

AWEPA Annual Report 2007

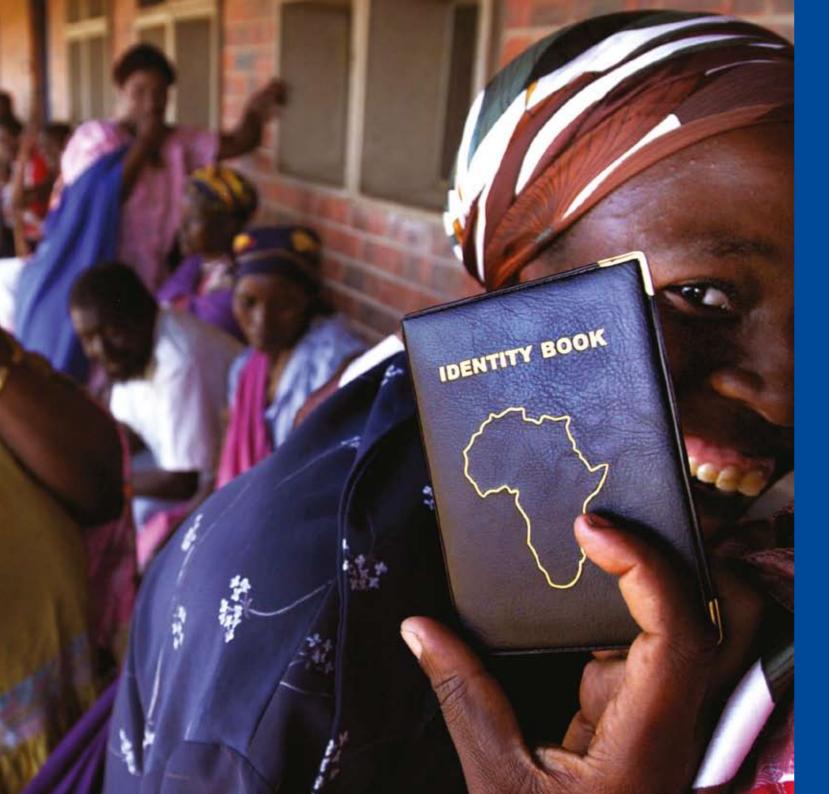


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Message from the AWEPA President

Conflict, poverty and gender bias pose real and present threats to democratisation. Open, transparent society requires that the rule of law and human rights hold a prominent place.

The struggle for freedom, equality and prosperity continues across the African continent. Parliaments lie at the crux of this struggle for democratization. They moderate executive power and maintain the infrastructure of free society; democratic society can not proliferate without strong parliaments. AWEPA's capacity-building programmes strengthen parliaments and act as a catalyst for legislative action to promote justice and human dignity, in the interest of children, women and men.

2007 was a year that saw AWEPA intensify its activities and take strides in capacity-building. AWEPA made landmark inroads in strengthening parliamentary capacity to ensure the wellbeing of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, and tackle the social fallout of HIV/AIDs, in cooperation with UNICEF.

2007 also marked a year of celebration, as AWEPA Mozambique reached its 15th Anniversary. To mark the occasion, the Mozambican government granted AWEPA an award for "Friendship and Peace". AWEPA is proud and honoured to receive this award from President of Mozambique, Hon. Armando Guezbuza.

In Europe, AWEPA's parliamentary network welcomed a hundred new members, with new Sections in Slovenia and the Czech Republic. This brings AWEPA's membership to in excess of 1,500 parliamentarians from European



Union member states, the European Parliament, Norway and Switzerland. AWEPA could not continue its work without a strong European network devoted to keeping Africa on the political agenda.

I would like to take

this opportunity to acknowledge the sincere gratitude of AWEPA for the unremitting support of the donor community. In 2007, funding increased by close to a quarter, which allowed us to expand the reach of our capacity-building initiatives. Without the commitment of our donors, AWEPA could not have realised the results it has achieved; results that contribute to strong parliaments in Africa.

In addition, I would like to offer a word of thanks to all AWEPA staff in the ten African and two European offices. Their tireless contribution drives AWEPA's dynamism.

It is with pleasure and gratitude that we present the Annual Report 2007, which reflects upon AWEPA's efforts, united with its European and African partners, to contribute to the enlargement of the democratic space and the building of a better future for Africa.

Dr. Jan Nico Scholten AWEPA President

Message from the AWEPA Secretary General

2007 was a successful year for AWEPA, rich with diverse initiatives and substantive results. Honorary Chair Archbishop Desmond Tutu addressed an attentive audience during a seminar in the Dutch Senate regarding protection for children affected by HIV and AIDS. To our great pleasure, Nelson Mandela also accepted AWEPA's first Human Dignity Award.

The year was also one of poignant change for AWEPA, as we celebrated the decades of dedicated service that Dr. Jan Nico Scholten has given us. At a reception that marked Dr. Scholten's 75th birthday, he resigned as Executive President and assumed the position of President and Chair to the AWEPA Council. I felt honoured to take up the role of Secretary General, CEO and Chair to the Executive Committee. These changes precipitated further restructuring within the organisation, which has yielded positive results and bodes well for AWEPA and her partners. Dr. Scholten's noble vision and principles will continue to guide AWEPA's work into the future.

Within AWEPA we are focusing on our strategy towards 2015 – the deadline for the UN Millennium Development Goals. Africa, in particular, faces great challenges if its governments are to meet the targets. AWEPA seeks to support African parliaments so that they can lead the continent to attain the Goals by 2015. Through institutional capacity building, we can enhance the efficiency of parliamentary work; through our thematic programs, we can help parliamentarians to deepen their understanding of the development challenges they must address; and through parliamentary north-south policy dia-



logue, we can promote global cooperation.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, AWEPA could extend the scope of its initiatives by welcoming nine new staff members. This has given momentum to AWEPA's push for decentralisation.

For the first time, AWEPA positioned personnel in Juba, Southern Sudan. Through this new office, AWEPA has strengthened its engagement with the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly in preparation for the 2011 referendum, which will determine the fate of the region.

AWEPA also safeguarded the efficiency of its operations by launching an extensive programme of quality management training. As a consequence of these efforts, AWEPA was proud to receive an award for being 'Committed to Excellence' from EFQM, an agency which operates throughout Europe and helps organisations excel in the quality of their work.

I wish to offer my sincere thanks to all AWEPA donors, partners and staff, who support AWEPA through a unique set of partnerships. Such relationships define AWEPA's impact as a capacity builder in Africa. In 2007, that impact was unprecedented. I have no doubt that, on these foundations, AWEPA's impact will grow still.

