"

Dekha Ibrahim Abdi

Tribute to Dekha Ibrahim Abdi (1964 – 2011)



ACTION has lost a colleague, a sister and a friend. Dekha Ibrahim Abdi passed away on July 14, 2011 (may God rest her soul). Dekha was from a marginalised Somali district of Wajir in northern Kenya. She devoted her life to peace building and conflict mediation. It is in that spirit that she came up with the idea of a Wajir Peace University, which she hoped would become the symbol of peace and unity in the region. ACTION, together with the Wajir Peace University Trust, is working hard to ensure that Dekha's dream materialises. Below, is a letter from the Wajir Peace University Trust that was read at the launch of the Somali Solidarity Campaign on the 28th October 2011.

WAJIR PEACE UNIVERSITY TRUST

Centre of excellence and strategic studies, promoting Peace Learning, Unlearning and Relearning



Greetings Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Chairperson and Board Members of The Wajir Peace University Trust, I wish to most profusely thank you for honouring us with the pleasure of sharing this very important event of launching The Somalia Solidarity Campaign with you in South Africa. Due to unavoidable circumstances, we are not able to physically be there, but our spirits are with you as we also send positive energy your way. Our moral support is with the ACTION Support Centre for initiating this wonderful campaign to raise awareness to the Southern African people on the real issues and contribute to the change process that shall help transform the situation in Somalia for the better.

The idea of having a Peace University in Wajir was brought forth in September 2007 by some of the founders and key members of Wajir Peace and Development Agency. The team felt that for the long term sustainability

and continuity of the culture of peace to continue as a heritage for the future generation, the lessons Learnt, knowledge and skills gained through the experience of Wajir Peace and Development Agency needed to be carried forward, institutionalized and shared widely in Kenya and globally. It is envisaged the acquisition of relevant knowledge and skills by the students will immensely help in the transformation of conflict-ravaged society.

As most of you might remember our sister Dekha Ibrahim (may God rest her soul in eternal peace) was one of the key persons of this initiative and even donated her award money for the Rights Livelihood towards realizing this dream. She was motivated by the words of South Africa's state man HE Nelson Mandela who said 'a good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination. Dekha has climbed many a great hill but there are many more hills to climb by the trustees to reach the mountain top of her desires. With this spirit and challenge deeply ingrained in our minds, the trustee has been working on fast tracking this process to realize our dream come to fruition.

Wajir has had its share of conflict and over the time, developed its own home grown mechanisms of conflict resolution and peace building which has now been taken as a bench mark for Conflict Management and Peace building interventions and education all over Kenya. This is complemented by the history of Wajir as a centre of education in the region that dates back to pre-independence era.

Most of our recent work in civil society has been to build connections between

committed peace builders working in different conflict situations, across different parts of the region. We have developed close network relations that provide support and opportunities for exchange and strengthening of peace practice in the region. We have recognized the need to create opportunities in education and research as ways of strengthening our human and material resources in working for peace. We believe in building a network of social capital globally to achieve sustainable peace. We have done this through The Center for Peace and Applied Research (CEPAR), which is the precursor for the University as we continue to work towards the legal and infrastructural requirements for the university.

We would like to thank you once again for giving us this opportunity to be part of this noble process and also tell you a little about ourselves. To the public and friends of this initiative, you are welcome to the family and by being here today you have shown us that chivalry has not died in Africa. You have shown us that it is hard for us to sleep when our brothers and sisters are suffering. You have shown us what African brotherhood is all about. You have reminded us how important it is for us to be connected and assist each other at times of need. We are proud of you and proud to be Africans as this proves that our traditions are not dead.

Thank you. Be blessed!

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ACTION Support Centre
Regional Hub
for ACTION in
Africa



Introduction

"if you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far walk together"

Southern African Proverb



The ACTION Support Centre is a regional and continental base for organisations working in the fields of conflict transformation. ACTION works with a focus on promoting people centred approaches to transforming conflicts through a process of learning, sharing and working together and we do this in a way that builds trust and creates a culture of peace. In order to achieve this, ACTION has implemented three pillars: Peace and Development Platform, Solidarity and Transformation Agenda and Skills and Strategies for Change, in which to focus on as it works towards building a sense of solidarity in communities, civil society and between communities and policy makers.

The Three Pillars of the ACTION Support Centre (ASC)

1. Peace and Development Platform

It is widely acknowledged that the gap between policy makers and civil society is one of the central challenges to conflict transformation and an active source of tension in South Africa and the wider African region. These gaps are often the source of feelings of exclusion and marginalisation and can lead to frustration and anger that can result in violent conflict.

The Peace and Development Platform (PAD) focuses on building and maintaining relationships between civil society organisations and policy makers on local, national and international levels. Perceiving community involvement to be fundamental to successful policymaking and development, PAD works to create sustainable and beneficial relationships between the community, civil society organisations and multi-level policy makers.

