

## ANNEX 5

**Narrative Progress Report**

**Report period** January-June 2008

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

**Organisation** WANEP

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**Report Date** 25/07/08

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**Signature & date** 30/07/08



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*Please do not write in green coloured sections; refer to notes at last page for explanations*

### 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?**

Intra and Inter Communal conflicts in Ghana and other West African States continue to swell with severe consequences for national development. These types of conflicts are the most visible determinants of poverty as a result of direct impoverishment and misery when sustainable livelihoods of communities are disrupted and social networks destroyed. As part of its research, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), has established that Ghana's capacity just as many African countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals is dependent on building peace and reconciling divided communities. Communal conflicts have a lingering effect of nurturing mutual suspicion and mistrust when they are not adequately addressed dealt with to build durable peace. Such suspicions make new resources meant for development new grounds for conflicts as the intensity of competition and struggle for these resources increase in a polarised environment.

During the period under review, Bawku, a major town in the Upper East region of Ghana experienced violent conflicts with persistent reprisal killings from January 2008. The Municipality and its surrounding areas have been under curfew. During periods of escalation during the duration of violence, curfew hours extended to 22 hours per day. In the Volta Region of Ghana, Anloga experienced a major Chieftaincy conflict while the protracted Dagbon conflict continues to be in a stalemate. All these conflicts have political undercurrents. While they have divided communities, their potential to spill across from localised areas to other regions and across the country remain plausible because of the political polarisation brought about by internecine conflicts.

WANEP during the period under review sustained its advocacy efforts and initiated direct responses to these conflicts. While Peace enforcing efforts led by the Police and supported by the Military are desirable to contain violence and protect lives and property, they do not constitute the best approaches to build durable peace. In this regard, WANEP advocated for alternatives approaches. WANEP has been working with the National Peace Council in providing technical support towards engaging all parties to stop the violence and engage in mutual dialogue.

WANEP has organised stakeholder meetings of Civil Society Organisations and reinvigorated the coalition of Civil Society Organisations working to promote peace in the Bawku area. A comprehensive framework for building peace by CSOs has been developed and is the guide for the implementation of ongoing activities. While these activities will be reported in the next narrative progress report, the efforts at mitigating and preventing violent conflicts are pro-poor oriented and meant to minimise the vulnerability of poor people in conflict prone areas who suffer the consequences of armed violence. Violent conflict increases poverty and WANEP will continue to work at mitigating and preventing them s central to its pro-poor engagement with the RAOs.

At another level, WANEP is actively involved in working towards non-violent elections during the December 2008 elections. Through its National Chapter, WANEP has undertaken a baseline survey in the Upper East, Northern, Upper West and Brong Ahafo regions as part of the preparations towards the setting up of a Civil Society led early warning mechanism for Ghana. When completed in the second part of 2008, the mechanism will largely enhance capacities to detect and anticipate the outbreak of violence. The advocacy roles of WANEP to engage policy makers to mitigate violence will thus be enhanced. Civil Society response capacities to communal conflicts will also be improved.

WANEP can report that significant progress has been made in the Nkonya-Alavanyo Conflict in the Volta Region. The conflict revolves around land and has persisted for more than 80 years. Through a combination of facilitating dialogue among the chiefs, queen mothers, youth and opinion leaders and capacity building workshops in support of mediation efforts led by the Mediation Committee set up by the Volta Regional Coordinating Council, the two communities have accepted the broad framework for durable peace. Surveys with the involvement of the communities have been undertaken to map out the exact land which is at the core of the boundary dispute between the two communities. Following a dissemination and study of the maps by the communities, the final round of dialogue to agree on a mutually acceptable land boundary settlement will be concluded in November 2008. The success story of the Nkonya-Alavanyo peace process is now widely used in Ghana as a good example of peacebuilding. A Japanese television crew used Nkonya-Alavanyo as a backdrop documentary of Development and Peace during the TICAD 2008 conference in Japan.

## **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?**

The credibility and legitimacy of RAOs was enhanced during the period under review. As 2008 is a year of general elections, RAOs have engaged with political parties and other stakeholders such as the Electoral Commission and the National Commission for Civic Education to create an enabling environment for fair, free and peaceful elections. The indicators for Government and Public appreciation of the roles RAOs continue to provide is found in the call by Government for continued partnerships with CSOs many of them members of the RAOs. Such calls have been made to various CSOs who are part of RAOs including WANEP, the Institute for Democratic Governance and the Centre for Democratic Development (CDD). The National Peace Council which is part of the National Peace Architecture set up by GoG with UNDP support invited WANEP to provide it with human resource expertise in peacebuilding in their effort to respond to reprisal killings in the Bawku area. During the period under review, other GoG agencies invited WANEP to facilitate seminars and workshops. They include the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO). WANEP has provided similar services to non-governmental establishments such as the Christian Council of Ghana. At the Kofi Anan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KA IPTC),

WANEP services were solicited as well as the Legon Centre of International Affairs of the University of Ghana. RAOs have been active in both electronic and print media in engaging on the critical issues for national development and particularly, free, fair and peaceful elections.