Mr. Pär Granstedt

AWEPA Secretary General

Pan-African Parliament (PAP)



Regional Programmes and those in Cooperation with Regional African Partners

The Pan-African Parliament serves as a consultative body and consists of parliamentarians from all African Union countries. The PAP provides a common platform for African people and their grass-roots organisations so that they can participate in discussions and decision-making on the problems and challenges facing the continent. The PAP's headquarters are based in Midrand, South Africa. AWEPA has supported the Pan-African Parliament since 2006 with a programme that includes institutional capacity building support and assistance to PAP Committees

In 2007, the programme helped support a number of PAP Committees, facilitating the establishment of the PAP Women's Caucus and providing training to staff to improve the effectiveness of plenary sessions. Additionally, the programme focussed on the development of communications materials, and enhancing the PAP's monitoring and evaluation system.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving Institutional Development	5
Improving Communications Development	2
Improving Monitoring and Evaluation	2
Improving Committee Support	3

Outcome Highlights:

New PAP Website launched in May 2007
1st PAP Newsletter distributed to all African parliaments in May 2007
Staff familiarised with the PAP Strategic Plan and Objectives
PAP Monitoring and Evaluation framework developed
PAP Women's Caucus launched in October 2007
Effectiveness of PAP ICT department improved

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), The Netherlands (DGIS)

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)



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Since its inauguration in 2001, the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) has served as the legislative arm of the East African Community (EAC). AWEPA has been a major partner since 2001 and seeks to support EALA's development towards a modern, critical and effective regional parliamentary body. In 2007, the EALA-AWEPA programme provided training for EALA staff; facilitated information exchange between EALA and EAC Member Parliaments; facilitated dialogue with the people of East Africa; supported EALA communications; and informed members about regional parliamentary bodies in Europe.

In the first half of 2007, EALA underwent elections. In June, the newly elected members of the second EALA were sworn-in for a five year term. The elections brought in a high proportion of new members, many without any prior parliamentary experience. The EALA-AWEPA programme will strive to help meet their needs. In 2007, Rwanda and Burundi were admitted into the EAC, and will send 18 new members to EALA in 2008.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving the interface between MLAs and the constituents they represent; reinforcing regional ties at the parliamentary level	2
Exchanging information within EALA, and between EALA, the member states, regional parliaments in Africa and Europe	4
Developing a more comprehensive outreach programme using electronic, print and radio media	I
Improving the skills of staff members to better perform their specific functions; disseminating information to other regional parliaments	6
Improving Committees' response to the new regional context in which they must function, observing elections in the East African Community	2

Outcome Highlights:

Bill which harmonizes trade within East Africa tabled
Internal communication and IT skills enhanced
Better security monitoring and risk management established
Senior EALA Members gained knowledge to inform their work from study visit to Europe
EALA Members made recommendations about changes to EAC electoral law due to study visit to experience
Kenyan elections in December 2007

Donors: Ireland (Irish Aid), Norway (NORAD), Sweden (SIDA)

Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)



In 2004, AWEPA launched a multi-year campaign on Children and AIDS. In cooperation with UNICEF and other partners, the campaign helps parliamentarians to scale up their efforts on behalf of orphans and vulnerable children. The programme began with the 2004 Parliamentary Consultation on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Cape Town and resulted in the Cape Town Declaration, which stresses parliamentarians' unique responsibility for the wellbeing of children.

The second phase of the campaign on Children and AIDS comprised of a regional seminar series in East and Southern Africa. AWEPA and its partners organised workshops at national and regional parliaments, which sought to push Children and AIDS to the top of the political agenda. In 2007, OVC activities took place both in Europe and Africa, at Pan-African, regional and national levels. AWEPA will follow up these activities in 2008 as it keeps the wellbeing of orphans and vulnerable children high on the agenda.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Implementing the Seminar on Orphans and Vulnerable Children with the PAP	I
Implementing Regional Parliamentary Seminar for the Great Lakes Region on universal access to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care, and support	_
Facilitating a political hearing and debate on social protection of OVC in Africa	1
Establishing national-level Steering Committees on OVC that will provide oversight and monitor the implementation of activities, review policies and assess legislation	9
Monitoring parliamentary action on OVC through a parliamentary tracking mechanism	17

Outcome Highlights:

OVC Steering Committee established in Swaziland

Amendment approved in the Netherlands to earmark €5 million for social protection of OVC

Budget passed in the Parliament of DRC to support implementation of a Bill on protection of People Living with HIV/AIDS and OVC

Articles published in newspapers on the issue of HIV and AIDS

Ugandan Parliament urged the government to mainstream the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in the country's Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), Denmark (DANIDA), IAVI, The Netherlands (DGIS), Sweden (SIDA), UNICEF ESARO, UNICEF Netherlands

Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD (MPN)



In 2001, five Heads of State (Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa) initiated a comprehensive development framework for Africa: The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). During its 37th Summit, the Organisation of African Unity (now African Union) formally adopted NEPAD as its socio-economic programme. The NEPAD programme targets the complex challenges facing the African continent.

NEPAD has four primary objectives: to eradicate poverty; to place African countries on a path of sustainable growth and development; to halt the marginalisation of Africa in the globalisation process and enhance its full and beneficial integration into the global economy; and to accelerate the empowerment of women. The MPN programme seeks to increase African and European parliamentary action in NEPAD's development areas. For 2007, AWEPA selected Sustainable Development and Climate Change as overarching themes for MPN projects.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Strategising and prioritising a roadmap amongst programme partners	3
Raising awareness about NEPAD amongst African MPs and identifying measures to integrate the framework into parliamentary work in Africa	10
Raising awareness about NEPAD amongst European MPs and identifying measures to integrate into parliamentary work in Europe	3
Facilitating African-European exchange of NEPAD perspectives for identification of parliamentary actions	4

*Please note: Some activities encompass two or more result areas.

Outcome Highlights:

Parliamentary oversight undertaken in South Africa, Tanzania and Egypt, using ODA data gathered in the ODA project

Bill on protection of PVV (People Living with HIV) and OVC passed by the National Assembly of Democratic Republic of the Congo and sent to the Senate for their agreement

Louis Michel endorsed the parliamentary role in the Monitoring Joint African-EU Strategy

Donors: Denmark (DANIDA), Sweden (SIDA)

Democracy in the Great Lakes Region (TMF)

Buitenlandse Zaken AWEPA has organised regional events in the Great Lakes Region since the late 1990s. In the early years, the programme dealt with reconciliation and peace. Now that the situation has stabilised and many countries of the Great Lakes have established democratically elected parliaments, AWEPA focuses on 'fostering the values of democracy in the region'.