The 'Bridging Gaps-Forging Partnership' programme develops efficient strategies

based on long-term experience engaging with policy makers around issues of peacebuilding and development. Consequently, during the second phase of the Regional Capacity Building Learning Exchange workshop in Mozambique, NGOs from Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe met with the Deputy Director of Women and Social Affairs, where strategies were shared as to how NGOs and governments can learn and work with each other towards the empowerment of women.

PAD, in conjunction with the Skills and Strategies for Change programme, builds the capacity of community based organisations to contribute to peace and security initiatives in their own communities. Conflict transformation workshops are utilised in communities plagued by xenophobic violence. The platform aims to create an inclusive, collaborative arena in which the voices of grassroots level individuals can be presented to policy makers at all levels.

As such, ASC is working in collaboration with the Department of Education to establish sustainable peace clubs, monthly meetings and create an accessible platform to publicise the Bill of Rights to learners and communities. This strategy is being implemented as a means to bring together community and civil society actors with government and policy makers.

Furthermore ASC is working closely with academic institutions as part of its commitment to reduce the gap between academia and community practitioners.

2. Solidarity Transformation Agenda

Within many conflicts there is often a sense of isolation for the communities involved. For effective conflict transformation it is vital to gain a broader perspective on the issues and see how there are often interrelated and cross

"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner."

Nelson Mandela



cutting issues across a broader culture. Through increased resilience within community groups and a fostered sense of people to people solidarity contributions can be made to a developing alternative culture. ACTION, therefore, works to bridge the gap of isolation that people tend to feel and bring a sense of solidarity and along the way build a new kind of community.

The Solidarity and Transformation Agenda (STA) continues to be an essential resource for understanding and responding to conflict across Africa. Additionally it works as a support mechanism for refugees and migrant communities in South Africa.

STA operates by mobilising communities on issues of people-to-people solidarity and distinguishing grassroots level collaboration as integral to the sustainability and legitimacy of a cause. STA disseminates information via pamphlets, word-of-mouth, seminars, round-tables, workshops as well as mass campaigns such as rallies, marches, pickets and targeted media campaigns.

This initiative has been particularly successful with the Swaziland Democracy Campaign, which organised a Global Week of Action on the 5th to 9th September 2011, with trade unions, faith groups, civil society, legal fraternity, students and the unemployed joining hands in a march to demand democracy, unbanning of political parties and release of political prisoners.

STA also works closely with the Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum facilitating information exchange and maximising the utilisation of resources. The ZSF has grown significantly in recent years and actively contributes to a greater understanding of the challenges in Zimbabwe, and the wider region.

STA also engages with high-level institutions. On the basis of empirical research, ASC lobbies SADC and AU on

issues of peace and conflict, making specific policy recommendations regarding migration, xenophobia, criminal violence and refugee issues.

STA is challenged daily by working with sectors that pose divergent opinions and ideologies regarding conflict situations and issues facing the continent. It is testament to the individuals and groups involved that STA succeeds in progressing forward with movements of solidarity having negotiated and mediated with the various partners. Evidence of this is clear in the collective condemnation and active censure of atrocities in Zimbabwe and Swaziland.

STA is committed to expanding its network of solidarity and collaborative learning, lobbying and action-focused initiatives. ASC emphasises the value and strength of a more unified approach to issues of peace and conflict and to addressing the needs of Africa's vulnerable people. Currently, at the heartbeat of STA programs, is the endorsement the SADC report on Zimbabwe and support to the call by Zimbabwe civil society for a genuine process towards free and fair elections.

3. Skills and Strategies for Change

Key elements of conflict transformation require that communities are able to analyse conflict and develop relevant strategies for transformation. To achieve this, capacity building of local civil society and communities is required. Additionally, information needs to be shared between all actors within conflict situations. Organisation, lobbying and advocacy are key elements of successful conflict transformation.

The Skills and Strategies for Change (SSC) programme aims to build capacity within communities by creating and sustaining relationships amongst non-government organisations, faith groups, municipalities, government institutions and individual stakeholders. Intent on promoting strong

"One must be fully present and interested in conflict transformation. It is not something that can be done part-time, it is a way of life."

Applied Conflict Transformation course participant



Cultural Diversity Youth workshop, 2010

leadership and united groups with which to face the challenges of the region, SSC endeavours to critically analyse and appreciate the link between local, national and regional initiatives.

The Yeoville Community Engagement is one such initiative where ASC has effectively involved the community and the municipality to interact and share information. ASC has been influential in offering insights in matters of trade, crime, gender violence, and refugee issues.

SSC targets regions of rapid social, political and economic change, which face an unprecedented degree of complexity and challenge. Key to this approach is coordinating amongst the various civil society organisations to ensure a united approach is adopted rather than one of discord or competition. Certainly, on a continental level, the Africa's Insiders Mediation Platform (AIMP) is one initiative that has succeeded in this regard. Fourteen key insider mediation stakeholders met in November 2010 and July 2011, with the purpose of establishing a support

base for African mediators working on conflict systems at multiple levels in order to strengthen their internal national mediation capacity and contribute to local ownership of the mediation outcomes. Participants from Botswana, Burundi, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe among others took part. AIMP is a dynamic approach to conflict transformation, building cooperation between mediators and sharing best practice across borders.

