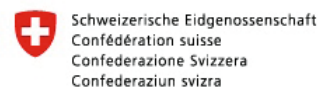
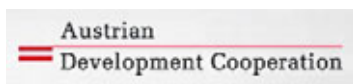


AWEPA Annual Report 2009

AWEPA celebrates its 25 year jubilee



Donors



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Messages from the Leadership

Ms. Miet Smet, President of AWEPA

2009 SAW THE 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF AWEPA. THROUGH the year there were many events to celebrate the occasion, with a major event in Cape Town, South Africa in October; a conference on the theme "Promoting Parliamentary Democracy in Africa". The anniversary celebration involved members of AWEPA's Eminent Advisory Board including Mrs. Graça Machel and Dr. Mary Robinson. There was strong representation from African and European parliamentarians and other parliamentary associations.

Since AWEPA started as a support organisation to South Africans in the struggle against apartheid, Cape Town was the ideal location for this event. Some time was spent reflecting on the achievements made in the last 25 years (a series of interviews highlighting some of these is in our newsletter) but focus was mainly put on the needs of today. The need for parliamentary democracy, for good governance, justice and the respect for human rights is still as much needed now as 25 years ago.

AWEPA cherishes the fact that human dignity is a birth right of each individual, and champions those who are dedicated to the pursuit of human rights. Therefore in 2006 the Executive Committee decided to install the AWEPA Human Dignity Award, which is given by AWEPA every second year to an individual who has excelled in the pursuit of human dignity. The first award was given to the former President of South Africa, Mr. Nelson Mandela. In 2009, the award was given during the Cape Town conference to the Honorary Chair of our Eminent Advisory Board, his Grace Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.



As his Grace the Archbishop was taken ill shortly before the ceremony, his successor to the Chair of AWEPA's Eminent Advisory Board, Ms. Graça Machel, received the award on his behalf from Dr. Jan Nico Scholten

Parliaments lie at the heart of creating a safer and stronger Africa. Strong legislative institutions in balance with executive power are vital to an equitable society; government that preserves democratic principles beyond the precarious moment of election. Through 2009 AWEPA continued in its endeavour to empower parliaments through various capacity building programmes in parliamentary institutions and through thematic themes such as climate change, gender balance and conflict resolution.

One programme that has gained greater momentum and strength over 2009 is AWEPA's Aid Effectiveness Programme. A core part of AWEPA's vision is to assist in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Without the more effective use of aid, not only will the MDG's remain unmet, but international accountability and trust between donor and recipient countries will continue to erode. Moreover, without active parliamentary involvement and vigilance, aid cannot be properly overseen and scrutinized for its contribution to citizens' needs. For this reason substantial resources were spent on developing this programme further during

2009 and we expect more solid fruits of this work to come to bear over the course of 2010.

Another event that took place in Cape Town was a first meeting of the AWEPA Partnership Council. This new organ consists of members of the Eminent Advisory Board, our African Partners and the Executive Committee, and is jointly chaired by the Chair of the Eminent Advisory Board, Ms. Graça Machel, and the then President, Dr. Jan Nico Scholten. It was an excellent opportunity to get together with northern and southern participants in our endeavour to improve human rights in Africa, and to dialogue around issues that concern all our stakeholders. A main focus of the meeting was to look ahead to the coming 25 years and what we felt the priority focuses of AWEPA should be. One important issue that was discussed was the sentiment to change of the name of AWEPA from the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa to the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa. A small one word change, but it epitomises the change of focus AWEPA has been making, and one of the aspects of our uniqueness; that we work together with African politicians to solve African issues, in which there is much for us to learn from them as well as they from us. The following day the AWEPA Governing Council unanimously voted for the name change which was implemented on January 1st.

That same weekend the AWEPA Governing Council elected a new Executive Committee and a new President. It was with great pleasure that I was elected as the new President. Having been associated with AWEPA almost since it began, and having spent two terms of office on the Executive Committee I am not new to AWEPA. Nevertheless it is quite a tall order to step into such illustrious shoes as Dr. Jan Nico Scholten and Mr. Pär Granstedt. Both gentlemen have played a vital role over the last 25 years and I hope I can match that excellence as we begin the second 25 years. I would like to take the opportunity to thank them both for their tireless and enthusiastic dedication; I am pleased that they will both continue in a somewhat less intense, but nevertheless important role as Honorary President and Honorary Vice President. I am also pleased that the December Executive Committee decided to appoint a new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and would like to warmly welcome Mr. Theo Kralt.