In 2005, Dutch 'Thematic Co-financing' (TMF), helped launch a five-year programme to strengthen relations between parliaments and civil society throughout the region. Additionally, AWEPA and its partners organise regional and national training seminars on an annual basis. These seminars help strengthen the capacity of Parliamentary Members so that they can improve parliamentary oversight of policy and initiate legislative action in four key areas: the ground rules of parliamentary democracy; poverty reduction strategies (PRS); private sector development (PSD); and HIV and AIDS.

The programme also keeps Africa high on the political agenda in Europe by strengthening existing AWEPA sections and establishing new ones in EU member states, the European Parliament, Switzerland and Norway. These initiatives help African political leaders build parliamentary transparency and accountability in socio-economic policy-making, whilst MPs in Europe incorporate African Colleagues' inputs into European policy work. This exchange supports the efforts of MPs across the Great Lakes region, so that they can

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving the functioning of parliamentary, national and regional institutions	17
Increasing awareness of socio-economic strategies amongst MPs	67
Improving African AWEPA offices' support of national parliaments	2
Strengthening the catalyst function of AWEPA offices in 7 African countries	22
Improving AWEPA European offices and sections in lobby and support functions	continuous

Outcome Highlights:

Exchange facilitated amongst parliamentarians on issues concerning HIV/AIDS and OVC, private sector development, and poverty reduction

Committees set up to promote dialogue between parliamentarians and business representatives on private sector development

Cooperation intensified between parliamentarians and the media

Donor: The Netherlands (DGIS)

address critical issues by initiating more frequent legislative action. The 2007 TMF programme continued to expand upon these positive developments.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)



Under the framework of the programme Mobilising Parliamentarians for NEPAD (MPN), parliamentarians of the region participate in AWEPA capacity building activities and parliamentary exchanges. AWEPA also supports the ECOWAS Parliament in diverse programmes and activities. AWEPA's overarching goals in Western Africa include: strengthening the capacity of committees; training parliamentary staff in parliamentary rules and procedures; and enhancing the role of the ECOWAS Parliament in regional conflict management and poverty reduction.

In October 2007, AWEPA organised a large regional seminar in Benin. Some hundred African and European parliamentarians, along with representatives of international organisations and civil society, gathered for two days. Participants assessed the national efforts of ECOWAS countries to mobilise African and European parliaments in development matters associated with the NEPAD initiative.

The National Assembly of Benin organised the seminar in cooperation with the, the Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), the Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC) and AWEPA, with support from the Pan-African and the ECOWAS Parliaments. Numerous speakers repeatedly raised the issue of need for capacity building around NEPAD and the PDDAA, and emphasised the importance of improving the parliamentary implementation of these programmes. The closing session highlighted the importance of national parliamentary actions, which include: fostering

parliamentary initiatives for the oversight of the executive; establishing special committees; and ensuring widespread media coverage of NEPAD programmes. With this in mind, the parliamentarians endorsed the goals put forth in the Framework for Parliamentary Action on the PDDA.

AWEPA hopes to broaden its activities with ECOWAS in 2008.

Donors for Benin Seminar: German Bundestag, Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC)



RFPAC (Network of the Parliamentary Women of Central Africa)

Established in March 2002 by request of the parliamentary women in the region of Central Africa, the purpose of the Network of the Parliamentary Women of Central Africa is to contribute to the political, economic and social promotion of Central African women, through the capacity strengthening of the parliamentary women of this region, and by supporting them in their legislative, executive oversight and constituents representation functions, including representation of the voice of the women in their countries.

A further and inseparable objective is peace preservation in Central Africa. As a matter of fact, the participation of each country in these regional activities allows the parliamentary women, as representatives of the people and of their parliaments, to contribute to the stability and the development of the Central African region, particularly through parliamentary diplomacy mechanisms.

Activities:

Parliamentary roles in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Violence against women.

RC – RCA strategies to increase the number of women in decision making positions.

Outcomes:

Enhanced capacities of the parliamentary women of the region

Increased number of women involved in the democratic and democratization processes

Increased focus on fighting violence against women.

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Parliament of the Republic of Congo

Somalia

AWEPA has been active in the support of legislative institutions in Somalia since October 2004. The overall objective of this European Commission financed project is to contribute towards the democratic development of a modern State which embodies the principles of good governance, effective representation, respect for human rights, and accountability and transparency by supporting the capacity and development of Somali Legislative institutions to perform their functions, including their reconciliation functions. Traditional functions of a Parliament are to represent constituents, to debate, amend and pass legislation, and to exercise oversight over executive actions. In the Somalia context a fourth function can be added: to reconcile opposing parties.

In specific terms support is given for the development of institutional capacity of the Legislative Institutions in Somalia, and their office holders, Committees, Members (male and female) and staff in order to allow for an effective response to the challenges faced in the discharge of their legislative, representative, oversight, and reconciliation functions. Support will also be given to strengthen Parliamentary roles and inputs to the upcoming constitutional review process, although this in turn depends upon progress in the political and security spheres.

Donor: European Commission

Parliament of Burundi



Programmes in Cooperation with National/Local African Partners

Since independence in 1961, Burundi has endured decades of social tension. In 1993, Burundi's first democratically elected president was assassinated shortly after election. This event heralded protracted civil war that claimed many civilian lives. The Arusha Accords in 2001 established a power-sharing government and a path towards democratic transition. Leading up to the legislative elections that ensued in 2005, AWEPA focused on building the capacities of democratic candidates. Once the bicameral parliament was in place, AWEPA worked to support the reconciliation and reconstruction processes in Burundi. It first assisted the Parliament so that it could achieve adequate legislation, oversight, and representation of the people in 2006.

In 2007, AWEPA concentrated its efforts on advanced capacity building and entrenchment of democratic practices. AWEPA supported the institutional development of parliament, and strengthened relations between parliament and members of civil society, the media, and members of diverse political parties. In addition, AWEPA focussed on regional cooperation, especially on issues of security, peace, refugees, and displaced persons.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Enhancing Members' technical capacity	I
Enhancing work efficiency of parliamentary staff	I
Strengthening relations and communications between the Parliament and civil society, media, and political parties	5
Strengthening regional cooperation on important issues in the region	3
Enhancing dialogue between Parliament and Diaspora, refugees, and displaced persons	I
Assisting Parliamentary Staff (TMF)	I
Increasing awareness among MPs on socio-economic strategies (TMF)	4

* Please note that some of the activities which took place in Burundi also fall under the TMF framework. However, a more detailed account of these activities is, again, included in the figures indicated above.

