

Annexe I: Composition of the International Council of the WSF (2005)

Members

International Secretariat of the World Social Forum, <www.forumsocialmundial.org.br>, e-mail: <fsminfo@forumsocialmundial.org.br>

Brazilian Organizing Committee, e-mail: <fsmcoordesc@forumsocialmundial.org.br>

Indian Organizing Committee, <www.wsfindia.org>, e-mail: <wsfindia@vsnl.net>

50 Years Is Enough!, <www.50years.org>, e-mail: <50years@50years.org>

ABONG – Associação Brasileira de ONGs (Brazilian Association of NGOs), <www.abong.org.br>, e-mail: <abong@uol.com.br>

ACTU – Australian Council of Trade Unions, <www.actu.asn.au/>, e-mail: <mailbox@actu.asn.au>

AEC – Assemblée Européenne des Citoyens (European Citizens' Assembly), <www.cedetim.org/AEC/>, e-mail: <cedetim@globenet.org>; <aec@globenet.org>

AFL-CIO – American Federation of Labour-Congress of Industrial Organizations, <www.aflcio.org>, e-mail: <feedback@aflcio.org>; <Tbeaty@aflcio.org>

Africa Trade Network, <twnafrica.org/networks/ATN/atn-index.asp>, e-mail: <contact@twnafrica.org>; <dkeet@iafrica.com>; <aidc@iafrica.com>

AIDC – Alternative Information on Development Center, <www.aidc.org.za/>, e-mail: <info@aidc.org.za>

ALAI – Agencia Latinoamericana de Información (Latin American Information Agency), <www.alainet.org>, e-mail: <info@alainet.ecuanex.net.ec>; <info@alainet.org>

ALAMPYME – Associação Latino-Americana de Pequenos e Médios Empresários (Latin American Association of Small and Median Entrepreneurs), <www.apyme.com.ar>, e-mail: <apyme@rcc.com.ar>

All Arab Peasants and Agricultural Cooperatives Union, e-mail: <F76arab@maktoob.com>

Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and United World, <www.alliance21.org>, e-mail: <paris@fph.fr>; <gustavo@alliance21.org>

ALOP – Associação Latino-Americana de Organismos de Promoção (Latin American Association for the Promotion of Regional Cooperation), <www.alop.or.cr/index.htm>, e-mail: <info@alop.or.cr>; <eballon@desco.org.pe>

Alternative Information Center, <www.alternativenews.org/>, e-mail: <aic@alt-info.org>; <sergio@alt-info.org>

Alternatives (Action and Communication Network for International Development), <www.alternatives.ca>, e-mail: <alternativesqc@alternatives.ca>; <marcela@alternatives.ca>

Alternatives Russia, <www.alternativy.ru/> e-mail: <dhrr@online.ru>; <alternativy@tochka.ru>

APC – Association for Progressive Communications, <www.apc.org>, e-mail: <webeditor@apc.org>; <anriette@apc.org>

APC – Asamblea de los Pueblos del Caribe (Assembly of the Caribbean People), <www.movimientos.org/apcaribe>, e-mail: <habitatcarib@hotmail.com>; <pedroarg@tricom.net>

APM – Agricultures paysannes, sociétés et mondialisation (Peasants' agriculture, societies and globalization), <www.zooide.com/apm>, e-mail: <pvuarin@fph.fr>

APRODEV (Association of World Council of Churches Related to Development Organizations in Europe), <www.aprodev.net>, e-mail: <admin@aprodev.net>; <aprodev@aprodev.net>

Arab NGO Network for Development, <www.annd.org>, e-mail: <annd@cyberia.net>; <lbannd@cyberia.net.lb>; <zmajed@assafir.com>; <zmajed@hotmail.com>

ARENA – Asian Regional Exchange for New Alternatives, <www.arenaonline.org>, e-mail: <arena@asianexchange.org>

Articulación Feminista MarcoSur (Feminist Articulation MarcoSur), <www.mujeresdelsur.org.uy>, e-mail: <mujeresdelsur@mujersur.org.uy>; <cotidiann@cotidianmujer.org.uy>

ASC – Aliança Social Continental (Continental Social Alliance), <www.asc-hsa.org>; <www.web.ca/comfront>, e-mail: <comfront@web.ca>; <asc@laneta.apc.org>; <cilas@laneta.apc.org>

Assembly of the United Nations of the People (Tavola della Pace), <www.perlapace.it/tavola.htm>, e-mail: <flavio@perlapace.it>; <info@tavoladellapace.it>

ATTAC – Brazil (Association for the Taxation of Financial Transactions for the Aid of Citizens – Brazil), <www.attac.org/brasil>, e-mail: <attacsapaulo@attac.org>; <cida@that.com.br>; <antoniomartins@yahoo.com>; <tiburcio@uol.com.br>; <jcleite@dglnet.com.br>

ATTAC – France (Association for the Taxation of Financial Transactions for the Aid of Citizens – France), <www.attac.org>, e-mail: <attac@attac.org>; <bernardcassen@monde_diplomatique.fr>; <aguiton@ras.eu.org>; <attacint@attac.org>

Babels, <www.babels.org>, e-mail: <wsfsm@babels.org>; <info@babels.org>

Bankwatch Network, <www.bankwatch.org>, e-mail: <jozseff@bankwatch.org>

CADTM - Comité pour l'Annulation de la Dette du Tiers Monde (Committee for the Cancellation of the Third World Debt), <www.cadtm.org>, e-mail: <cadtm@skynet.be>; <info@cadtm.org>

Caritas Internationalis, <www.caritas.org>, e-mail: <caritas.internationalis@caritas.va>

CBJP - Comissão Brasileira de Justiça e Paz (Brazilian Justice and Peace Commission), <www.cbjp.org.br>, e-mail: <intercom@cidadanet.org.br>; <cbjp@cbjp.org.br>; <cbjpcnbb@gns.com.br>