### 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
<b>Government</b> - executive - judiciary - legislature	National Peace Council (NPC)	Provided expertise and technical support to the work of the National Peace Council (NPC).	Debriefing sessions and strategy meetings on how to respond to violence.
	Volta Regional Coordinating Council	Providing technical support for Mediation and Dialogue to Nkonya and Alavanyo Peace process.	Significant progress has been achieved while the final outcomes are expected in November 2008.
<b>Coalition, network</b>	Bawku Peace Initiative (Coalition of CSOs working for Peace in the Bawku area. Organisations include IBIS Ghana, Action Aid Ghana, World Vision Ghana, BEWDA, Muslim Council, Catholic Bishops Conference DAGG program and the Christian	Within the framework of collaborative Peacebuilding, WANEP convened and facilitated the design of peacebuilding Strategies.	A framework and guide for collective response of CSO has been developed and being implemented.

	Council of Ghana)		
<b>RAO, NGO, I-NGO</b>	FOSDA, Media Foundation for West Africa	Promoting Human Rights and Democracy under the framework of West Africa Human Rights and Democracy (WAHRD) project	On-going
<b>Donor institution</b>	IBIS UNDP	Same as Above Working with Regional and National Peace Council	These activities are on-going
<b>CBO/DA (please indicate district)</b>	N/A		
<b>Other</b>	WANEP-Ghana	Developing an Early warning Mechanism for Conflict Prevention (Ghana WARN).	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

During the reporting period under review, WANEP conducted and wrote a research paper on Conflict Prevention and achieving the Millennium Development Goals. WANEP during this period completed its research activity on Transitional Justice in West Africa. The study made a comparative analysis of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRC) of Ghana, Sierra Leone and Liberia. The report of this study will be published in due course.

#### 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

In January 2008, WANEP staff met to review the benchmarks in the implementation of its strategic plan which was designed to ensure the organisational growth of WANEP. Following this appraisal retreat, the WANEP Board met as stipulated in its statutes. The WANEP retreat was facilitated by Nkum Associates, an Organisational Development consulting firm. While WANEP has met most of its targets in sustaining organisational growth and development, it has not overcome the challenges of acquiring sustainable core

institutional funding. While the organisation attracts funding for the implementation of various programs, it is working out a scheme for sustaining institutional funding to ensure its emerging future is not donor dependent. WANEP has broadened the scope of its partners and negotiated partnership with the KAIPTC to integrate its Peacebuilding Institute, the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) into the core courses of the Centre. WANEP is at the forefront of advocating for the Centre to be one of providing excellent training for civilian peace support operations rather than the current status of a military peacekeeping training institute. By integrating WAPI in KAIPTC, WANEP is strategic in securing more stable funding for the institute in the years to come. WANEP continues to position itself as a reference organisation in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and mitigation. The term of the current Board composed of 3 men and 2 women will end at the end of December 2008. Within the organisation, consultations have begun to replace the Board but to maintain two members who have served a first term. This will facilitate continuity of institutional memory at Board level. In light of its gender policy, maintaining a gender balance on the Board is critical. The WANEP structure has not changed. A Regional Secretariat in Accra coordinates the organisation at sub-regional level with an Office in Tamale to facilitate Civil Society collective action in response to conflicts in Ghana. WANEP maintains a management team led by the Executive Director with a Program Director and an Administrative Manager. The Regional Secretariat provides technical backup, exchange of knowledge sharing, institutional development and effective program designs. The Executive Director reports to the Board while the Annual General Meeting 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 compliments WANEP program, Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET). WANEP continues to be conscious of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 which provides the parameters for gender mainstreaming in conflict prevention. In this regard, its peacebuilding efforts require a gender lens and balance in all peacebuilding activities.

## **6. Grant and report related issues**

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

While this report covers the period January to June 2008, there was a gap and uncertainty in regards regular flows of grant disbursements. This could be attributed to the change in the grant Management Team of G-RAP. This notwithstanding, WANEP understands the G-RAP grant as critical to core Institutional support. The grant brings enormous value to RAOs to be able to sustain smooth institutional operations at core levels as this provides much better space and leverage for increased advocacy and research work. To what extent has the G-RAP fund succeeded in achieving such objective is yet to be assessed. WANEP observes that beyond advocacy, it is now critical to monitor the implementation of key policies at government level to make certain that policies are translated into concrete actions to benefit vulnerable groups. Uninterrupted and smooth grant flows to RAOs would help immensely in achieving this objective.

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

In order not to create unnecessary anxiety in the Nkonya-Alavanyo communities, information pertaining to the survey of the boundary dispute was safeguarded as confidential until all the work was done. The leaders of both communities were then brought together to appraise the survey findings. Community

meetings were then organised in the communities to involve the larger community in appreciating the land in dispute. A total of 10 square miles of land is now affirmed to be the piece of boundary land in dispute. Consensus has now emerged on a final settlement.