I am also very pleased to be supported by such an excellent Executive Committee and such a high calibre of professional staff that is one of the hall marks of AWEPA. My appreciation also goes to our donors who offer a constant support to our work, and to our African Partners. Without both of you there would be no AWEPA, and with you I feel the great promise awaiting us as we launch into the coming 25 years with continued commitment and enthusiasm for human rights in Africa.

Minister of State Miet Smet
President

MINISTER OF STATE MIET SMET



As a member of the federal, European and Flemish parliament for over 30 years during which 14 as Minister for the Belgian government, Minister of State Miet Smet has played an important role in Belgian and European politics for over 30 years. During this time she has played a key role in equality in politics, in environment and in labour.

Her deep rooted urge to see equal opportunities for all, not only gender, but in all areas of human dignity, brought her into contact with AWEPA where having served two terms of office on the AWEPA Executive Committee, she was elected President in October 2009 via a unanimous vote of the AWEPA Governing Council.

Married to fellow CD&V politician, the former Belgian Prime Minister and former Vice President of AWEPA, Wilfried Martens, Ms. Smet resides still in Belgium where alongside her work for AWEPA continues to support society in a variety of ways.

2009 – A Year of Growth

Mr. Pär Granstedt, Former AWEPA Secretary General and Dr. Jan Nico Scholten, Hon. AWEPA President

IN 2009 AWEPA EXECUTED MORE PROGRAMS THAN ever before in previous years and reached a turnover of almost € 8 million. This is an increase from the previous year with more than 30% and during the decade with about 130%. This illustrates the strong demand for AWEPA's work, and also an appreciation among partners and donors for the way we are doing it.

Institutional Capacity Building

AWEPA has a long experience in working to strengthen the capacity of parliamentary institutions, not least in conflict and post-conflict situations. Starting in the struggle against apartheid, AWEPA built its experience in working with the young democratic parliaments of post-apartheid Southern Africa. Still the AWEPA program with the Parliament of Mozambique is one of AWEPA's major programs in this region. AWEPA is also continuing its work to strengthen the Provincial Legislatures in South Africa. For several years AWEPA has run capacity-building programmes in the Great Lakes area, with the parliaments of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda. With a very explicit peace-building agenda, AWEPA is supporting the emerging Parliamentary Forum of the Great Lakes Peace and Stability Pact and the Central African Network of Women's Parliamentarians, RFPAC. Furthermore, AWEPA also supports the building up of parliamentary structures in Somalia. In 2009 there were still severe difficulties in getting any progress on federal level in Somalia, while more could be achieved in Somaliland. The programme in Sudan, focussing on the Parliament in South Sudan and the State Legislatures, developed



Pär Granstedt



Jan Nico Scholten

strongly and became, expressed in turnover, one of the largest bilateral AWEPA programmes in 2009.

AWEPA also continued its important work with the regional parliamentary bodies in Africa, including capacity building programmes with PAP and EALA.

Thematic Capacity Building

A new responsibility, developing further in 2009, was to promote parliamentary involvement in the international Aid Effectiveness debate, based on the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action. AWEPA was asked to coordinate the global parliamentary participation at the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in October 2008. After having implemented that successfully, AWEPA was invited, together with the Inter-parliamentary Union, to represent the parliamentary sector in the OECD/DAC Working Party on Aid Effectiveness. During 2009 AWEPA also started a programme which facilitates the development of strategies on Aid Effectiveness and to promote North-South and South-South parliamentary dialogue for and between African Countries.

The Pan-African conference in Cape Town in October, also marked the 25th anniversary of AWEPA, which was the final conference of AWEPA's 5 year programme on Mobilizing Parliaments for NEPAD, towards the Millennium Development Goals (MPN). During

2009, the main focus was on the African-European Parliamentary Dialogue on Climate, Food Security and Development, starting with the Nairobi Parliamentary Forum in August 2008 and leading, through a series of parliamentary meetings in all parts of Africa and Europe, up to a parliamentary agenda, presented to the parties of the Copenhagen summit in December 2009. MPN will continue during 2010 with a final series of workshops, evaluations and the development of a new MDG Programme leading up to 2015. In addition, the broad based thematic capacity building TMF programme, aimed at strengthening parliaments in the Great Lakes region and AWEPA's outreach in Europe, was successfully carried out for many years and finally came to an end in 2009.