CCSCS - Coordenadora de Centrais Sindicais do Cone Sul (Coordination of Trade Unionist Federations of the Southern Cone), <www.sindicatomercosul.com.br/>, e-mail: <eduardo@aebu.org.uy>

CEAAL - Consejo de Educación de Adultos de América Latina (Latin American Council of Adult Education), <www.ceaal.org>, e-mail: <ceaal@laneta.apc.org>; <czarco@laneta.apc.org>

CEDAR Internacional (Forum for the Implementation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - Centre for Dignity and Rights), <www.cedarinternational.net/>, e-mail: <cedar@asser.nl>; <goldewijk.cedar@asser.nl>

CEDETIM - Centre d'Études et d'Initiatives de Solidarité Internationale (Research and Initiative Centre for International Solidarity), <www.cedetim.org/>, e-mail: <cedetim@globenet.org>; <cedetim@reseau-ipam.org>

Central de Trabajadores Argentinos (Argentinean Trade Union), <www.cta.org.ar>, e-mail: <cta@roc.com.ar>; <alaris@sinctis.com.ar>

CETRI (Tricontinental Centre), <www.cetri.be>, e-mail: <cetri@cetri.be>; <houtart@espo.ucl.ac.be>

CIDSE - Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité (International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity), <www.cidse.org>, e-mail: <postmaster@cidse.org>

CIOSL - Confederação Internacional de Organizações Sindicais Livres (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions), <www.cioslorit.org>, e-mail: <info@cioslorit.org>; <sedeorit@cioslorit.org>; <internetpo@icftu.org>

CIVES - Associação Brasileira de Empresários pela Cidadania (Brazilian Association of Entrepreneurs for Citizenship), <www.cives.com.br> e-mail: <cives@cives.com.br>

CLACSO - Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (Latin American Council of Social Sciences), <www.clacso.org>, e-mail: <clacsofsm@clacso.edu.ar>

CLC - Canadian Labour Congress, <www.clc-ctc.ca>, e-mail: <sbenedict@clc-ctc.ca>

CMT - Confederação Mundial do Trabalho (World Confederation of Labour), <www.cmt-wcl.org>, e-mail: <info@cmt-wcl.org>

Coligação para a Justiça Económica (Colligation for Economic Justice), e-mail: <viriato@zebra.uem.mz>

COMPA - Convergencia de los Movimientos de los Pueblos de las Américas (Convergence of the People's Movements of the Americas), <www.sitiocompa.org>, e-mail: <colectivoredom_@hotmail.com>; <rgf@alum.vassar.edu>

CONAIE - Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador (Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador), <www.conaie.org>, e-mail: <info@conaie.org>

Congreso Nacional Indígena do México (Indigenous National Congress of Mexico), e-mail: <ceatl@laneta.apc.org>

Conselho Mundial de Igrejas/World Council of Churches, <www.wcc-coe.org>, e-mail: <info@wcc-coe.org>

Coordination du Forum 'L'Autre Davos', <www.otherdavos.net/index.html>, e-mail: <Page2@fastnet.ch>

Corpwatch, <www.corpwatch.org>, e-mail: <corpwatch@corpwatch.org>

COSATU - Congress of South African Trade Unions, <www.cosatu.org.za>, e-mail: <cosatu@wn.apc.org>; <florinah@cosatu.org.za>

Council of Canadians, <www.canadians.org>, e-mail: <Jdunn@canadians.org>

CRID - Centre de Recherche et d'Information pour le Développement (Research and Information Centre for Development), <www.crid.asso.fr>, e-mail: <info@crid.asso.fr>

CUT - Central Única dos Trabalhadores (Central Trade Union Federation), <www.cut.org.br>, e-mail: <sri-cut@uol.com.br>

DAWN - Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era, <www.dawn.org.fj>, e-mail: <dawn@is.com.fj>

Encuentros Hemisféricos contra el ALCA (Hemisphere Meetings against the FTAA), <www.alcaabajo.cu/>, e-mail: <joel@mlking.sld.cu>

ENDA - TM Environnement et Développement du Tiers-Monde (Environment and Development Action in the Third World), <www.enda.sn>, e-mail: <taoufik@enda.sn>

ETUC - European Trade Union Confederation, <www.etuc.org/>, e-mail: <etuc@etuc.org>; <jmoreno@ccoo.es>

EURALAT - Observatorio Eurolatinoamericano sobre el Desarrollo Democrático y Social (Eurolatinamerican Observatory on Democratic and Social Development), <www.euralat.org>, e-mail: <criera@aepdc.org>

Euromarchés (European Marches), <www.euromarches.org>, e-mail: <euromarches@ras.eu.org>

FAMES (Forum des Femmes Africaines pour un Monde de l'Economie), e-mail: <rabia@enda.sn>

FCOC - Frente Continental de Organizações Comunitárias (Continental Front of Community Organizations), <www.movimientos.org/fcoc>; <www.siscom.or.cr/aso/fcoc/fcoc.htm>, e-mail: <mlongoria@laneta.apc.org>

FDIF - Fédération Démocratique Internationale des Femmes (World

Democratic Federation of Women), <www.fdif.eu.org>, e-mail: <fdif@fdif.eu.org>

Federación Mundial de Juventudes Democráticas (World Federation of Democratic Youth), <www.wfdy.org>, e-mail: <wfdy@wfdy.org>

FIAN – Food First International Action Network, <www.fian.org>, e-mail: <fian@fian.org>

FIDH – Fédération International de Droits Humaines (Internationale Federation of Human Rights), <www.fidh.org>, e-mail: <rsanchez@fidh.org>

Focus on the Global South, <www.focusweb.org>, e-mail: <admin@focusweb.org>

Forum Dakar, e-mail: <Residel.kaolack@sentoo.sn>

Forum Mondial des Alternatives (World Forum of Alternatives), <www.alternatives-action.org/fma>, e-mail: <ftm@syfed.refer.sn>