This approach of the SSC, therefore, has been an collaborative programme in facilitating interaction and dialogue among civil society organisations working towards the same course. And serves as a means to learn and to adapt a more effective approach to the region's divergent and fluctuating challenges.

The Applied Conflict Transformation course is another valuable element of the SSC work. This course brings together practitioners from across the continent to share experiences and deepen their understanding of conflict transformation.

Specific Initiatives

Modus Operandi

ASC has signed a memorandum of understanding with Modus Operandi, an independent institute associated with the University of Grenoble in France.

In line with the memorandum, ASC will contribute to the online training courses in conflict transformation coordinated by Modus Operandi and participate in a new initiative aimed at developing conflict transformation tools useful to practitioners and academics.

This collaboration, with practitioners and peacebuilders from 9 different conflict contexts across the world, including Colombia, Guatemala, Ivory Coast and

Zimbabwe, will develop practical tools of analysis and planning that will be made available online to all those who are working with conflict.

ASC has developed an integrated framework for humanitarian assistance, development and peacebuilding that is being discussed and further refined alongside tools aimed at assisting communities affected by natural resource conflict, gang warfare, ethnicity and political conflict, and a range of other forms of tension and violence.

In the longer term ASC hopes to develop and nurture the relationship with Modus Operandi as part of its commitment to reducing the gap between academic institutes and community practitioners. This will include exploring opportunities for linking the Applied Conflict Transformation course to the online courses offered and moderated by Modus Operandi.

Institute for Governance in Central Africa (IGAC)

Connected to the collaboration with Modus Operandi is the ASC involvement in discussions with IGAC. IGAC is exploring establishing a Masters programme focused on Conflict Transformation and Management with the input of a collaborative stakeholder group. ASC participates in this group alongside representatives of civil society and academic institutions based in the Ivory Coast, Gabon, Cameroon, Senegal and France.

Participation in this initiative assists in breaking down traditional Anglophone/Francophone boundaries on the continent and adds impetus to the efforts made by ASC to develop the reflective learning and academic research components of its own Skills and Strategies for change programme.

Learning from the Applied Conflict



Conceptualisation of CT Masters programme, Yaoundé (Cameroon), 2011

"We must become
the change we want
to see."

Mahatma Gandhi



Transformation Studies Masters programme run by our sister institution in Cambodia will also feed into this initiative.

Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies

Linked through the shared connection to ACTION Global, the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, based in Cambodia and associated with ACTION Asia, and the ACTION Support Centre have collaborated together on the development and implementation of Peace Research Methodology Training.

This 10-day course supports

peacebuilders and conflict transformation practitioners to develop research proposals that focus in on an aspect of the projects and programmes the participants are working on.

The mutually supportive learning culture that is created during the course is then used as a basis for a longer-term research process that produces research that is valuable and useful to the practitioners themselves, and the communities with whom they are working.

The course has been carried out in Garissa, Kenya and Orissa, India.

In its encouragement of an action reflection approach to learning this initiative lies at the heart of the Support Centre's efforts to amplify and add value to the voices of those working at grassroots levels.

International Alliance on Natural Resources in Africa (IANRA)

The ACTION Support Centre supported the formation and on-going development of the International Alliance on Natural Resources in Africa (IANRA). This alliance aims to empower communities in their defence against exploitation. This is done by building a shared solidarity and encouraging learning and experience sharing across communities working in diverse contexts, but faced by similar challenges and forms of struggle.

IANRA uses a combination of training, organising, advocacy and campaigning to influence policy and engage governments and corporates in a dialogue process. This process aims to ensure that the benefits of natural resource exploitation are more equitable and governed by strong and effective legal systems that protect the rights of



Angkor Wat, Cambodia, Ancient



Women Can Do It workshop, 2010

affected communities.

The natural resource focus of IANRA includes minerals, forests, fisheries and land, ensuring an unavoidable engagement with varying forms of conflict common in Africa. ASC is working with IANRA members to share approaches and tools for working with conflict in a manner that remains focused on shifting power without resorting to violence.

Women Can Do It Workshop

In partnership with Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), ASC sent a few young women to the 'Women Can Do It' training programme hosted by the NPA at Heia Safari Ranch from the 22nd to 26th March 2010. This initiative aimed to increase the participation of women in society, NGOs and political parties. Despite comprising half of the world's population, women are systematically underrepresented in decision-making positions, the media, parliamentary seats and leading posts in political parties. The aim of the workshop was to empower

women coming from all walks of life, to raise issues that affect their livelihoods. Some of the discussion topics included democracy and women's participation; communication; writing and delivering speeches and debates; working with the media; negotiating (conflict resolution); networking; advocacy and campaigning; and gender-based violence.