Outcome Highlights:

New initiative launched to organise a conference for Burundian Diaspora in Europe
Initiative launched to establish OVC committees in all communes and hillocks
Commission on PSD established
Decentralisation and communal development enhanced

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), The Netherlands (DGIS)

Parliament of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)



Political tension and violence have destabilised the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since independence from Belgian rule in 1959. Following an army mutiny and attempted secession by the mineral-rich province of Katanga, the military seized power. In 1997, rebel activity and Rwandan intervention unleashed a conflict that has had a massive death toll. Warring parties signed the Pretoria Accord in 2002 in an attempt to end the fighting and establish a government of national unity.

In 2006 and 2007, the DRC experienced its first legislative, presidential and local elections for more than forty years. The electoral campaign left little room for seminars or workshops, and so AWEPA targeted its work on preparation and implementation of the elections. AWEPA concentrated its efforts in the DRC on election observation missions and awareness-raising in Europe.

In 2007, the AWEPA DRC Programme built the capacity of newly elected parliamentarians through initiatives that included: teaching the ground rules of parliamentary democracy; strengthening the oversight function of parliament; supporting women parliamentarians; strengthening the relations between parliament and decentralised authorities; and enhancing the role of parliament in relation to poverty reduction, peace-building, media relations with political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC, and private sector development.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Capacity-building of women Members	5
Supporting regional cooperation on key issues, including poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV and AIDS, OVC, and PSD.	5
Establishing Ground Rules for Parliamentary Democracy (TMF)	3
Assisting Parliaments and Parliamentary Bodies (TMF)	I
Increasing awareness among MPs on socio-economic strategies (TMF)	4

* Please note that some of the activities which took place in the DRC also fall under the TMF framework. However, a more detailed account of these activities is, again, included in the figures indicated above.

Outcome Highlights:

Committee on media relations established
Five-year strategic plan drafted for equal opportunity in decision making positions
Relations with Diaspora strengthened
Annual action plan developed for women in politics
Joint Committee on Parliament and the Private Sector established
Proposal made for bilateral cooperation between DRC and Rwanda on the subject of violence against women, peace and reconciliation.

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), The Netherlands (DGIS), UNDP

Parliament of Kenya



In the years after independence in 1963, Kenya was a de facto one-party state from 1969 until 1982. Since then, the country has had fragile democratic foundations, and Kenyan society has borne the fall-out of political corruption, high unemployment and poverty. Violent unrest and international condemnation catalysed the restoration of multi-party democracy in the 1990s, and 2002 brought the first fair and peaceful elections. The AWEPA parliamentary support programme in Kenya has assisted transition to multi-party democracy and effective separation of powers since 2002.

The 2007 Kenya Programme included activities aimed at strengthening the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) and the capacities of individual Members of Parliament, most of whom are new to the parliamentary scene. AWEPA has worked hard to improve general understanding of committee mandates amongst other major issues, and to enhance the support that Parliamentary staff members give to MPs and their Committees.

In the wake of the December election violence, the new coalition government heralds unchartered terrain in the history of Kenyan politics. The Kenyan Parliament has a key role in the reconciliation process, not least due to the necessary constitutional amendments that they must pass. The 2007 Kenya programme, accordingly, integrated these new focal points into AWEPA's work with the Parliament of Kenya.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving parliamentary, institutional, and regional institutional functioning (TMF)	I
Increasing Awareness amongst MPs on socio-economic strategies (TMF)	39

* Please note that the activities which took place in Kenya fall under the TMF framework.

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Outcome Highlights:

HIV/AIDS-OVC Prevention Control Bill passed in March 2007, after amendments contributed by women MPs
Women MPs more active in lobbying for and debating issues related to HIV/AIDS and OVC
Corruption lowered as reliance of Women and Youth on handouts from politicians decreased due to better knowledge of project implementation
Technical Committee formed to spearhead, design and formulate Consumer Protection Bill, and parliamentary support for Bill increased

Donors: The Netherlands (DGIS), UNIFEM

Parliament of Mozambique



Mozambique claimed independence in 1975 after almost five centuries as a Portuguese colony. The country struggled to develop as it faced large-scale emigration by whites, economic dependence on South Africa, severe drought, and prolonged civil war. In 1992, a UN-negotiated peace agreement ended the fighting and heralded rapid economic growth.

AWEPA has supported peace-building, reconciliation and democratisation processes in Mozambique since the early 1990s. The Mozambique multi-annual programme encompasses three major sub-programmes which individually target the needs of Parliaments, Local Government, and Political Parties. A fourth sub-programme conducts research and issues publications on the cross-cutting issues of HIV/ AIDS, Gender and Child Rights.

AWEPA developed the Mozambique framework in close cooperation with its partners, the National Assembly of Mozambique (AR), the Ministry of State Administration (MAE), the National Association of Local Government (ANAMM), and the Political Parties (PP). These partnerships constitute a long-term commitment to institutional capacity development of elected organs, to train their members and to strengthen political party structures at all levels. In April 2007, AWEPA Mozambique celebrated its 15th anniversary and received an award from the Mozambican government for "Friendship and Peace."

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Parliamentary Programme	14
Local Government Programme	35
Political Parties Programme	10
Research and Publications	10

Outcome Highlights:

Municipal women's network established in March 2007 on a national level with regional representations

Bill initiated on protection of people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS, for finalisation in 2008

Issue of domestic violence from a gender perspective given priority, and Bill discussed then sent back to civil society for adjustments

Several small political parties formed a coalition

Improved dialogue between FRELIMO and RENAMO municipal members facilitated speedy coordination on issues that concern use of the water system in the Monapo municipality

Donors: Austria (ADA), Denmark (DANIDA), Ireland, Sweden (SIDA), UNICEF Mozambique

Parliament of the Republic of the Congo



Upon independence in 1960, the former French region of Middle Congo became the Republic of the Congo and faced three decades of successive military coups. When democratically elected government took office in 1992, conflict escalated and grew into civil war by 1997. Southern-based rebel groups agreed to a final peace accord in March 2003, but the calm is tenuous and refugees continue to present a humanitarian crisis. The AWEPA programme in the Republic of Congo focuses on strengthening the role of parliamentarians in a number of important matters. These include: the fight against poverty, and HIV and AIDS; Economic development; the functioning of political parties; and enhanced dialogue between central and local authorities.