Forum of the Poor, <www.thai.to/aop>, e-mail: <fopthai@asiaaccess.net.th>

Fórum Social Italiano (Italian Social Forum), e-mail: <vagnoletto@lila.it>

Friends of the Earth International, <www.foei.org>, e-mail: <foe@foe.org>; <manus@foenl.antenna.nl>

GLBT South-South Dialogue, e-mail: <phumim@ecuanex.net.ec>

Global Exchange, <www.globalexchange.org>, e-mail: <admin@globalexchange.org>

Global Policy Network, <www.globalpolicynetwork.org>, e-mail: <gpn-listowner@epinet.org>

Greenpeace, <www.greenpeace.org>, e-mail: <greenpeace.brazil@dialb.greenpeace.org>

Grito dos Excluídos (Cry of the Excluded), <www.movimientos.org>, e-mail: <gritoexcluidos@uol.com.br>

Grupo de Trabalho Amazónico (Amazonian Working Group), <www.gta.org.br/>

Habitat International Coalition, <www.hic-net.org>, e-mail: <hic-al@hic-al.org>

IATP – Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, <www.iatp.org>, e-mail: <khoff@iatp.org>

IBASE – Instituto Brasileiro de Análises Sociais e Econômicas (Brazilian Institute for Economic and Social Studies), <www.ibase.br>, e-mail: <ibase@ibase.br>

ICAE – International Council for Adult Education, <www.icao.org.uy/spa/sindex.html>, e-mail: <icae@icae.ca>

IFAT – International Federation of Alternative Trade, <www.ifat.org>, e-mail: <ifat@ifat.org.uk>

IFG – International Forum on Globalization, <www.ifg.org>, e-mail: <ifg@ifg.org>

IFTDH – The International Federation Terre des Hommes, <www.terredeshommes.org>, e-mail: <info@terredeshommes.org>

INSP – International Network of Street Papers, <www.street-papers.com>, e-mail: <L.maclean@bigissuescotland.com>

International Gender and Trade Network, <www.genderandtrade.net>, e-mail: <secretariat@coc.org>

IPB – International Peace Bureau, <www.ipb.org>, e-mail: <mailbox@ipb.org>

IPF – Instituto Paulo Freire (Institute Paulo Freire), <www.paulofreire.org>, e-mail: <ipf@paulofreire.org>

IPS – Inter Press Service, <www.ips.org>, e-mail: <kosi@ips.org>; Africa – <mail@ipsafrica.org>; Asia-Pacific – <ipsasia@loxinfo.co.th>; Caribbean – <ipskin@cwjamaica.com>; Europe – Middle East – <eurodesk@ips.org>; Latin America – <latam@ipsenespanol.org>; USA and Canada – <latam@ipsenespanol.org>

IUS – International Union of Students, <www.ius-uic.org>, e-mail: <ius@cfs-fcee.ca>

Jubilee South – Africa, <www.jubileesouth.org>, e-mail: <aide@iafrica.com>

Jubilee South – Asia, <www.jubileesouth.org>, e-mail: <vinod.raina@vsnl.com>

Jubilee 2000, <www.jubilee2000uk.org/jubilee2000/links.html>; <www.aidec.org.za/j2000/index.html>, e-mail: <kitazawa@jca.apc.org>

Jubileu Sul América Latina (Jubilee South – Latin America), <www.jubileusul.hpg.com.br>, e-mail: <keeneba@wamani.apc.org>

KCTU – Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, <www.kctu.org>, e-mail: <inter@kctu.org>

KOPA (Korean People's Action against the FTA and the WTO), <www.wantiwto.jinbo.net/eroom/index.html>, e-mail: <kopa@jinbo.net>

Land Research Action Network, e-mail: <wellington@nlc.co.za>

MST – Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (Landless Rural Workers Movement), <www.mst.org.br>, e-mail: <srimest@uol.com.br>

Narmada, <www.narmada.org>, e-mail: <subbu@narmada.org>

National Network of Autonomous Women's Groups, e-mail: <shahnandita@redifmail.com>

NIGD – Network Institute for Global Democratization, <www.nigd.org>, e-mail: <katarina@nigd.u-net.com>

North-South Centre, <www.coe.int/T/E/North-South_Centre>, e-mail: <Fifi.BENABOUD@coe.int>

OATUU – Organization of African Trade Unions Unity, e-mail: <oatuu@ighmail.com>

OCLAE – Organización Continental Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Estudiantes (Continental Organization of Latin America and Caribbean Students), <www.oclae.org>, e-mail: <oclae@jcece.org.cu>

Oneworld, <www.unimondo.org>; <www.oneworld.org>, e-mail: <jason.nardi@unimondo.org>

ORIT – Organización Regional Interamericana de Trabajadores

(Interamerican Regional Workers' Organization), <www.orit-ciosl.org>, e-mail: <info@cioslorit.org>

OXFAM Internacional, <www.oxfam.org>; <www.oxfaminternational.org>, e-mail: <information@oxfaminternational.org>

Palestinian Grassroots Anti-apartheid Wall Campaign, <www.stopthewall.org>, e-mail: <mobilize@stopthewall.org>

Peace Boat, <www.peaceboat.org>, e-mail: <y-nami@peaceboat.gr.jp>

PIDHDD – Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo (Interamerican Platform of Human Rights, Democracy and Development), <www.pidhdd.org>, e-mail: <regional@pidhdd.org>

PNGO – Palestinian Non-governmental Organizations Network, <www.pngo.net>, e-mail: <bisanrd@palnet.com>

Project K, <www.projet-k.org/>, e-mail: <salvatore.cannavo@flashnet.it> <ilpanclerose@hotmail.com>

Public Citizen, <www.citizen.org>, e-mail: <tgeron@citizen.org>

Rede CONSEU – Conferencia de Naciones sin Estado de Europa (Conference of Nations without State in Europe), e-mail: <activitats@ciemen.org>

Rede de Solidariedade Ásia Pacífico (Solidarity Network Asia Pacific), e-mail: <intl@dsp.org.au>