As a result of the workshop, the women felt a sense of solidarity as well as a renewed sense of commitment to their projects and communities. Having learnt some new skills and brushed up on the skills they already had, they were ready to face the challenges that lay ahead.

Conflict Transformation Training

Conflict Transformation workshops form an integral part of ASC's work. In November 2010 ASC conducted a peacebuilding workshop for PACT partners in Zimbabwe. ASC took participants through a series of incremental steps, building knowledge through the introduction of new ideas and tools, and tapping into the collective experience of the group. The workshop established a common language, shared understandings of key concepts and reflected on conflict analysis, strategy and planning. The workshop aimed to utilise local experiences in shaping more sustainable and long-term initiatives, highlighting the relationship between local initiatives and the wider context. Participants' evaluations of the workshop revealed its positive reception as well as important practical considerations for the future. The workshop revealed additional challenges regarding resources that constrain peacebuilding efforts, these important insights will inform the planning and implementation of initiatives in the future.

"I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent"

Mohandas K. Gandhi



Applied Conflict Transformation course - group work, 2011

Applied Conflict Transformation Course

On the 24th to 28th October 2011, the ACTION Support Centre ran an Applied Conflict Transformation Course in Johannesburg, South Africa. ACTION for Conflict Transformation is a global network of individuals and organisations working for global peace. In Africa, the ACTION Support Centre through its skills and strategies for change programme aims to be a resource for African wisdom with the hope that it will assist organisations to effectively respond to the deep-rooted social conflicts across the continent. It connects people working for peace and development, human rights and social transformation, in Anglophone, Francophone, Lusophone and countries throughout Africa.

Accordingly, the Applied Conflict Transformation Course was designed by a team of conflict and development specialists and included guest speakers coming from various fields of expertise. Using Southern Africa as a case study,

the course was designed specifically for people who want to focus on conflict in Africa and connect this focus to the global context. The course included analysis of global events, as well as a focus on new forms of resistance and change and their implications for Southern Africa. Field visits to the Apartheid Museum and Constitution Hill also provided for further analysis on South Africa as a conflict transformation case study.

The course welcomed a diverse group of participants from Canada, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Somali, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Furthermore, all participants were able to exchange and learn from the challenges and successes they each face in their organisations and countries coming from different fields of work, but all having the same ambition of working towards development, peace and unity in their countries and on the continent as a whole.

The ACTION Support Centre plans to run two Conflict Transformation courses in



Billboard, Maputo, Mozambique, 2010

2012, from the 5th to the 9th March and the second one will take place later in the year. We plan to continue to welcome participants coming from different fields of work and a range of countries, as we believe we learn better from each other and this contributes greatly in how we as individuals approach our work.

Support to Networks and Learning

ASC, with the support of the Netherlands based PSO, engaged in a collaborative learning process aimed at understanding in more detail what drives networks and assists them in becoming more effective.

In an engagement with several peacebuilding networks from across the world, a number of insights and lessons on networking were derived that will be fed back into organisations in an effort to add value to the networking efforts of practitioners. The criterion for establishing a vibrant network, which allows members to mutually thrive from a palpably energetic collaboration, was examined. The history of the

network as well as factors underpinning fluctuations in the network's vibrancy were explored, agency of the participants was highlighted as a crucial factor. The potential for collective action, and the strength that can be derived from network membership becomes more real as this upward recognition grows.

Regional Capacity Building

Regional Capacity Building focuses on strengthening the relationships between Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe though identifying ideas and sharing information for collaborative initiatives. ASC plays an organising and leading role in the consultation process in each of the four countries, running Conflict Transformation workshops with each partner organisation coupled with exchange visits. ASC also coordinates with partners to monitor the visibility of the projects in each country and produces an appropriate mandate.

Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum

'To develop and carry out short-term and long-term solidarity initiatives towards Zimbabwe' (ZSF 20051).

The Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum (ZSF) is a network of progressive South African civil society organisations including youth, women, labour, faith-based, human rights and student formations. The forum facilitates interaction and collaboration between South African and Zimbabwean civil society organisations. In addition, it consolidates efforts to amplify the voices of South African civil society organisations in the promotion of peace, democracy and human rights for Zimbabweans. Regularly scheduled platforms enable members to exchange and disseminate information on their individual activities, thus reducing the

"mankind must remember that peace is not God's gift to his creatures, peace is our gift to each other"

Elie Wiesel



Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

overlap of activities and maximizing the utilization of resources. Established in November 2004, the ZSF has since grown in size and influence and has contributed to a greater understanding of the crisis and challenges in Zimbabwe both amongst its member organisations and more broadly in South Africa.

International Solidarity Forum

The International Solidarity Forum is a new initiative that intends to facilitate a discussion with the South African civil society advocacy groups. The aim is to establishing a dialogue on how best to employ opportunities arising from the World Social Forum and Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum initiatives. The consultations will not predetermine the outcomes, but rather provide the opportunity to strengthen civil society's voice and mobilisation around key issues, prompting the South African government to acknowledge and respond to civil society demands.