In 2007, the RC held the presidency of RFPAC (Reseau des Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale). AWEPA worked with the RC Parliament to support a successful RFPAC conference in Brazzaville. In addition, AWEPA focused its activities in the RC on peace and security in the Great Lakes region. Events included a workshop on harmonising legislation on Small Arms and Light Weapons, and a seminar on the Regional Pact for Stability and Peace.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Establishing Ground Rules for Parliamentary Democracy (TMF)	2
RFPAC Presidency	I

Outcome Highlights:

Ratification of the Security Pact discussed and voted upon in September 2007

Donor: The Netherlands (DGIS)



Parliament of Rwanda



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Social cleavage, which characterised Belgian colonial rule, has caused protracted civil strife in Rwanda. Post-independence violent unrest triggered periodic refugee flows into neighbouring states and bred paranoia amongst the governing elite. Many refugees returned in 1990, and tensions descended into civil war. The violence culminated in the 1994 state-sponsored genocide. Rwanda staged its first local elections in 1999, and its first post-genocide presidential and legislative elections in 2003.

The AWEPA parliamentary support programme for Rwanda began in 2003 and has continued to focus on both members and staff of the parliament. Much of the work is related to post-conflict peace-building and attention to public outreach on the most pressing social issues. In 2007, AWEPA focussed on OVC, post-genocide issues, poverty reduction strategies, and Parliamentary and staff capacity building.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Establishing Ground Rules for Parliamentary Democracy (TMF)	1
Assisting Parliamentary Staff (TMF)	I
Increasing awareness of socio-economic strategies amongst MPs (TMF)	6

* Please note that the activities which took place in Rwanda fall under the TMF framework.

Outcome Highlights:

New law created on child rights
Decentralisation in education of political parties extended
Video productions on parliamentary work made
Ad-hoc committee on genocide established in secondary schools
Action plan drafted on cooperation with the private sector

Donors: Belgium (DGOS), The Netherlands (DGIS), UNICEF

The Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA)



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Since independence from the UK in 1956, Sudan has faced two prolonged civil wars which have spanned the second half of the 20th century. Peace talks gained momentum in 2002-04 and yielded several accords. In January 2005, warring parties signed the North/South Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which granted southern rebels six years of autonomy to culminate in a referendum for independence.

The CPA also established the Government of Southern Sudan, which exercises authority over the people and the states of the South. As a new parliamentary institution in a post-conflict environment, the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA) faces huge challenges in relation to legislation, oversight, and representation. AWEPA established an office in Juba in 2007, and has begun to implement a broad programme of support for the SSLA. Through workshops, seminars, and study visits, AWEPA has offered intensive training for staff and parliamentarians. In addition, AWEPA has helped improve the infrastructure of the SSLA and supported the creation of an in-house resource centre.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving SSLA's capacity to execute legislative functions in a transparent and proper manner	2
Improving Members' understanding of their roles and responsibilities to constituents	I
Improving Parliamentary capacities to oversee Executive policies and actions	2
Improving Parliamentary administrative capacity to service institutional needs as well as the needs of Members and Committees	6

Outcome Highlights:

MPs more critical and pro-active in scrutinizing the national budget

Ground rules of parliamentary democracy better understood

Heads of Departments made aware of their roles, and communication and understanding improved amongst them

All 135 classified staff improved their understanding of parliamentary rules and procedures and gained greater confidence in their work

Donors: The European Commission, Ireland

The South Africa Provincial Legislatures (SAPL)



South Africa's nine Provincial Legislatures were born from the peaceful democratic transition of 1994. The Legislatures, which the new constitution established, had no institutional predecessor. They thus face a process of constant development whilst under pressure to fulfil their constitutional mandate.

The AWEPA South African Provincial Legislature (SAPL) Programme supports all nine Provincial Legislatures in their duties, so that each may represent its electorate. AWEPA implements the programme alongside the Speakers Forum in a thirteen-year-old partnership. Throughout 2007, the SALP Programme continued to benefit members and staff of the Provincial Legislatures.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Improving the skill set of Members and staff of the nine Provincial Legislatures to support core institutional functions	6
Fostering awareness on urgent socio-economic and human rights issues	I
Improving dialogue between the office bearers of the nine provinces and between local-, provincial-, national and foreign legislatures	I
Assisting Provincial Legislatures in institutionalising gender equality	I

Outcome Highlights:

Cooperation improved between the Limpopo Legislature and the district and local municipalities
Three district Speakers Forums established
Municipal trainings conducted on institutional arrangements
Collaboration continued to finalise staff oversight guide
Workshops on women's issues, including on violence against women, organised in constituencies

Donors: Austria (ADA), Belgium (Flanders), Danish Embassy South Africa

Parliament of Tanzania



Tanzania achieved independence from Britain in 1964 and transferred peacefully to one-party rule. In 1995, Tanzania experienced its first democratic elections since the 1970s. AWEPA has worked with the National Assembly of Tanzania for over ten years. Initially, AWEPA launched a parliamentary strengthening programme that aimed to reinforce the parliament's oversight, legislation and representation functions.

This intensive programme ended in 2003 due to a lack of donor funding, although support continues on a small scale. Since then, AWEPA has supported the National Assembly of Tanzania under the umbrella of the regional TMF programme. Initiatives include regional seminars and national follow-up workshops. In 2007, AWEPA gave special focus to parliamentary relations with the media.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Establishing Ground Rules for Parliamentary Democracy (TMF)	1

* Please note that the activities which took place in Tanzania fall under the TMF framework.

Outcome Highlights:

State owned media changed to public services broadcasting, with effect from beginning of 2008

Seminar participants pushed for a change in the rules of procedure to allow for public attendance at the committee meetings

Donor: The Netherlands (DGIS)



Parliament of Uganda



Relative stability and economic growth began to flourish in Uganda in 1986, although multi-party democracy was not a reality until 2005, when the Uganda Constitution was revised and political parties could operate. The first multiparty Parliament was sworn-in in 2006.

Currently, over a third of the Parliament's Members have never been Parliamentarians before, hence the need for guidance on some basic principles of Parliamentary practice and legislative procedure. In 2007, AWEPA focussed on strengthening and deepening multi-party democracy in the Parliament, and further improving the efficacy of MPs and parliamentary staff. AWEPA also worked to support parliamentary committees and women parliamentarians, and to strengthen the role of parliament in areas that included: poverty reduction; peace consolidation; media relations with political parties; HIV/AIDS and OVC; and private sector development.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Frequency
Improving performance of the Parliamentary Service in the execution of its mandate and functions, in particular in serving a multi-party based parliament	6
Strengthening role of MPs in policy and law-making processes, and peace and reconciliation processes	П
Supporting MPs so they may serve in a multi-party based parliament and to effectively represent the people	3
Enhancing African-African and especially African-European parliamentary dialogue	4

Outcome Highlights:

UWOPA mobilised and supported the amendment of the Penal Code Act that was amended by Parliament in April