Rede Latinoamericana e Caribenha de Mulheres Negras (Network of Black Women from the Caribbean and Latin America), <www.criola.org.org>, e-mail: <criola@alternex.com.br>

Rede Mulher e Habitat (Women and Shelter Network), <www.redmujer.org.ar>, e-mail: <gem@agora.com.ar>

Rede Social de Justiça e Direitos Humanos (Social Network for Justice and Human Rights), <www.social.org.br>, e-mail: <rede@social.org.br>

Redes Socioeconomia Solidaria (Networks for Socieconomic Solidarity), <www.reasnet.com>, e-mail: <creintjes@ideas.coop>

REMTE – Red Latinoamericana Mujeres Transformando la Economía (Latin American Network of Women Transforming the Economy), <www.movimientos.org/remte/>, e-mail: <mleon@interactive.net.ec> <remte@fedaeps.org>

REPEM – Red de educación popular entre mujeres (Network of Popular Education Among Women), <www.repem.org.uy>, e-mail: <repem@repem.org.uy>

Réseaux Sous-régional sur la Dette et les DSRP (Sub-regional Network on Debt and DSRP), e-mail: <jubilecad-mali@cefib.com> <barryaminatou@yahoo.fr>

SIGTUR – Southern Initiative on Globalisation and Trade Union Rights, e-mail: <rlambert@ecel.uwa.edu.au>

Social Watch, <www.socialwarch.org>, e-mail: <socwatch@chasque.net>

Solidar, <www.solidar.org>, e-mail: <solidar@skynet.be>

Solidarity Africa Network in Action, e-mail: <njoki@igc.org>

TNI – Transnational Institute, <www.tni.org>, e-mail: <tni@tni.org>

Transform Network!, e-mail: <elgauthi@internatif.org>

TWN – Third World Network, <www.twinside.org.sg>, e-mail: <tw@igc.apc.org>

UBUNTU – Foro Mundial de Redes de la Sociedad Civil (World Forum of the Networks of Civil Society), <www.ubuntu.upc.es>, e-mail: <ubuntu@ubuntu.upc.es>

Via Campesina, <www.ns.rds.org.hn/via/>, e-mail: <viacam@gbm.hn>

Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights, <www.wngrt.org>, e-mail: <office@wngrt.nl>

World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters – AMARC, <www.amarc.org>, e-mail: <amarc@amarc.org>

World March of Women, <www.marchemondiale.org/>; <www.ffq.qc.ca/marche2000/en/index.html>, e-mail: <dmatte@ffq.qc.ca>

Znet, <www.zmag.org>, e-mail: <sysop@zmag.org>

Observers

FNTG – Funders Network on Trade and Globalization, <www.fntg.org>, e-mail: <mark@fntg.org>

Organizing Committee of the African Social Forum, e-mail: <taoufik@enda.sn>

Organizing Committee of the Americas Social Forum, <www.forosocialamericas.org>, e-mail: <fsmcontinental@fsmecuador.org>

Organizing Committee of the European Social Forum, <www.fse-esf.org>, e-mail: <wsf@fse-esf.org>

Organizing Committee of the Mediterranean Social Forum, e-mail: <activitats@ciemen.org>; <fsmedi@terra.es>

Organizing Committee of the Pan-Amazonic Social Forum, <www.fspanamazonico.com.br>, e-mail: <cri-pmb@belem.pa.gov.br>

Organizing Committee of the Thematic Social Forum: Democracy, Human Rights, War and Drug Traffic, <www.fsmt.org.co>, e-mail: <forosocialtematico@cable.net.co>

Annexe II

Comparison between the Charter of Principles, the WSF India policy statement¹ and the Charter of Principles and Values of the African Social Forum²

Approved charter

Approved and adopted in São Paulo, on April 9, 2001, by the organizations that make up the World Social Forum Organizing Committee, approved with modifications by the World Social Forum International Council on June 10, 2001.

1. The World Social Forum is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action, by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neo-liberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism, and are committed to building a planetary society directed towards fruitful relationships among Humankind and between it and the Earth.

2. The World Social Forum at Porto Alegre was an event localized in time and place. From now on, in the certainty proclaimed at Porto Alegre that 'another world is possible', it becomes a permanent process of seeking and building alternatives, which cannot be reduced to the events supporting it.

3. The World Social Forum is a world process. All the meetings that are held as part of this process have an international dimension.

4. The alternatives proposed at the World Social Forum stand in opposition to a process of globalization commanded by the large multinational corporations and by the governments and international institutions at the service of those corporations' interests, with the complicity of national governments. They are designed to ensure that globalization in solidarity will prevail as a new stage in world history. This will respect universal human rights, and those of all citizens – men and women – of all nations and the environment and will rest on democratic international systems and institutions at the service of social justice, equality and the sovereignty of peoples.

5. The World Social Forum brings together and interlinks only organizations and movements of civil society from all the countries in the world, but intends not to be a body representing world civil society.

6. The meetings of the World Social Forum do not deliberate on behalf of the World Social Forum as a body. No one, therefore, will be authorized, on behalf of any of the editions of the Forum, to express positions claim-

ing to be those of all its participants. The participants in the Forum shall not be called on to take decisions as a body, whether by vote or acclamation, on declarations or proposals for action that would commit all, or the majority, of them and that propose to be taken as establishing positions of the Forum as a body. It thus does not constitute a locus of power to be disputed by the participants in its meetings, nor does it intend to constitute the only option for interrelation and action by the organizations and movements that participate in it.

7. Nevertheless, organizations or groups of organizations that participate in the Forum's meetings must be assured the right, during such meetings, to deliberate on declarations or actions they may decide on, whether singly or in coordination with other participants. The World Social Forum undertakes to circulate such decisions widely by the means at its disposal, without directing, hierarchizing, censoring or restricting them, but as deliberations of the organizations or groups of organizations that made the decisions.

