

ANNEX 5

**Narrative Progress Report** **Report period** July-December 2007

**Contract Ref. No.** 01/core/57/WANEP **Organisation** WANEP

**Contact Tel. No.** 233-21-775977/775975 **Report Date** 05/02/08

**Report Prepared by** Emmanuel B. **Report Approved by** Emmanuel H. Bombande  
**Signature & date** **Signature & date** 05/02/08



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**1. National pro-poor policies**  
**What do you think were the most important changes in pro-poor government policies in the last six months? What were the main causes? What contribution did your organisation make to any of these changes?**

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) during the second half of the year 2007 appreciated good impact in the integration of Peacebuilding in pro-poor policies. The Ministry of the Interior is preparing legislation to provide a legal mandate for the functioning of the National Peace Council (NPC). A secretariat has been established by Government and an Executive Secretary appointed for the NPC. Civil Society Organisations not working directly in Peacebuilding are now including peacebuilding programs in their core areas of activity.

WANEP has advocated publicly that Military and Police operations to keep peace in communities experiencing violent conflict are expensive and not sustainable. Policy orientation is now geared towards sustaining peace by developing the infrastructure such as the NPC and supporting the National and Regional Houses of Chiefs to develop capacities and proactive programs to prevent violence and mitigate conflicts. To this effect, Government official statements from the President to Cabinet Ministers link poverty eradication directly to peace and human security. It is not possible to achieve development and bring people out of poverty in an environment of violent conflict.

At National level, WANEP provided expertise and technical support to the National Peace Council in completing the facilitation of Mediation and Dialogue workshops for the key political parties in preparation for their national congresses. They include the Convention People Party (CPP), The National Democratic Congress (NDC) and the New Patriotic Party (NPP). The capacity for internal resolution of conflicts is critical for the nurturing of Ghana's Democratic culture which is a prerequisite for peace and stability at national level and therefore moving Ghana away from underdevelopment and poverty to sustained economic growth prosperity for Ghanaians.

At regional levels, the three regions of the North where poverty is more widespread and severe is also where ravaging violent conflicts are recurring. During the period under review, WANEP has intensified facilitated dialogue initiatives with G-RAP funding support in various communities. A Round Table Consultation was organised and

facilitated by WANEP bringing together signatories and representatives of the Kumasi Accords of all the seven ethnic groups involved in the Konkomba-Nanumba war of 1994 and 1995.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Public image

**How has the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs changed in the eyes of GoG and the Ghana public? What is your interpretation? Is there a reference to this evidence of change?**

RAOs have increasingly demonstrated expertise and high level of competence in various specialised fields. It is no longer possible for Government policy to be implemented without RAOs contribution to debates in shaping such policies and in some case, contributing to the implementation of the policies. Government of Ghana has demonstrated appreciation for the work of RAOs. Such appreciation finds credence in the quality of work of RAOs and not necessarily because Government has an obligation to consult with Civil Society. At the opening ceremony on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007, of the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) organised annually by WANEP at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) the Honourable Kwamena Bartels, Ghana's Minister of the Interior who presided appreciated immensely the role of civil society. He called for the support of civil society to engage actively in capacity building in the area of conflict prevention, management and resolution. He emphasized that conflict prevention, management and resolution should not be handled by the Government alone but that the role of the rest of society was also crucial.

## 3. Collaboration, coalitions and networking

**Using the format below, list the most important organisations you collaborated with over the period, under each of the sectors listed below. For each organisation, give an indication of the issues or themes you worked on, its status and the outcomes.**

	Organisation or coalition	Policy issue / theme / nature Starting / ongoing / ending	Outcome
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature	Ministry of the Interior	Providing expertise and technical support to the work of the National Peace Council (NPC)  Collaborating with the Ministry of the Interior in the operationalisation of the ECOWAS Early Warning System (ECOWARN)	Workshops for 3 political parties (NDC, NPP, and CPP) were completed.  A Staff of the Ministry of Interior is Government Focal Point person for Conflict Monitoring and data collection for ECOWARN
Coalition, network	Ghana AU Civil Society Coalition	Participated in meetings to follow-up on CSO actions points that were outcomes of the Continental Civil Society Conference on the Grand Debate of Continental Union Government preceding the African Union Summit in Accra-2-3 July 2007.	Activities of this coalition are on-going
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	FOSDA, Media Foundation for West Africa	Promoting Human Rights and Democracy under the framework of West Africa Human Rights and	On-going