Motion on Trafficking in Persons Bill was moved in Parliament in July

The "Motion for a resolution of parliament on an enhanced response by Parliamentarians to the crisis of orphans and other vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS in Uganda", which resulted from the workshop in September 2006, was moved in September

Eight months after participating in the Uganda Women Parliamentarians (UWOPA) training on Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Legislative Priorities, three women Parliamentarians from the Parliament of Southern Sudan mobilised their colleagues and formed the "Southern Sudan Women Parliamentarians Association" that was launched in Juba in October 2007

The recommendation of MPs, representing the disabled, urging all Commonwealth countries to ratify and implement the "UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" without delay, was adopted by the Heads of Government in November

Donors: Belgium, Finland, The Netherlands

AWEPA European Sections



Programmes in Cooperation with European Partners

AWEPA informs and mobilises parliamentary sections in Europe on policy issues in African-European relations, development cooperation, and democratisation in Africa. AWEPA's membership network spans 1500 parliamentarians and former parliamentarians from the European Union, the European Parliament, Norway and Switzerland. Each member joins a section within their respective parliaments and represents a broad base of political parties within each country. So that members may keep Africa high on the European agenda, AWEPA assists its sections in advocacy efforts.

In 2007, the European sections focused on new policy areas, which encompassed ODA targets and the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, and mobilised members in the new EU member states. The sections undertook diverse activities which included: promoting Parliamentary Action Plans; initiating parliamentary questions; drafting resolutions; and lobbying key political actors, from Foreign Affairs Ministries to Embassies.

Activities implemented according to result area:

Result Area	Number of Activities
Strengthening existing sections in European Parliaments	7
Increasing Membership within Sections	98 new members
Establishing new sections	3

Outcome Highlights:

Resolution on the negotiations for Economic Partnership Agreements between the EU and ACP countries submitted by the Belgium Section, and adopted at plenary meeting of the Senate.

Due to Dutch Parliament's Political Hearing and Debate on Social Protection of OVC in Africa, amendment approved to earmark € 5 million for social protection of OVC

Visibility of AWEPA in the European development community improved, and AWEPA's network expanded

European Section Outcome Highlights:

European Parliament: ACP-EU Meeting				
Meeting with African parliamentarians, Wiesbaden, 27 June 2007	The meeting briefed 70 parliamentarians, mainly from Africa, and MEPs that included ACP-EU JPA Co-President Glenys Kinnock, on the AWEPA programmes Mobilising Parliamentarians for NEPAD (MPN) and Official Development Assistance (ODA) Monitoring.			
Portugal: EU Presidency Seminar				
EU Presidency Seminar: Strengthening Euro-African Partnerships, Portugal, 7 November 2007	In cooperation with the Portuguese Assembly and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, AWEPA organised a seminar on the role of parliaments in reinforcing the dialogue between Europe and Africa. The seminar addressed the Joint EU-Africa Strategy framework, born from the EU-Africa Head of State Summit in Lisbon in December 2007. The importance of parliamentary oversight of Official Development Assistance (ODA) lay high on the agenda. The debate also addressed the need for dialogue between Europe and Africa on global issues, such as migration flows, climate change, peace, security and trade.			
The Netherlands: Seminar on Socia	l Protection			
Political Hearing and Debate "Future for Africa, Invest in Children" in the Senate, The Hague, 15 June 2007	AWEPA, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), STOP AIDS NOW! (SAN) and the UNICEF National Committee of the Netherlands organised a political hearing and debate on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) affected by HIV and AIDS in Africa. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Honorary Chair of the AWEPA Eminent Advisory Board, opened the event. After the debate, a Manifesto was presented to the Dutch Minister of Development Cooperation, which urged that the Government of the Netherlands implement a set of provisions so that it can deliver arrears in achieving the MDGs.			

Germany: Joint Parliamentary Assembly

EU (German) Presidency Seminar on Parliamentary Oversight and Budget Control in African Development: Focus on NEPAD and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Benin, 3 - 4 October 2007 Some hundred African and European parliamentarians and representatives of international organisations and civil society gathered for two days to assess the national efforts of ECOWAS countries to achieve greater participation of African and European parliaments in development matters associated with the NEPAD initiative. This seminar was organised under the auspices of the National Assembly of Benin in cooperation with the German Bundestag, the Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), the Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC) and AWEPA, with support from the Pan-African and ECOWAS Parliaments.

Baltic States: TMF/NEPAD Workshop

AWEPA and Lithuania Section Workshop, Lithuania, 10 December 2007 The workshop provided information on NEPAD, issues that concerned Agriculture and Climate, the Paris Declaration and parliamentary tracking of ODA. Participants included Members of Parliament from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, and NGOs.



European Section Developments:

Slovenia and Czech Republic: New Sections

5 Members of the National Assembly of Slovenia establish an AWEPA Slovenian Section, 15 February 2007 and 2 Members of the National Assembly of the Czech Republic establish a Section, 20 February 2007

The Working Group on Africa of the National Assembly of Slovenia agreed to join AWEPA and positively received plans to organise an EU Presidency Seminar on Africa during the first half of 2008. AWEPA also gained political support in the Czech Republic, where the new Section distributed information about AWEPA to the National Assembly and Senate.

Austria: Section Reconstitution and Mozambique Visit

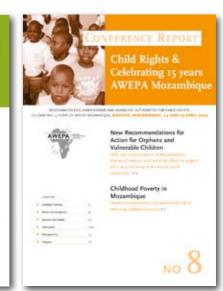
Section Visit to Mozambique, Maputo, 21 - 28 October 2007

Following parliamentary elections, the Section has drawn 40 members from a broad-base of parties, including the Social Democratic Party, Austrian Peoples Party and Green Party. Unique leadership guides the Section, with Speaker of the Austrian Parliament, Dr. Barbara Prammer, as Chair and Deputy Speakers, Dr. Michael Spindelegger and Dr. Eva Glawischnig-Piesczek, as Vice-Chairs.

In October 2007, the Austrian Section sent delegates to Maputo to foster relations between the Parliaments of Mozambique and Austria. AWEPA and the North-South Dialogue of Parliaments organised the visit so that Austrian and Mozambican parliamentarians could share expertise, and discuss cooperation over media coverage of parliament. Delegates also met with government officials and women's groups in constructive exchange.