8. The World Social Forum is a plural, diversified, non-confessional, non-governmental and non-party context that, in a decentralized fashion, interrelates organizations and movements engaged in concrete action at levels from the local to the international to build another world.

9. The World Social Forum will always be a forum open to pluralism and to the diversity of activities and ways of engaging of the organizations and movements that decide to participate in it, as well as the diversity of genders, ethnicities, cultures, generations and physical capacities, providing they abide by this Charter of Principles. Neither party representations nor military organizations shall participate in the Forum. Government leaders and members of legislatures who accept the commitments of this Charter may be invited to participate in a personal capacity.

10. The World Social Forum is opposed to all totalitarian and reductionist views of economy, development and history and to the use of violence as a means of social control by the State. It upholds respect for Human Rights, the practices of real democracy, participatory democracy, peaceful relations, in equality and solidarity, among people, ethnicities, genders and peoples, and condemns all forms of domination and all subjection of one person by another.

11. As a forum for debate, the World Social Forum is a movement of ideas that prompts reflection, and the transparent circulation of the results of that reflection, on the mechanisms and instruments of domination by capital, on means and actions to resist and overcome that domination, and on the alternatives proposed to solve the problems of exclusion and social inequality that the process of capitalist globalization with its racist, sexist and environmentally destructive dimensions is creating internationally and within countries.

12. As a framework for the exchange of experiences, the World Social

Forum encourages understanding and mutual recognition among its participant organizations and movements, and places special value on the exchange among them, particularly on all that society is building to centre economic activity and political action on meeting the needs of people and respecting nature, in the present and for future generations.

13. As a context for interrelations, the World Social Forum seeks to strengthen and create new national and international links among organizations and movements of society, that – in both public and private life – will increase the capacity for non-violent social resistance to the process of dehumanization the world is undergoing and to the violence used by the State, and reinforce the humanizing measures being taken by the action of these movements and organizations.

14. The World Social Forum is a process that encourages its participant organizations and movements to situate their actions, from the local level to the national level and seeking active participation in international contexts, as issues of planetary citizenship, and to introduce on to the global agenda the change-inducing practices that they are experimenting in building a new world in solidarity.

Indian version

The consultation of Indian organizations and individuals that took place in the city of Bhopal in India, on April 19–20 2002, and that constituted the World Social Forum-India. It was decided that WSF's Charter for India needs to be evolved with certain additions required for India. It accordingly entrusted the task to the WSF India Working Committee.

Starting with the original Preamble to the WSF Charter of Principles, as prepared by the Brazil Organizing Committee, the following constitutes the revised text as prepared by the WSF India Working Committee.

1. The World Social Forum is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action, by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neo-liberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism, and are committed to building a world order centred on the human person.

2. The World Social Forum at Porto Alegre – held from January 25th–30th, 2001, was an event localized in time and place. With the Porto Alegre Proclamation that ‘another world is possible’, it becomes a permanent process of seeking and building alternatives, which cannot be reduced to the events supporting it.

3. The World Social Forum is a world process. All the meetings that are held as part of this process have an international dimension.

4. The alternatives proposed at the World Social Forum stand in opposition to a process of *capitalist* globalization commanded by the large multinational corporations and by the governments and international

institutions at the service of those corporation's interests. They are designed to ensure that globalization in solidarity will prevail as a new stage in world history. This will respect universal human rights, and those of all citizens – men and women – of all nations and the environment and will rest on democratic international systems and institutions at the service of social justice, equality and the sovereignty of peoples.

5. The World Social Forum brings together and interlinks only organizations and movements of civil society from all the countries in the world, but intends neither to be a body representing world civil society *nor to exclude from the debates it promotes those in positions of political responsibility, mandated by their peoples, who decide to enter into the commitments resulting from those debates.*

6. The meetings of the World Social Forum do not deliberate on behalf of the World Social Forum as a body. No one, therefore, will be authorized, on behalf of any of the editions of the Forum, to express positions claiming to be those of all its participants. The participants in the Forum shall not be called on to take decisions as a body, whether by vote or acclamation, on declarations or proposals for action that would commit all, or the majority, of them and that propose to be taken as establishing positions of the Forum as a body.

7. Nevertheless, organizations or groups of organizations that participate in the Forum's meetings must be assured the right, during such meetings, to deliberate on declarations or actions they may decide on, whether singly or in coordination with other participants. The World Social Forum undertakes to circulate such decisions widely by the means at its disposal, without directing, *creating hierarchies*, censoring or restricting them, but as deliberations of the organizations or groups of organizations that made the decisions.

8. The World Social Forum is a plural, diversified, non-confessional, non-governmental and non-party context that, in a decentralized fashion, interrelates organizations and movements engaged in concrete action at levels from the local to the international – to build another world. *It thus does not constitute a locus of power to be disputed by the participants in its meetings, nor does it intend to constitute the only option for interrelation and action by the organizations and movements that participate in it.*

9. *The World Social Forum asserts democracy as the avenue to resolving society's problems politically. As a meeting place, it is open to pluralism and to the diversity of activities and ways of engaging of the organizations and movements that decide to participate in it, as well as the diversity of genders, races, ethnicities and cultures.*

10. The World Social Forum is opposed to all *authoritarian* and reductionist views of history and to the use of violence as a means of social control by the State. It upholds respect for Human Rights, for peaceful relations, in equality and solidarity, among people, *races*, genders and

peoples, and condemns all forms of domination and all subjection of one person by another.