<sup>1</sup> A communiqué of the consultation is attached to this report as annex 1

		Democracy (WAHRD) project	
<b>Donor institution</b>	IBIS	Same as Above	These activities are on-going
	UNDP	Working with Regional and National Peace Council	
<b>CBO/DA</b> <i>(please indicate district)</i>	Development Institute (Krachi)	Building Peace in Krachi District	On-Going
<b>Other</b>	WANEP-Ghana	Setting up WANEP-Ghana Chapters in each region	On-Going

#### 4. Outputs on research and advocacy products and/or services delivered

List the outputs as you have presented in the Workplan submitted to G-RAP.

Make sure that you:

- Indicate estimated levels of completion per output
- Indicate target groups that used / received the output delivered
- Attach copy of concept paper per output
- Attach copy of product output

As part of its Conflicts Prevention Program, WANEP produced a policy brief for advocacy work with West African governments on the topic; "Drug Trafficking: An Alarming Human Security Threat".<sup>2</sup>

Within the context of sustaining national reconciliation efforts, WANEP during the reporting period initiated a major research activity on Transitional Justice in West Africa. The study is making a comparative analysis of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRC) of Ghana, Sierra Leone and Liberia. Why have TRC become a model for reconciliation? Are they used for political convenience or is there political commitment for reconciliation? Where is the pursuit for Justice through Special Courts in relation to TRCs in the efforts at national reconciliation? The research project is now 70% complete.

#### 5. Organisation: evidence of significant progress / change

What are major changes in the organisation's circumstances that are likely to have impacted your outputs over the period?

- Organisational structure / board / management team
- Strategy / planning / decision making / knowledge management
- Human resource issues
- Marketing / communication / public relations

WANEP has re-organised and re-positioned itself to continue as a reference organisation for peacebuilding, conflict prevention and mitigation. The current Board is composed of 3 men and 2 women. The term of the Board will expire in 2008 and a new Board to comprise of 7 members will be composed in September. Criteria have been developed to ensure a professional board of competent men and women is selected by the Annual General meeting in September 2008. At the Regional Secretariat, the WANEP management team comprises the Executive Director, Administrative Manager and Financial Administrator. The Executive Director, head of the organisation reports to the

<sup>2</sup> See [www.wanep.org](http://www.wanep.org)

Board while the Annual General Meeting of the WANEP Networks is the highest decision making body of the organisation.

WANEP is currently in the phase of implementing a 3 year strategic plan which will end in December 2009. The organisation has strengthened partnerships with several organisations and has increased its mainstreaming of gender as cross cutting in peacebuilding through the Women Peace Makers Program-Africa now hosted by WANEP. This program complements WANEP program, Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET).

At the level of its human resource, a Program Manager at the service of the organisation for two years moved on and will be replaced in April 2008 when the next phase of WANEP's Capacity Building Program commences.

## 6. Grant and report related issues

### 6.1 What issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management?

There is regular interaction between the G-RAP management and WANEP which is commendable. WANEP work sometimes requires flexibility to respond to emerging issues in Ghana. WANEP for example in 2008 will focus on mitigating violence in the Bawku East Municipality and in Dagbon as well as other parts of the Northern Region. Attention will also be focused in the Volta Region particularly in Nkonya-Alavanyo as well as in Kete Krachi. The grant continues to be very useful and indeed helpful in WANEP's work through research and advocacy. We are grateful for the support and partnership from G-RAP.