AWEPA Publications







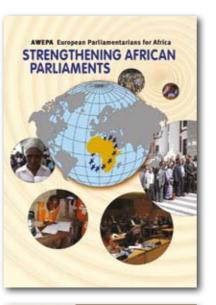


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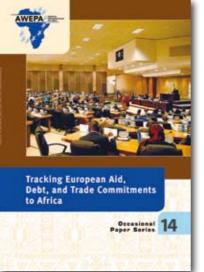


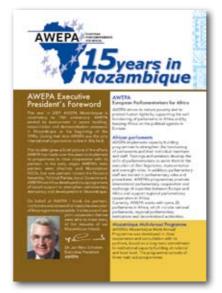














Organisational Developments

AWEPA Eminent Advisory Board (EAB)

AWEPA's relations with Africa are guided by advice of the Eminent Advisory Board. This Board meets annually to discuss the policy and programmes of AWEPA, and to make suggestions for future priorities regarding developments in Africa. This Board is appointed for an indefinite period of time and consists of the following members:



Archbishop Desmond Tutu (Honorary Chair)

A theologian and educator, Archbishop Desmond Tutu serves as Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town and Head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Tutu

received the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for the role he played as a pioneer of peaceful resistance methods in the struggle against the apartheid regime in South Africa. As General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Tutu called for sanctions against the South African government.



Ms. Graça Machel (Chairperson)

Ms. Graça Machel campaigns as a global advocate for war-affected children and serves as spokesperson for the Global Movement for Children. Following the independence struggle, Machel served as Education

Minister of Mozambique and increased the literacy rate from 7%, the lowest in Africa, to 28%. Machel has set up schools in war-torn areas and chaired the UN Report on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children.



Prof. Wangari Maathai

Prof. Wangari Maathai received the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for her prodemocracy, human rights and environmental conservation efforts. In 1976, Maathai founded the grassroots Green Belt Movement, which

has helped women's groups plant over 20 million trees to conserve the environment and improve quality of life. Maathai was the first women in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree and has served as Assistant Minister of Environment in Kenya.



Ms. Mary Robinson

Human rights advocate Ms. Mary Robinson serves as President and Founder of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative. A graduate and former fellow of Harvard Law School, Robinson has

worked to use law as an instrument of social change. Robinson was elected the first woman President of Ireland (1990-1997) and served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002).

AWEPA Executive Committee

AWEPA's Executive Committee is the executive board of the organisation and meets four times a year. The Council elects the Executive Committee for a period of five years to prepare and execute AWEPA policy under the supervision of the Council. The Executive Committee is composed of the President, Vice-Presidents and the AWEPA Secretary-General, Mr. Pär Granstedt, who serves as Chair.



Mr. Pär Granstedt (Sweden)



Ms. Brigitta Gadient (Switzerland)



Dr. Jan Nico Scholten (The Netherlands)



Mr. Brendan Howlin (Ireland)



Mr. Jeppe Kofod (Denmark)



Ms. Miet Smet (Belgium)



Ms. Lydia Maximus (Belgium)



Dr. Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania)

AWEPA Council

The highest political body within AWEPA is the Council, which consists of representatives from AWEPA sections in the European Parliament and the national parliaments of Europe. The Council operates as a general assembly for a five-year term and meets at least once a year. The Council decides on the overall policy of AWEPA and is chaired by the President, Dr. Jan Nico Scholten. It is composed of the members of the Executive Committee and the following persons:

Dr. Luc Dhoore (Belgium)

Ms. Maria Antónia Moreno Areias De Almeida Santos (Portugal)

Mr. Francisco Arnau Navarro (Spain)

Mr. Jan Willem Bertens (The Netherlands)

Ms. Katharine Bulbulia (Ireland)

Lord David Chidgey (United Kingdom)

Ms. Ingrida Circene (Latvia)

Mr. John Alexander Corrie (United Kingdom)

Mr. Laurentino Dias (Portugal)

Mr. Theodossis Georgiou (Greece)

Ms. Carina Hägg (Sweden)

Mr. Jan Hamacek (Czech Republic)

Mr. Johan van Hecke (Belgium)

Ms. Brunhilde Irber (Germany)

Ms. Inge Jäger (Austria)

Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland)

Ms. Krista Kiuru (Finland)

Ms. Barty Lührman Fuchs (The Netherlands)

Mr. Silver Meikar (Estonia)

Ms. Magda de Meyer (Belgium)

Mr. Charlie O'Connor (Ireland)

Ms. Rosita Runegrund (Sweden)

Ms. Erika Thijs (Belgium)

Ms. Rosmarie Zapfl (Switzerland)

Personnel

Countries	2006		2007	
	FTE	Staff no	FTE	Staff no
South Africa	5.0	5	6.3	8
Mozambique	9.4	11	10.7	13
East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Somalia) + Sudan	5.6	7	8.2	10
Central Africa (Rwanda, Burundi, DRC)	4.6	5	5.0	5
Summa Africa	24.6	28	30.2	36
Europe (The Netherlands and Belgium)	16.0	22	18.5	23
Total Africa and Europe	40.6	50	48.7	59

AWEPA's Human Resource Management policies reflect the strategic vision of AWEPA, and directly concern the execution of the core business of AWEPA – our capacity building projects in Africa. In 2007, we focussed on improving our employment contract procedures, implemented new employment regulations in Africa, and developed a concept for performance evaluation and personal development plans for our employees.

AWEPA has expanded due to the increasing number of projects supported by donors (see table - FTE=Full Time Equivalent).

The figures above show employees with contracts, persons hired through recruitment agencies and consultants who were contracted for more than 50% on a yearly basis. In the Amsterdam office we hired two

communication interns, each for a period of 6 months. The majority of the employees are women (2006:36=72%, 2007:40=68%). The AWEPA Directorate consists of three men and one woman, and three out of the four Heads of the African offices are women.

As part of the decentralisation process (GMT – General Management Training), AWEPA organised courses for staff members in Africa and Europe. These courses encompassed project cycle management, planning of regional programmes and yearly work plans, monitoring, evaluation, decentralisation, quality control and administrative procedures. In addition, AWEPA provided Language and ICT courses for its staff.

AWEPA also launched an exchange visit initiative

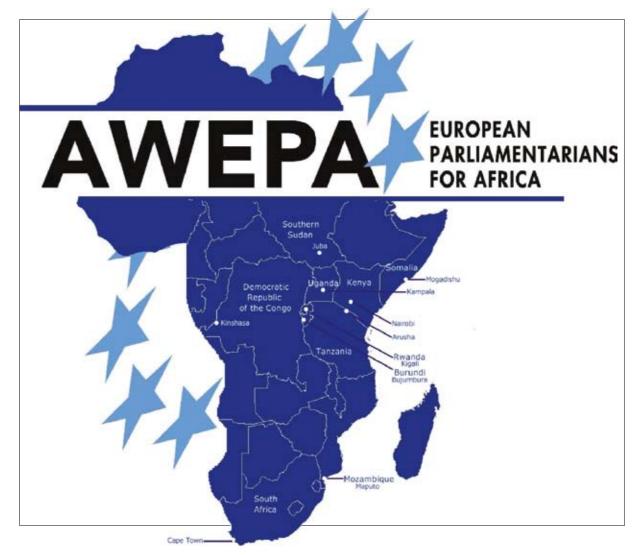
to improve the working relationships between the European and African offices. In September 2007, our Office Assistant in Amsterdam visited the Nairobi office, and staff members from the AWEPA office in Mozambique came to Amsterdam.