Swaziland Democracy Campaign

Founded on a rich history of collaboration between South African anti-apartheid activists and Swaziland activists, the Swaziland Democracy Campaign transpired from this relationship. The campaign focuses on the exchange of ideas and support of people-to-people solidarity. The SDC is a platform for popular campaigns, mass action and global solidarity for democracy in Swaziland. Events such as the 'Global Week of Action' have attracted influential representatives from trade unions, civil society organisations and the media. ASC provides support to the SDC and serves as the communication hub of the campaign.

World Social Forum

The World Social Forum (WSF) was created to provide a platform to discuss strategies of resistance to the globalisation model proposed at the



Khartoum, Sudan, 2009

annual World Economic Forum at Davos. WSF is firmly committed to the belief that "Another World Is Possible". As such, WSF provides an open space for discussing alternatives, exchanging experiences and strengthening alliances among civil society organisations, peoples and movements. Language barriers, preoccupation with local issues over a common global issue and urgency in compiling a cohesive report documenting the outcomes, were the three challenges identified.

In 2010, WSF commemorated its 10-year anniversary with a consensual commitment to hold multiple activities across the world in 2011. The economic crisis, environment, humanitarian, population and natural resource crisis were adopted as the main theme of focus.

WSF's advocacy has succeeded in increasing awareness regarding the need to end the dominance of the neo-colonial system, to take control of decision-making, to deepen civic liberties and to guarantee institutional stability so that Africa build its own future. The focus in 2011 is on security issues in the

continent, global relations and economic and social development as ways of providing greater opportunity to intensify the struggle against neo-liberal policies.

Participatory dialogue in Swaziland

ASC and partner Phadimisa Bokamoso ba Africa, have been involved in a process of building capacity for dialogue in Swaziland. Political Dialogue was highlighted as becoming increasingly urgent in Swaziland. Tensions associated with the death of Siphoshe Jele in police custody prompted Senior Prince and Chairman of the Royal Council of Princes and Princesses (Bantfwabenhosi) to openly declare the need for political dialogue to resolve the political issues facing the small kingdom. As a result of ASC's partnership, a roadmap has been established, as well as intentions to involve other key civil society organisations who partook in the Regional Capacity Building project.

African Insider Mediators Platform (AIMP)

Participatory analysis and strategy development workshops were held in November 2010 and July 2011 to better understand the contribution of insider mediators to the resolution of conflict across Africa. Insider mediators play a significant strategic role in providing continuity between short-term peacemaking responses to periods of crisis, as well as long-term peacebuilding processes. These meetings were attended by participants from Botswana, Burundi, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Supported by the Peace Nexus Foundation, these workshops aimed to enhance internal national mediation capacity and contribute to local

"when the music
changes, so does
the dance"

Hausa Tribe, West Africa



Harare International Arts Festival, Zimbabwe, 2010

ownership of mediation outcomes. The research identified a key group of insider mediators working at multiple levels across a wide range of conflict contexts. Essentially, these mediators require greater support in their efforts to provide critical linkages between senior-level mediation processes, and the mediation of residual conflicts affecting people at community level. Looking to the future, AIMP aims to establish supportive partnerships with which to agree an action plan and allocate responsibilities in its implementation.

Confidence Building in the Electoral Process in Sudan

ASC staff worked with local partners in Khartoum and the United Nations Mission in Sudan to develop and implement a confidence building process between political parties in the run up to the election in 2010.

The event took place on the 11th February and included about 175

representatives from approximately 35 of the registered political parties, as well as representatives of the National Elections Commission, the PPAC, UNMIS and the UNDP. With a reported 80% of the delegates being candidates contesting the election, the event had real significance and potential to impact the election.

Combining small focused group discussions and larger break-away groups that required a process of summarising, synthesising and agreeing on a shared report-back, the workshop created an essential space for dialogue between political party representatives and key stakeholders. Developing organic leadership roles within the groups facilitated and guided the group discussions, and highlighted an important process through which dispute resolution processes have the potential to identify a form and type of leader that is able to overcome any ideological differences and divisive contestations for power.

In addition to demonstrating the



Cultural Diversity workshop, 2010

potential for parties to work together beyond their differences, the need for extensive contact and relationship building between party representatives was illustrated. This relationship building aspect alone will make a significant difference in laying the foundation for non-violent dispute resolution processes in the longer term.

Anti-Xenophobia Action

The aftermath of the 2010 World Cup was rife with rumours of impending xenophobic violence, prompting key role players, concerned individuals and civil society organisations to lobby the South African Council of Churches (SACC) to address the issue. The resulting meeting at Khotso House on 6th July 2010, which was graced by the attendance of Mrs. Graca Machel, highlighted the necessity of exploring migration in the context

of xenophobia and approaching the issues in a proactive and consolidated manner. The SACC was recognised as key for promoting a moral authority against xenophobia. The cessation of the Coalition Against Xenophobia in 2010 resulted in there being no working national organisation focused solely on preventing xenophobic violence, thus the creation of Anti-Xenophobia Action (AXA) was essential. ASC supports AXA in its challenge to address and combat xenophobia, particularly in areas of high migrant population, such as Soweto, Alexandra in Johannesburg, and Limpopo province.