### 6.2 What parts of the report are confidential or cannot be shared without prior consent?

N/A

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Annex 1: See below

## ANNEX 1

### ENGAGING IN DIALOGUE TO SUSTAIN PEACE IN THE NORTHERN REGION IN GHANA'S GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR

WE, representatives of seven ethnic communities, the Bassare, Dagomba, Gonja, Konkomba, Nanumba, Nawuri, and Nchumuru have met in Tamale from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2007 to continue our mutual engagement through dialogue to sustain peace in our communities and in the Northern Region.

WE have appraised the Kumasi Peace Accords that our representatives and delegations signed on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1996 in Kumasi and appreciated with much happiness the progress we have made in building peace in the Northern Region.

WE also identified challenges that continue to hold us back in attaining genuine reconciliation and sustainable peace in our communities and have resolved to increase the levels of cooperation amongst ourselves to overcome these challenges and work towards durable peace in the Northern Region.

AWARE of our responsibilities as Chiefs, Community Leaders and Signatories of the Kumasi Peace Accord to sustain peace in the Northern Region, we have rededicated and committed ourselves to implementing all the agreements in the Kumasi Peace Accord with the following revisions and renewed commitments.

We celebrate with pride the tremendous successes achieved and the relative peace our people have enjoyed since the signing of the Kumasi accord a decade ago (1996). This notwithstanding, all groups have identified some articles of the Kumasi accords that have not been implemented. We collectively encourage all our communities to work with their leaders to implement those outstanding articles of the Kumasi peace accord

The promotion of human security and peace is the fundamental responsibility of the Government of Ghana. We therefore call on the Government of Ghana to fund the furtherance of the peace process through public funds from the various District Assemblies concerned.

#### **Renewed commitments between Nanumbas and Konkombas**

1. Having reviewed the articles of the agreement between Nanumbas and Konkombas, and recognizing the issues raised around the choice, selection and enskinment of Konkomba leaders / chiefs in Nanung, there will be constant consultations and consensus between and among Konkombas and Nanumbas.
  - 1.1 Concretely, Chamba, Gbungbaliga and Lungni require urgent attention.
  - 1.2 It is imperative for continuous education of both Konkomba and Nanumba youth in Nanung on the letter and spirit of the Kumasi peace accord.
  - 1.3 In furtherance of the above, chiefs and leaders of Konkombas and Nanumbas are committed to a consultative forum in the immediate future to clearly define the process and criteria for selecting and enskinning Konkomba leaders / chiefs.

2. We have noted with concern the internal chieftaincy issues in Nanung. We entreat the princes and leaders of Nanung to work assiduously to achieve a compromised solution to the problem.
3. Article 5 of the agreement between Konkombas and Nanumbas has been clarified to read “Land ownership is not in dispute with the Bimbilla-Naa as the paramount chief and allodial ownership of all land in Nanung as accepted by all ethnic groups in the traditional area

### **Renewed commitment between Gonjas and Nawuris**

4. Having reviewed the articles of the agreement between Nawuris and Gonjas, it is resolved that the two groups meet in a consultative forum to further dialogue over the contentious issues that are affecting peaceful coexistence of their people.
  - 2.1 To foster sustained solutions to the inter-ethnic relations between Nawuris and Gonjas, it is resolved that the Nawuris be assisted to resolve their intra ethnic issues as well.
  - 2.2 We acknowledge the multiethnicity of the Nawuri area. In building the peace all other ethnic groups in the area would be encouraged to participate in finding solutions that address the concerns and interest of all ethnic groups.
  - 2.3 In the spirit of moving the peace process forward, the Gonja group do hereby commit themselves to dialogue with the Nawuris any time the latter has resolved their internal difficulties and are willing to engage in a dialogue to resolve the contentious issues
  - 2.4 We have noted with concern the potentials of the Nawuri – Gonja conflict escalating into wider dimensions that could involve other ethnic groups in the area. To this end the latent conflict between the Nawuris and the Konkombas hinges on the unresolved conflict between the Gonjas and the Nawuris. We therefore recommend as a matter of urgency the resolution of the Nawuri – Gonja conflict before it develops further.
  - 2.5 We observe with concern the growing tensions in the Kpandai community and urge all stakeholders for peace in northern Ghana to invest and support all parties in the Kpandai area to speedily resolve all contentious issues before they develop into communal violence.
  - 2.6 This meeting is urging both Nawuris and Gonjas to refrain from acts that will aggravate the current conflict situation in the area.