For many years AWEPA and UNICEF have, in a joint programme, worked to sensitise parliamentarians to the challenges posed by the fate of children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC). In 2009, the OVC programme focus was to mainly sum up experiences and draw conclusions, meanwhile to strategise for new activities.

Organisational Development

During the past year important organizational development work has continued within AWEPA. The council meeting in May 2009 adopted a new programme strategy, the Strategic Vision 2010-2015, and a new Management Strategy. These documents constitute important steps in AWEPA's Africanisation and Decentralisation strategy. Of principal importance was the establishment of the new AWEPA Partnership Council which had its first meeting on the occasion of AWEPA's 25th anniversary in Cape Town in October 2009.

The work with AWEPA's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and Program Planning System continued. High priority was given to the introduction of a new programme and staff budgeting system to provide more insight into the state of finances. The improvement of economic margins and cost-effectiveness will be an important challenge for AWEPA's new leadership.

Economic Challenges

AWEPA can now look back on 25 years of gradual expansion as well as its strengthened position. A big challenge over the years has been to finance the work needed. Many times the road has been quite bumpy. Even if funding in total figures has developed in a satisfactory way, the conditions continue to get tighter. Still in the beginning of the past decade about half the funding was available for covering AWEPA's basic costs, now it is less than a third. In spite of the 30% increase of AWEPA's turnover in 2009, the cost for permanent staff only increased by 4%. This made it possible to acquire a modest operational surplus, and release some reserves earmarked for special costs 2009, and redirect them to a new operational readjustment reservation.

The core strength of AWEPA is its competence and dedication of its members and staff. It is through them that AWEPA has managed to grow in strength among the past challenges. When we see those who take the work of AWEPA further, it brings immense optimism for the future. We feel gratitude for the time we have been able to work in the leadership in this fantastic organization, and hope to be able to make a further contribution.

Jan Nico Scholten
President 1984-2009
Executive President 1974-2007

Pär Granstedt
Vice President and Treasurer 1984-2007
Secretary General 2007-2009



About AWEPA

The Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA) works in cooperation with African parliaments to strengthen parliamentary democracy in Africa, keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe, and facilitate African-European parliamentary dialogue.

Strong parliaments lie at the heart of Africa's long-term development; they serve as the arbiters of peace, stability and prosperity. AWEPA strives to strengthen African parliaments and promote human dignity. For 25 years, AWEPA has served as a unique tool for complex democratisation operations, from South Sudan to South Africa. The pillars that support AWEPA's mission include:

A membership skills base of more than 1500 European parliamentarians, who devote their wide-ranging expertise to peer-learning with African colleagues;

Long-term partnerships with African parliamentary colleagues, which ensure local ownership and accountability;

An infrastructure of political and parliamentary entry points, which spans 9 African and 2 European offices as well as 25 parliaments in Africa and 28 in Europe, including the Pan-African Parliament and the European Parliament.

AWEPA's overarching goal is to eradicate poverty and support the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, through the realisation of human rights, democracy and development in Africa.