Cultural Diversity Awareness

The ACTION Support Centre, in partnership with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and five organisations from Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal, has collaborated in a Cultural Diversity Awareness initiative. The initiative is based on the theme of 'Ubuntu (Humanity) Has No Borders' and the Alexandra Township was chosen for this particular initiative because of its history with prejudice against foreign nationals.

To ensure activities were relevant, interviews were conducted among community members and influential people in the community to determine what they felt were the pressing issues relating to foreign nationals. The Cultural Diversity Awareness initiative, therefore, was conducted over four workshops, focusing on local and foreign school learners from Realogile Secondary School. A focus group analysis was done separately with the local learners and foreign learners. This was done to get the learner's honest views about xenophobia, how they experience it in schools and in their communities. Some learners had

"I have learnt that transformation is a process that needs to be nurtured – requires diligence, responsibility and patience"

Applied Conflict Transformation course participant



Cultural Diversity and Awareness in schools, 2011

positive views towards foreign nationals and supported their inclusion in the community while others felt foreign nationals did not belong. In a separate group of learners, the learners were asked what kind of community they wanted to live in. The learner's response was positive as could be seen through the art activity where they demonstrated a community where all lived in harmony with one another and people helped each other. The learner's also proposed solutions to the issues they felt were affecting their community.

Additionally, Cultural Diversity Workshops were conducted with community members. The topics covered were, Early Detection of Conflict, Conflict Analysis, Intervention and Long-Term Transformation and Prevention. Peace monitors will be selected from participants to assist in future activities in Alexandra.

For more information on the project, visit <http://www.iom.org.za/ubuntuhasnoborders>

Schools Anti-Xenophobia Programme

Realising during the 2008 xenophobic violence that attention was focused predominantly on short and medium term responses; ASC collaborated with other like-minded organisations to form a long-term initiative. The project sought to avoid duplicating existing events in communities and pinpointed schools as an essential target area. The initial project focused on schools in Soweto, Alexandra and Pretoria with later projects being rolled out in Limpopo province.

Adopting an approach specifically tailored to learners, the conflict transformation workshops used debates, speeches, sport, indigenous games and cultural events to bring issues surrounding xenophobia to the fore and shape responsible citizens. The workshops explored concepts such as: xenophobia; identity; prejudice; stereotype; peace; conflict; violence; assumption; value. Facilitators were used to ensure issues were appropriately addressed and debates synthesised.



Somali Solidarity Campaign launch, 2011

In recognition of its role as a key stakeholder the Department of Education was involved in these projects and the coloration continues with the on-going establishment of sustainable Peace Clubs, monthly meetings and the creation of an accessible platform to publicise the Bill of Rights to learners and their communities. Ponahalo De Beers Trust funded this project.

Ubuntu Derby

'Let's give a red card to xenophobia'

Realising the potential threat of xenophobic attacks in South Africa after the 2010 World Cup, the Norwegian Peoples Aid-South Africa (NPA) partnership demonstrated its flexibility and commitment to implementing contextually appropriate initiatives in July 2010. Realigning from the original proposal to promote diaspora involvement in the constitutional outreach process, NPA-SA focused on endorsing strong anti-xenophobia initiatives. Anti-xenophobia programmes were combined with robust lobbying and

advocacy efforts as well as concerted approaches to raising awareness of the situation in Zimbabwe.

ASC and partners hosted a successful 'Ubuntu Derby', a campaign that strived to unite the people of Africa through a celebration of sports, poetry, drama, music and many other cultural activities. The successful event culminated in a soccer match between Jomo Cosmos FC and Zimbabwean Highlanders. By harnessing the excitement surrounding the World Cup, ASC and the anti-xenophobia message reached 20,000 people at this match alone; a truly phenomenal achievement.

Proudly African Campaign

The Proudly African Campaign (PAC) boasts wide-ranging and significant potential. Informed by issues of xenophobia, racism, discrimination and other forms of prejudice and stereotyping PAC seeks to redefine African identity along the lines of Ubuntu (humanity). PAC is committed to creating a culture of appreciating humanity in itself, without bias of language, ethnicity or race hence cultural tolerance. Breaking social, cultural and national boundaries PAC promotes multi-level dialogue in communities and uses mass public media campaigns to encourage individuals to identify themselves with set of social circumstance that make them human in that particular setting and time.

Somali Solidarity Campaign Launch

On the 28th October 2011, ACTION Support Centre launched the Somali Solidarity Campaign. The launch is the beginning of our intention to raise awareness on the challenges faced by Somali's.