### **Renewed commitment - Dagbong Delegation**

We note with great concern that the Dagbong chieftaincy crises are intricately linked with the general peace in the Northern Region and Ghana as a whole.

Be as it is we recommend that while working on the implementation of the Dagbong Peace Road Map, reached at the level of the committee of eminent chiefs in Kumasi, stakeholders in the peace process should support the revitalization of the Dagbong Traditional Council.

We recommend that peace builders and civil society organisations should continue to reconcile broken relationships as a means of re-enforcing the efforts of the eminent chiefs and facilitate the speedy and effective implementation of the road map of the Dagbong peace process.

We recognise the multi-ethnicity of Dagbong and urge that all citizens celebrate this diversity. We urge citizens to be mindful of infringing on the fundamental rights of other ethnic groups as we celebrate our diversity

We further urge all citizens living in Dagbong to celebrate their unique identities in manners that contribute to the common good of all citizens and enhance our common humanity

While commending the efforts of the security agencies, civil society and individuals to curb the proliferation of small arms, we acknowledge that some individuals are still amassing deadly weapons in Dagbong and the Northern Region as a whole. Without further delay, we passionately call on the government and all citizens in Dagbong and in Ghana as a whole to take the necessary steps to rid the area of dangerous weapons

We further call on the government of Ghana and all stakeholders to consider investing in youth programmes that promote the culture of non-violence in the Northern Region and Ghana as a whole.

### **General recommendation**

We appreciate the effort of the local and national media in facilitating the peace process. We further encourage the media to engage with stakeholders to ensure accurate, truthful, critical and objective reporting that enhance community relationships.

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**Facilitating Agency:** West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Emmanuel H. Bombande

Alimou Diallo

Amadu Ibrahim Zakari

**Signatories, see below**

1.	Sandapewura J. J. Bakari	
2.	Saawura C.K. Saakah	
3.	Nana Obimpeh I J. K Mbimadong	
4.	Mbimadong Martin-Luther K.	
5.	John Asunke	
6.	Chikpah Demuyakor	
7.	Nyamah Akwesi	
8.	Nana Akwasi Ndesai	
9.	Nikabou Gaou Kambo	
10.	Gbande Naapor	
11.	Alhaji Issifu Habib	
12.	Martha Awiagah	
13.	Jawuasewura Sakara Kelli	
14.	Johny Kwame Saaka	
15.	G.M. Nagbija	
16.	Yaw Waja Peter	
17.	Alhaji Mohammad Mumuni	
18.	Jagri Y. Joshua	
19.	Alfred T.O. Kotin	
20.	Wulehi Naa Alhaji Salifu Ibn Wumbei	
21.	Yakubu Dadinkai (Yimahi Naa)	
22.	Zakari Wumbei	
23.	Jacob Jejete	
24.	Alhaji A.M Baba	
25.	Ken Wujangi	
26.	Attah Nantogma	
27.	Alhaji Habib Issifu	
28.	Nween Albert Ta-Kuba	
29.	Jones Mbimadong	
30.	Sabie Naah Aidan	
31.	James Nahyi	
32.	Baba Musah Labanti	
33.	Kpembiwura Alhaji Ibrahimah Haruna	
34.	Mion Lana A.A. Ziblim	
35.	Chief Zao Na	
36.	Chief Gbamba Na	
37.	E.T. Adam	
38.	Kpan-Na M.B. Bawah	
39.	Isaah A. Peter	
40.	Atia A. Peter	
41.	Isaac B. Sukpen	
42.	A.Y. Seini	
43.	Nana Atorsah	
44.	Alhassan Yakubu	
45.	Gbande Margaret	
46.	Issah A. Nasagri	
47.	Nana Chris Oklas	