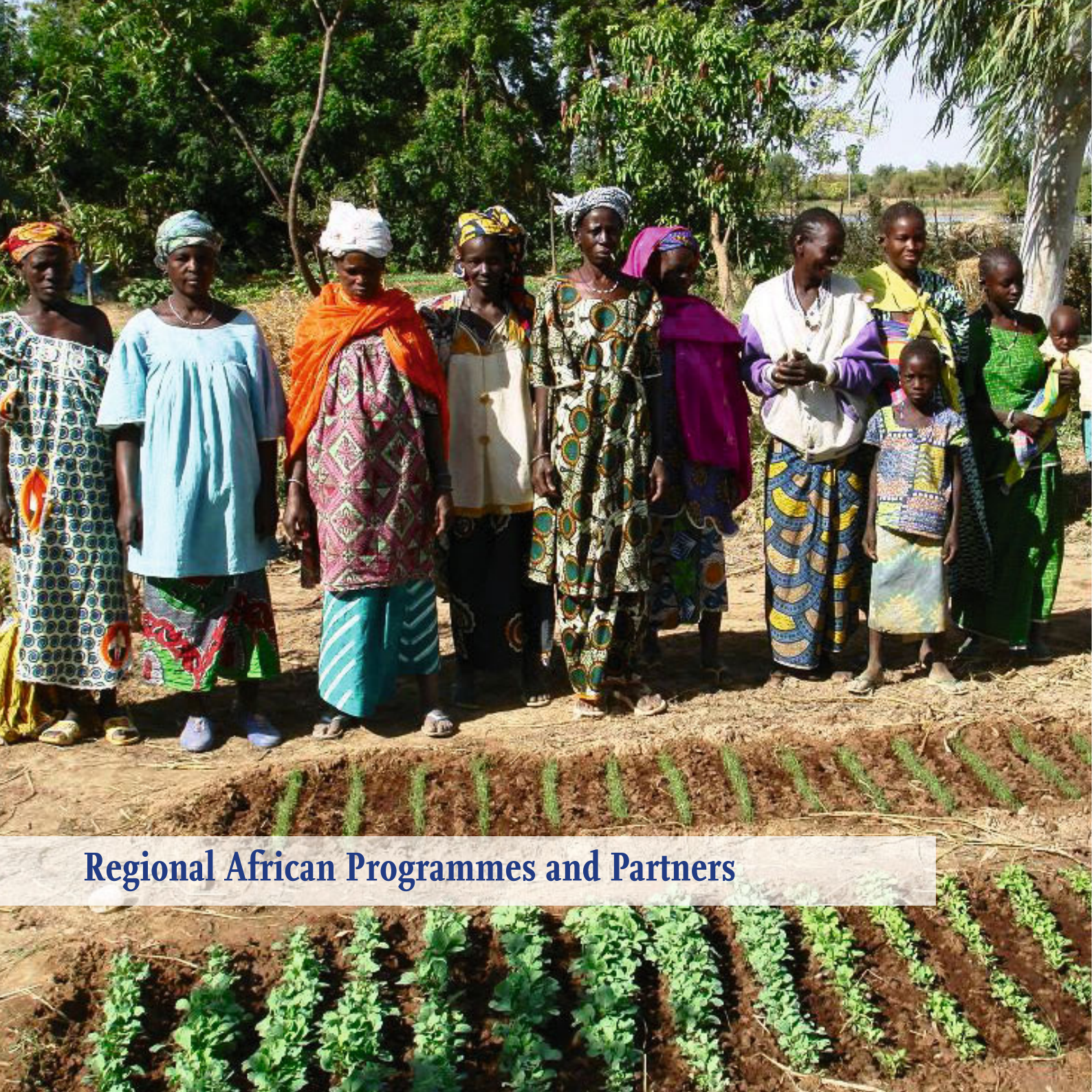
AWEPA aims to achieve this objective by promoting:

- parliamentary competency and authority
- good governance based on separation of powers
- increased participation of women in decision-making
- participation of civil society in the political process
- independent and qualified media, as a component of the democratic process

AWEPA is an international parliamentary association that is strictly non-partisan. AWEPA has Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council and is on the list of ODA Eligible Organisations of OECD/DAC.

Acronyms

AAA	Accra Agenda for Action	PLWH	People living with HIV/AIDS
APNAC	African Parliamentarians Network Against Corruption	PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
AWEPA	Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa	PSD	Private Sector Development
BINUB	Bureau Intégré des Nations Unies au Burundi (United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi)	RFPAC	Réseau de Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale (Network of Women Parliamentarians of Central Africa)
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	SAPL	South Africa Provincial Legislatures
CSO	Civil Society Organisations	SID	Society for International Development
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	SPA	Senior Parliamentary Adviser
EALA	East African Legislative Assembly	SSLA	Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States	TMF	Thematische Mede Financiering (Thematic Co-Financing)
HLF-3	Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Accra, Ghana (September 2008)	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
IAVI	International AIDS Vaccine Initiative	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
KEWOPA	Kenya Women Parliamentary Association	UWOPA	Ugandan Women's Parliamentary Association
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	VIH	Virus de la Immunodeficiencia Humana
MPN	Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD		
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development		
ODA	Official Development Assistance		
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development		
OECD-DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee		
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children		
PAP	Pan-African Parliament		