In June, the Heads of the African offices and the Line Managers in Amsterdam attended training in performance evaluation and personal development plans (PDP). The line managers learnt new guidelines for evaluation and PDPs, which cover more than 90% of our employees.

Initiatives were taken to improve health and safety in the labour environment. An Office Change Committee was appointed to investigate implementation of these changes in the work place in 2008-2009.

AWEPA developed new Employment Regulations and employment contracts for the African Offices. From January 2008, most of our employees will be covered by recognized health insurance and will have the opportunity to join a pension scheme.

Locations of Personnel in Africa



AWEPA Staff

The Netherlands

Dr. Jeff Balch
Director Research and Evaluation
Mr John McKendy
Director Programme Development
Mr Lennart Andersson
Administrative Director
Ms. Marion Verweij

Assistant to the President and Secretary General

Project Department

Ms. Liselot Bloemen
Project Officer
Mr. Nicolas Dupic
Planning Officer

Ms. Tatjana van den Ham
Project Officer
Ms. Lidewij Helmich
Project Team Coordinator

Mr. Marc Holtkamp Senior Project Officer

Ms. Ilona Kaandorp
Project Assistant

Ms. Nathalie Lasslop

Project Officer
Ms. Zoë Ware

Project Officer

Finance Department

Mr Jan Bijlsma
Financial Reporting Officer
Ms. Sahila El Fahsi
Financial Officer
Ms. Gül Mert
Junior Financial Officer
Mr. Martin Smeding
Senior Financial Officer

Human Resources

Ms. Martien Meenhorst Human Resources Officer

Secretariat

Ms. Madelon Doesburg
Office Assistant
Ms. Zuzana Kmetova
Office Assistant

Belgium Office

Mr. Patrick Mpoyi Luabeya Project Officer Ms. Katrin Verstraete Project Officer

Burundi Office

Ms. Jocelyne Nahimana Head of Office Ms. Angelina Nahimana Project Officer Mr. Ferdinand Soferi Driver

Congo Office (DRC)

Ms. Gertrude Bamba Makabi Project Officer

Kenya Officer

Ms. Marianne Lateste
Head of Office
Ms. Ruth Mungai
Administrative Assistant
Ms. Peninah Ogeto
Office Manager
Mr. Lawrence Thiong'o Kagicha
Senior Project Officer
Ms. Joyce Lucas
Office Attendant

Mozambique Office

Mr. Angelo Matusse

Head of Office

Ms. Rosita Alberto

Project Officer

Ms. Zaida Maria de Pena Beete

Accountant

Mr. Lazaro Antonio Chachuaio

Office Guard

Mr. Jorge Manuel Bernardo Cuinl

Mr. Jorge Manuel Bernardo Cuinhane
Programme Officer
Ms. Telma Mahiquene
Project Officer
Mr. José Matavelo

Mr. José Matavele
Driver
Ms. Ilda Mbeve
Office Attendant

Ms. Alzira Luis Muchana
Office and Logistic Manager
Ms. Elisa Maria Silveira Muianga

Programme Officer

Ms. Amarilia Marta Mutemba

Manager Operations

Mr. Ivete Antonio Tivane
Office Attendant

Rwanda Office

Ms. Beata Mukabaranga Project Officer

South Africa Office

Ms. Jessica Longwe **Director Partner Relations** Ms. Geertje Hollenberg Deputy Director/Head of Office Ms. Christine Leibach Project Officer Mr. Frank Kayitare Project Officer Ms. Natalie Roberts Office Assistant/Logistic Officer Ms. Alexandra Wonani Financial Officer

Southern Sudan

Ms. Nomawethu Xali Project Officer

Ms. Mirjam Younan Logistical Officer

Tanzania

Ms. Linda Baas Consultant

Uganda

Ms. Jeniffer Kwarisiima Project Officer Ms. Gloria Salaama Project Officer

Somalia

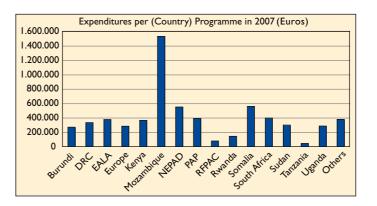
Mr. Liban Hassan Aw-Said Liaison Officer



Financial Report

Expenditures

In the year 2007, the total expenditure was 6.271.998 Euro. This amount was spent on programmes as indicated in this chart.

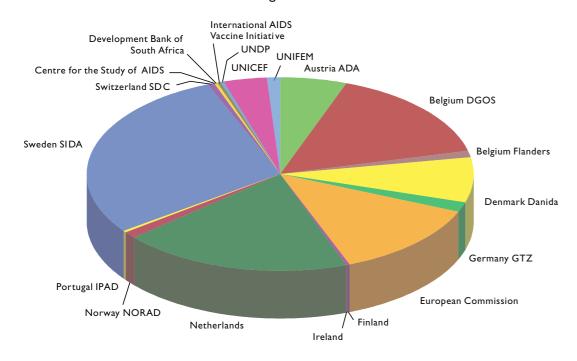


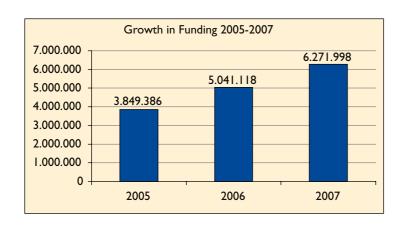
Income

In 2007, AWEPA had a stable financial situation. It received funding from various European governments, UN organisations and foundations. AWEPA does not engage in public fundraising.

Donor	Amount spent 2007
Austria ADA	348.534
Belgium DGOS	980.124
Belgium Flanders	56.424
Denmark Danida	485.778
Germany GTZ	103.402
European Commission	788.227
Finland	30.000
Ireland	3.538
Netherlands	1.199.505
Norway NORAD	62.458
Portugal IPAD	25.000
Sweden SIDA	1.802.603
Switzerland SDC	34.184
Centre for the Study of AIDS	3.113
Development Bank of South Africa	22.220
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative	14.787
UNDP	7.296
UNICEF	238.041
UNIFEM	66.764
TOTAL	6.271.998

Funding 2007







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