Also importantly, we are raising funds

"I feel a new sense of passion to continue contributing to the transformation of conflict – there is so much potential for positive change and I want to become more involved"

Applied Conflict Transformation course participant



for the proposed Wajir Peace University, based in North Eastern Kenya, which will be contributing towards peaceful transformation in the region. ACTION's support to the Wajir Peace University is very dear to our hearts as the idea of the University came to be, as a vision of our sister Dekha Ibrahim, who recently passed (may God rest her soul). She devoted her life to peace building and conflict mediation. She was also a founding member of ACTION. Her life mission brought courage, hope and a spirit of resilience to all she met.

The Somali Solidarity Campaign launch went successfully with support from the Somali Association of South Africa (SAAS), who spoke at the event and other NGOs and individuals who took time to support the beginning of this vital initiative. We also raised funds on the evening as we had Somali bracelets and ACTION bags on sale, the proceeds,

which will be going towards the Wajir Peace University Trust. You can find out more about Wajir Peace University Trust here: www.waput.org

Yeoville Community Engagement

ASC enjoys a sustained relationship with the Yeoville Community. Recognised as a key organisation in the community ASC has appeared in their publication 'YeoVue news bulletin'. ASC acts as a platform and opportunity to share information and interact with diaspora and South African communities. Approaches include utilising strategic meetings, dialogue forums and imbizos. ASC is influential in contributing to municipal law and policy regarding Yeoville and offers insight into areas such as informal trade, crime, criminal violence, gender abuse, refugee issues and environmental issues.

Publications, Operations, Partners and Donors



Publications

The following publications are available from the ACTION Support Centre

Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action

Transforming Conflict: Reflections of Practitioners Worldwide

The Peace and Development Platform quarterly newsletter

The Peace and Development Platform information packs

Pack 1: The African Renaissance

Pack 2: The African Union

Pack 3: New partnership for Africa's Development

Pack 4: Regional Economic Communities

Pack 5: Democracy and Good Governance

Pack 6: The Path to Sustainable Development

Voices from both sides of the Atlantic

Collected stories of peacebuilders from Africa and Latin America

The Zimbabwe Solidarity Forum Comprehensive Report

An in depth look at the steps towards building the Southern African solidarity movement around Zimbabwe between 2008 and 2010

Struggles in Peacetime

Working with ex-combatants in Mozambique, their frustrations and successes.

Drums for Change

Quarterly news magazine

Operations Department

Fundraising and Finances

Despite the challenges related to the global financial crisis that have affected the funding base of most civil society organisations, the ACTION Support Centre has been able to maintain and extend its own sources of funding.

It is as a result of the vision and foresight of those partners who have supported our work over the years that we have been able to forge strategic forms of partnership that have been able to get beyond the boundaries of a normal donor client relationship. The strength of these relationships has seen us through what might otherwise have been a crippling time for the organisation.

The regional and continental nature of our work, combined with the long-term nature of the transformation agenda to which we are contributing, means that ACTION does not fit easily into the usual project grant boxes on which so many organisations rely for their funding.

Despite this ACTION has been able to maintain its strong relationship with existing partners and generate additional independent funding sources. These include the introduction of the Applied Conflict Transformation course, a range of consultancy services and the sale of training resources such as the Working with Conflict book.

The hard work we have put into maintaining our institutional relationship with the Department of Social Development and our registration as a Public Benefit Organisation has also assisted in securing funding and making the most efficient use of the funds we have been able to secure.

The list of developmental partners that have contributed to the ACTION Support Centre programmes during the period covered by this report gives a good

sense of the range of partnerships we have been able to maintain. Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation goes out to these institutions for their recognition of the value of our work.

Developmental Partners: Grants, Donations and Fees

2009-2011

- Norwegian Peoples Aid
- Mensen met Een Missie Stichting CMC
- Schooner Foundation
- Charlotte Roberts Trust
- Zimbabwe Institute
- British High Commission
- Ponaholo De Beers
- HIVOS
- Peace Nexus Foundation
- Open Societies Initiative for Southern Africa
- Modus Operandi
- International Organisation for Migration
- Life and Peace Institute
- South African Municipal Workers Union
- Freedom House
- UNDP Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Rehabilitation

Audited Financial Statements



Independent Auditors' Report

To the members of ACTION for Conflict Transformation

We have audited the financial statements of ACTION for Conflict Transformation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2011, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in reserves and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Steering Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The organisation's Steering Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the organisation's accounting policies, and in the manner required by its Constitution. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards

require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with other similar organisations, it is not feasible for the organisation to institute accounting controls over collections of income other than interest prior to the initial entry of the collections in the accounting records.

Accordingly, it was impracticable for us to extend our examination beyond the receipts actually recorded.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ACTION for Conflict Transformation as at 30 September 2011, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with its accounting policies.