11. *The meetings of the World Social Forum are always open to all those who wish to take part in them, except organizations that seek to take people's lives as a method of political action and those organizations that exclude groups/communities based on ethnic, racial, religious or caste considerations from the democratic world.*

12. *The WSF process in India must necessarily make space for all struggling sections of society to come together and articulate their struggles and visions, individually and collectively, against the neo-liberal economic agenda of the world and national elite, which is breaking down the very fabric of the lives of ordinary people all over the world and marginalizing the majority of the world people, keeping profits as the main criteria of development rather than society and destroying the freedoms and rights of all women, men, and children to live in peace, security, and dignity.³ It must make space for workers, peasants, indigenous peoples, Dalits, women, hawkers, minorities, immigrants, students, academicians, artisans, artists and other members of the creative world, professionals, the media, and for local businessmen and industrialists, as well as for parliamentarians, sympathetic bureaucrats and other concerned sections from within and outside the state. Most importantly, it must make space for all the 'sections' of society that remain less visible, marginalized, unrecognized, and oppressed.⁴*

13. *In India today, all civil and political organizations/groups that are organizing around people's issues – economic, political, social, and cultural – are being profoundly challenged by the religious and political intolerance that is raging in the country, and increasingly across the world. There is the threat of growing communal fascism and fundamentalism. The WSF India will strive to encourage a process that allows all of those who are combating communal fascism and fundamentalism to come together, to hear and understand each other, to explore areas of common interest, and also our differences, and to learn from the experiences and struggles of people here and in other countries.*

14. *The WSF India process involves not only events but also different activities across the country. These processes, in the spirit of the WSF, would be open, inclusive and flexible and designed to build capabilities of local groups and movements. The process should also be designed to seek and draw out people's perceptions regarding the impact of neo-liberal economic policies and imperialism on their daily lives. The language of dissent and resistance towards these will have to be informed by local idioms and forms.*

15. *WSF [India] will strive as far as possible for self-reliance based on local resources generation in its activities. However, recognizing that global solidarity against the global neo-liberal agenda may involve international events. For such events and activities, resources may need to be mobilized from external resources.*

16. As a forum for debate, the World Social Forum is a movement of ideas that prompts reflection, and the *maximum possible* transparent circulation of the results of that reflection, on the mechanisms and instruments of domination by capital, on means and actions to resist and overcome that domination, and on the alternatives *that can be* proposed to solve the problems of exclusion and inequality that the process of capitalist globalization *currently prevalent* is creating or *aggravating*, internationally and within countries.

17. As a framework for the exchange of experiences, the World Social Forum encourages understanding and mutual recognition among its participant organizations and movements, and places special value on all that society is building to centre economic activity and political action on meeting the needs of people and respecting nature.

18. As a context for interrelations, the World Social Forum seeks to strengthen and create new national and international links among organizations and movements of civil society, that – in both public and private life – will increase the capacity for social resistance to the process of dehumanization the world is undergoing and reinforce the humanizing measures being taken by the action of these movements and organizations.

19. The World Social Forum is a process that encourages its participant organizations and movements to situate their actions as issues of *world* citizenship, and to introduce on to the global agenda the change-inducing practices that they are experimenting in building a new world.

African version

After evaluating the results obtained and hopes aroused by the two editions of the African Social Forum (ASF) (organized in Bamako in January 2002 and Addis Ababa in January 2003), the initiators of the ASF considered it necessary to define a Charter of principles and values which establishes the political and moral bases of this collective space, and provide guidance for the continuation of this initiative.

The Principles contained in this Charter, which shall be observed by all those desiring to participate in the Forum and organize activities within it, are in conformity with the ideals that guided the realization of the two editions of the African Social Forum and defined the new political and moral orientations.

This Charter was approved in Addis Ababa, in January 2003.

1. The African Social Forum is an open meeting space aimed at deepening reflections, democratic debate, formulating proposals, experiences and articulation of efficient actions, entities and African social movements which are opposed to neo-liberalism, *injustice* and the domination of the world by market forces.

2. *The Bamako Forum was a high point in the existence of the African social movement during which we agreed and proclaimed that 'another Africa is possible'. This creed, which is also our hobbyhorse, shall guide us in*

the search for and construction of alternatives to the domination and plundering of the continent.

3. *The African Social Forum shall speak as a continental body. Thus all the meetings that contribute to this process shall also have a regional dimension.*

4. *The alternatives proposed by the African Social Forum shall be focused on the human person and opposed to the merchandising of Africa and the selling off of its riches within the framework of neo-liberal globalization. The latter is particularly beneficial to the major multinational firms, rich nations and international institutions at the latter's service. The Forum thus objects to the programmes and initiatives launched on behalf of the continent which, in fact, establish the domination of the financial, political and cultural hegemonic forces.*

5. *The Forum shall, more specifically, campaign in favour of an inter-dependent African integration based, on the one hand, on the respect of the rights of men and women, minority rights, democracy, the principles of a sustainable development, and on the other, on democratic institutions at the service of interests of the continent, social justice, equality and people's sovereignty.*

6. *The African Social Forum shall bring together and connect civil society entities and movements from all African countries, but shall not claim to be representative of the African civil society or exclude from its debates political leaders, mandated by the peoples, who accept to make commitments resulting from this Charter.⁵*

7. *Meetings of the African Social Forum do not have voting powers. No one shall therefore be authorized to speak on behalf of the Forum, no matter in what form, by presenting viewpoints claiming to be those of the ASF. As members of the Forum, participants shall not take decisions by vote or acclamation, nor approve declarations or proposals for action which bind the Forum.⁶*

8. *Entities partaking in the Forum proceedings should however be able to deliberate freely during these meetings, alone or with other participants, about declarations and actions which they decide to develop. The World Social Forum shall undertake to widely circulate these decisions, through the means at its disposal, without imposing directions, hierarchies, censures and restrictions, but as proceedings of entities or groups of entities which would have assumed them.⁷*

9. *The African Social Forum is a pluralist and diversified, non-confessional, non-governmental and non-partisan space, which links, in a decentralized way and in networks, entities and movements engaged in concrete actions, from the local to the international level, for the construction of another Africa and another world. It shall therefore not establish itself as a governing body for participants during its meetings, nor shall it claim to be the only mode of articulation and action for entities and movements that participate in it.⁸*

10. *As a meeting space, the Forum is open to pluralism and the diverse commitments and actions of participating entities and movements, such as gender, racial, ethnic and cultural diversity.⁹*

11. *The African Social Forum believes in the power of democracy as the preferred channel for conflict renegotiation and resolution within societies and between States. Participants to the Forum shall undertake to strengthen participation and citizen control.*

12. *The African Social Forum shall reject any form of totalitarian and reductionist vision of history and the use of violence by States or any other social or political force. It shall put forward the respect of Human Rights, equitable, interdependent and peaceful relations among peoples, sexes and races, and condemn all forms of domination as well as the subjugation of one human being by another.¹⁰*

13. *Meetings of the African Social Forum shall always constitute open spaces for all those desiring to participate in them, with the exception of organizations known to have made an attempt on people's lives as a method of political action.*

14. *As a space for debate, the African Social Forum is a movement of ideas which stimulates reflection and the maximum transparent circulation of the results of this reflection, on mechanisms and tools of economic domination, means and actions to resist this domination, and on the alternatives that can be proposed to resolve the problems of exclusion and inequality which the current globalization process has strengthened and aggravated both at continental level and in each African country.¹¹*

15. *As a space for the exchange of experiences, the African Social Forum shall stimulate the knowledge and mutual recognition of participating entities and movements, by specifically enhancing the value of what African societies themselves build in order to streamline economic activity and political action on human needs and the respect of the environment.¹²*

16. *As a space of articulation, the African Social Forum shall seek to strengthen and create new national and international linkages between entities and civil society movements. The capacity to resist the economic and cultural impoverishment and dehumanization process, within the continent and the globe, is emerging.¹³*

17. *The African Social Forum is a process that stimulates entities and movements which contribute in defining their actions in the perspective of the creation of an African and global citizen, introducing, in the continental and global agenda, transforming practices which they experiment in order to build another society, another Africa and another world.¹⁴*

18. *The African Social Forum is a process connected to other world processes aimed at building another world on the basis of the principles and values that we are adopting today. It is an integral part of the movement created by the World Social Forum. It shall seek to strengthen the solidarity*

between the movements and the entities working in Africa and those in other parts of the world.

Notes

- 1 Also adopted by the WSF 2006, Karachi.
- 2 The differences from the approved WSF charter are presented in italic.
- 3 In the WSF 2006 polycentric Forum held in Pakistan, it reads as follows: 'The WSF process in Pakistan must necessarily make space for all struggling sections of society to come together and articulate their struggles and visions, individually and collectively, against the neo-liberal economic agenda of the world and national elite, which is breaking down the very fabric of the lives of ordinary people all over the world and marginalizing the majority of the world people, keeping profits as the main criteria of development rather than society and destroying the freedoms and rights of all women, men, and children to live in peace, security, and dignity.'
- 4 In the WSF 2006 polycentric Forum held in Pakistan, this part constitutes another paragraph (13). It reads as follows: 'The WSF process in Pakistan must also make space for workers, peasants, indigenous peoples, Dalits, women, hawkers, minorities, immigrants, students, academicians, artisans, artists and other members of the creative world, professionals, the media, and for local businessmen and industrialists, as well as for parliamentarians, sympathetic bureaucrats and other concerned sections from within and outside the state. Most importantly, it must make space for all the "sections" of society that remain less visible, marginalized, unrecognized, and oppressed.'
- 5 Similar to para. 5 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 6 Similar to para. 6 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 7 Similar to para. 7 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 8 Similar to para. 8 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 9 Similar to para. 9 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 10 Similar to para. 10 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 11 Similar to para. 11 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 12 Similar to para. 12 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 13 Similar to para. 13 of the WSF-approved charter.
- 14 Similar to para. 14 of the WSF-approved charter.

Annexe III: Manifesto of Porto Alegre

Another world is possible: twelve proposals

Since the first World Social Forum held in Porto Alegre in January 2001, the social forums have spread to all continents on national and local planes. With the WSF, a public space for civil rights arose that spans the earth. The WSF proposes political alternatives to dictation of neo-liberal globalization advanced by the financial markets and multinational corporations. The military arm of these markets and corporations is the imperial power of the United States. In the meantime the movement for another world that gained strength through its diversity and the solidarity of activists and social movements has not made a difference worldwide.

The social movements generally accepted the proposals developed at the forums. The signatories of the manifesto of Porto Alegre that only voice their personal opinion and in no way speak in the name of the forum worked out twelve proposals that represent foundations for building another world. If they were implemented, citizens could finally begin to reappropriate their future together.

This minimal platform was presented for review to the WSF participants and the social movements of all countries. The struggles necessary for their realization must be waged on all planes, on the plane of the entire planet, the continents and the national and local planes. We have no illusions about the actual will of the governments and international institutions to implement these proposals.

I. Another world is possible: The right to life for all persons should be respected by means of new rules in the economy.

The following measures are necessary:

1. Cancelling the state debts of the countries of the southern hemisphere. These debts have already been paid several times. For the creditor states, credit institutes and international financial institutions, the debts represent the best and most effective means for dominating the majority of humanity and keeping them in poverty. The repayment of the giant sums withheld from their peoples by corrupt leaders is imperative.
2. An international taxation on financial transactions (e.g. the Tobin tax on currency speculation), direct investments abroad, consolidated profits of multinational firms, weapons trade and activities with strong emissions of greenhouse gases. State economic assistance should reach the level of 0.7 per cent of the gross domestic product of the rich countries. These funds would be used for the border-crossing control of

epidemics (including AIDS) and for assuring everyone's access to drinking water, housing, energy, health care, medicines, education and social security.

3. Gradual removal of all forms of tax-, legal- and bank account havens that are hideouts for organized criminality, corruption, every kind of illegal trade, fraud, tax evasion and criminal business deals of large corporations and governments.

These tax havens are not limited to certain states regarded as law-free zones. The laws of developed countries are also involved. Strongly taxing the capital movements that flow in or out of these 'havens' as well as the credit institutes, financial actors and others responsible for large-scale embezzlements would be a sensible first step.