Emphasis of Matter - Going concern considerations

We draw attention to the fact that the organisation needs ongoing donor support if it is to continue operations. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting practices applicable to a going concern which assumes that the organisation will generate sufficient funds by way of grants from donors to continue funding its activities in the ensuing year. Accordingly, they do not include any adjustments relating to recoverability and classification of assets or to the amounts and classification of liabilities that would be necessary if the organisation were unable to continue as a going concern.

Nash & Associates
12 December 2011

Detailed Income Statement



ACTION for Conflict Transformation

(NPO Registration number :027-156-NPO)
Financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2011

| Figures in Rand | Note(s) | 2011 R | 2010 R |
|---|---------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Norwegian People's Aid | | 1 755 748 | 2 229 352 |
| Ponahalo De Beers Community Trust | | 187 040 | 294 315 |
| Other donor income | | 611 997 | - |
| Donations received | | - | 918 737 |
| | 6 | 2 554 785 | 3 442 404 |
| Other income | | | |
| Administration fees received | | 121 922 | - |
| Other income | | 56 875 | 61 873 |
| Donations received | | - | 3 809 |
| | | 178 797 | 65 682 |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Accounting fees | | 22 700 | - |
| Advertising | | - | 1 000 |
| Auditors' remuneration | | 33 724 | 67 247 |
| Bank charges | | 11 525 | 27 322 |
| Computer expenses | | 14 470 | 7 000 |
| Consulting fees | | 112 505 | 68 219 |
| Course material supplies and catering | | 103 086 | 76 137 |
| Depreciation | | 12 002 | 29 654 |
| Disbursement of funds received for external campaigns | | 859 084 | 1 235 204 |
| Donations | | 25 365 | - |
| Employee costs | | 378 593 | 699 804 |
| Equipment rental | | 51 042 | 50 391 |
| Fines and penalties | | 431 | - |
| Honoraria paid | | 9 400 | 19 541 |
| Insurance | | 4 527 | 4 391 |
| Lease rentals on operating lease - office premises | | 80 289 | 203 877 |
| Legal expenses | | - | 14 806 |
| Office supplies and staff refreshments | | 15 018 | 15 642 |
| Printing and stationery | | 34 400 | 168 123 |
| Repairs and maintenance | | 8 232 | 46 475 |
| Staff training | | 10 598 | 4 700 |
| Telecommunications | | 62 957 | 147 622 |
| Travel | | 525 371 | 436 376 |
| | | 2 375 319 | 3 323 531 |
| Operating surplus | | 358 263 | 184 555 |
| Finance costs | | (106) | - |
| Surplus (deficit) for the year. See Annexure A | | 358 157 | 184 555 |

Statement of Financial Position



ACTION for Conflict Transformation

(NPO Registration number :027-156-NPO)
Financial statements for the year ended 30
September 2011

| Figures in Rand | Note(s) | 2011 R | 2010 R |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Non current assets | | | |
| Equipment | 2 | 39 370 | 34 491 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Accounts receivable | 3 | 17 200 | 12 000 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 645 832 | 301 481 |
| | | 663 032 | 313 481 |
| Total assets | | 702 402 | 347 972 |
| RESERVES AND LIABILITIES | | | |
| Reserves | | | |
| Accumulated surplus | | 690 572 | 332 412 |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Accounts payable | 5 | 11 830 | 15 560 |
| | | | |
| Total Equity and Liabilities | | 702 402 | 347 972 |



Operations Staff

Tiro Dipudi – Operations Manager

Busisiwe Zuma – Administrative Assistant

Deborah Collison – Book-keeper

Programmes Staff

Sipho Theys – Programme Manager

Philani Ndebele – Communications Manager

Rindai Chekerwa – Programme Officer

Interns

Pontsho Pule – Selected for long term internship, Monash University (2011)

Clare Devine – Selected for long term internship, University of East London (2011)

Allie Malkin – Short-term intern, University of British Columbia, Trinity College (2011)

Samantha Evans – Intern placement from University of Edinburgh (2011)

Sarah Tobin – International Human Rights Exchange (IHRE) University of the Witwatersrand (2011)

Zanele Mswela – IHRE (2011)

Jessica Meyer – IHRE (2010)

Khensani Chauke – IHRE (2010)

Sphelele Vilakazi – IHRE (2010)

Network Organisers and Volunteers

The networking and relationship building approach that ACTION uses to strengthen forms of organisation has helped to establish a widespread network of volunteers, skilled supporters, community leadership and on the ground initiatives. This network is the real ACTION. The programmes outlined in this report are the product of the ability of solidarity activists, development workers, peacebuilders and conflict transformation practitioners to find common purpose and expression as they create together, building another world. Respect for all of these efforts everywhere.

Local Steering Committee

Fatima Swartz – Chairperson

Mxolisi Khalane – Secretary

Richard Smith – Treasurer, and Steering Committee Representative based in the Support Centre

Jadu Dladla – Member



ACTION is a Non-Profit Organisation, registered with the Department of Social Welfare. Our legal registration number is NPO # 027-156.



The Action Support Centre Regional Hub staff members, 2011



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