4. The right of every inhabitant of this earth to work, social security and pension following the equality between man and woman as a founding element of all internal and international policy.

5. Promoting all forms of fair trade by rejecting the free trade rules of the WTO and instituting mechanisms that gradually adjust social and environmental norms upwards in the production of goods and the provision of services. Education, health care, social services and culture must be completely excluded from the scope of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the WTO.

In the agreement on cultural diversity currently negotiated in UNESCO, the right to culture and to public policy in favour of culture is explicitly given priority over commercial law.

6. Securing the right of every country or federation of countries to food security and sovereignty through promotion of rural agriculture. This requires both the complete abolition of subsidies for the export of agricultural products, particularly by the United States and the European Union and the possibility of taxing imports to prevent dumping practices. Every country or federation of countries should also have the unrestricted right to prevent the production and importation of genetically modified food.

7. Prohibiting every form of patenting knowledge and life (whether human, animal or plant life) and all privatization of the common property of humanity, especially drinking water.

II. Another world is possible: promoting 'cooperative life' in peace and justice

The following measures are necessary:

8. First of all, combating all forms of discrimination, sexism, hostility against foreigners, racism and anti-Semitism through different political measures.

9. Taking immediate steps to stop destruction of the environment and the danger of grave climate changes caused by the greenhouse effect and by the rapid growth of traffic and the squandering of non-renewable energy. Existing agreements and treaties should be implemented even

if they are inadequate. Another development model should be realized based on an energy-saving way of life and democratic controls on natural mineral resources, particularly drinking water.

10. Military bases of foreign countries should be closed. All foreign troops should be withdrawn except on the explicit mandate of the UN. This is important first of all for Iraq and Palestine.

III. Another world is possible: promoting democracy on local and global planes

The following measures are necessary:

11. Securing the right of individuals to information and to pass on information through legislation that

1. ends the concentration of the media in gigantic communication conglomerates;
2. assures the independence of journalists over against shareholders; and
3. promotes a non-profit-oriented press, especially the alternative and cooperatively organized media.

Observation of these rights presupposes citizens developing counter-powers, particularly in the form of national and international media-tracking stations.

12. Reforming and democratizing international organizations by enforcing economic, social and cultural human rights in the sense of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This priority requires the inclusion of the World Bank, the IMF and the WTO in the decision-making system and the decision-making mechanisms of the United Nations. Amid the continuing violations of international laws by the United States, the headquarters of the United Nations should be transferred from New York to another country, preferably in the South.

Porto Alegre, January 29, 2005

Tariq Ali (Pakistan), Samir Amin (Egypt), Walden Bello (Philippines), Frei Betto (Brazil), Atilio Borón (Argentina), Bernard Cassen (France), Eduardo Galeano (Uruguay), François Houtart (Belgium), Armand Mattelart (Belgium), Adolfo Pérez Esquivel (Argentina), Riccardo Petrella (Italy), Ignacio Ramonet (Spain), Samuel Ruiz Garcia (Mexico), Emir Sader (Brazil), José Saramago (Portugal), Roberto Sávio (Italy), Boaventura de Sousa Santos (Portugal), Animata Traoré (Mali), Immanuel Wallerstein (United States)

Annexe IV

Organizations and institutions that have provided financial support to the World Social Forums

- 2001 (Porto Alegre) Droits et Démocratie; Ford Foundation; H. Boll Foundation; ICCO; Le Monde Diplomatique; Oxfam; RITS-Rede de Informação para o Terceiro Setor; Rio Grande do Sul State Government; Porto Alegre City Government.
- 2002 (Porto Alegre) RITS-Rede de Informação para o Terceiro Setor; EED; CCFD; NOVIB; OXFAM GB; North-South Centre; ActionAid; ICCO; Ford Foundation; Rio Grande do Sul State Government; Porto Alegre City Government; Procergs; World Forum of Alternatives.
- 2003 (Porto Alegre) ActionAid; Cafod; CCFD; EED; Fundação Banco do Brazil; H. Boll Foundation; ICCO; Misereor; Novib; Ford Foundation; Oxfam; Petrobras; Rio Grande do Sul State Government; Porto Alegre City Government.
- 2004 (Mumbai) Supporters of the World Social Forum 2004, in India ActionAid (United Kingdom); Alternatives (Canada); Attac Norge Solidarites (Norway); Comité Catholique Contre la Faim et pour le Développement (CCFD - France); Christian Aid (United Kingdom); Development and Peace (Canada); Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED - Germany); Funders Network on Trade and Globalization (FNTG - United States); Heinrich Boll Foundation (Germany); Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS - Netherlands); Inter Church Organization for Development Cooperation (CCO - Netherlands); Oxfam International; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA - Sweden); Solidago Foundation (USA); Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC - Switzerland); Tides Foundation (USA); World Council of Churches (Switzerland); Members of India General Council for their solidarity contribution (India).
- Sponsors and supporters of the WSF process in 2004: Petrobras; Fundação Banco do Brazil; Ford Foundation; A Caixa (Brazilian bank); Brazilian Post Office.
- 2005 (Porto Alegre) Rio Grande do Sul State Government; Porto Alegre City Government; Fundação Banco do Brazil; Federal Government of Brazil; Brazilian Ministry of Tourism; A Caixa (Brazilian bank); Brazilian Post Office; EED; Christian Aid; EletroBras; Comité Catholique

Contre la Faim et pour le Développement (CCFD); NOVIB; Petrobras; Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD); Rockfeller Brothers Fund; Misereor; Infraero (Brazilian airports); ICCO; FURNAS.

Sources: <www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/dinamic.php?pagina=apoiadores_2005_por>; <www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/dinamic.php?pagina=apoiadores_2004_por>; <www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/dinamic.php?pagina=apoio_finan_india_po>; <www.wsf2006karachi.org/wsfstructure.html>

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