Regional African Programmes and Partners

Engaging Parliamentarians in the Aid Effectiveness Debate

Donors

Sweden (SIDA), Austria (ADA),
The Netherlands

Background

Donors and aid recipients alike question the impact of development assistance on poverty reduction, health care and economic growth. The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and the debates that have followed, highlight the vital role that parliaments play in effective aid delivery. Representatives from governments and donor agencies signed the Paris Declaration in 2005 and agreed to the Accra Agenda for Action in September 2008, but have shown little inclination to consult or engage with their parliaments. In spite of parliaments' inherent importance in the determination of development priorities and in providing oversight of the aid disbursement process, national executives and inter-government institutions have insufficiently engaged parliamentarians in development cooperation debates and processes.

Objective

As an overarching objective, the programme has sought to strengthen parliaments' contribution to reform of the international aid effectiveness agenda, including through creating greater parliamentary awareness of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action (AAA), in preparation for a direct role in the implementation of the AAA.

Results

AWEPA succeeded in facilitating a parliamentary platform on aid effectiveness for engagement in the OECD-DAC Working Party on Aid Effectiveness, and developed capacity-building programming in consultation with the Pan-African Parliament and regional parliamentary bodies in Africa, as well as with five national parliamentary pilot processes. African parliamentarians became much more aware of their roles in monitoring the development cooperation relationship, including with regard to new proposed funding for climate change adaptation in Africa.

Activity

AWEPA facilitated the participation of parliamentary delegations from Africa and Europe to the UN Development Cooperation Forum high-level event in Vienna, from 11 to 13 November. Although the parliamentarian contingent was by far the smallest in relation to both donor and recipient executives and civil society representatives present, the parliamentary voice was clearly heard. The main documentation for the meeting was heavily influenced from the standard government/civil society dichotomy toward acceptance of the independent role and responsibility of parliaments as vital stakeholders in the development process, and therefore on the aid effectiveness agenda.

Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD (MPN)



Donors

Sweden (Sida) Denmark (Danida),
Germany (GTZ), United Kingdom (Foreign
and Commonwealth Office)

Background

In 2001, five Heads of State from Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa initiated the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Subsequently, the Organisation of African Unity (now African Union) formally adopted NEPAD. The NEPAD priorities are derived from the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). NEPAD is an African-led strategy for sustainable development and poverty reduction in Africa, under the leadership of the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA). NEPAD's four primary objectives are: 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 world economy; as well as to accelerate the empowerment of women.

Objective

The main aim of the Mobilizing Parliaments for NEPAD programme since 2005 is to support capacity building around the NEPAD priorities. Although there is no MDG on 'good governance', good governance and society building are important to realize NEPAD's goals. African parliaments have a key role to play in countering the structural problems through policy making and legislation as addressed by the MDGs and incorporated in the NEPAD strategies. The MPN Programme strengthens the knowledge of African Parliamentarians and Parliamentary Staff on NEPAD priorities, increases their capacity to act and promotes dialogue on these priorities between Africa and Europe. Through the activities, the MPN Programme strongly supported NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) over 2009.

Results

- The programme has raised awareness about NEPAD amongst European and African parliamentarians, and parliamentarians identified concrete measures to integrate NEPAD principles into parliamentary work in Africa.
- AWEPA facilitated the exchange of NEPAD perspectives between African and European parliamentarians for identification of parliamentary action. A large conference in South Africa brought together parliamentarians to discuss subjects like the state of parliamentary democracies, parliamentary leadership on climate change and women's participation in parliaments.
- In the 2009 programme, special attention has been given to Sustainable

Development, through a focus on climate change and agriculture. Activities to support action in these areas included the Regional Parliamentary Seminar on Climate Change and Food Security in Senegal, and National Workshops on Climate Change and Food Security in Uganda, Liberia, and Benin.

Activity

In 2009, workshops and regional seminars took place on such subjects as HIV/AIDS, orphans and vulnerable children, private sector development and water, agriculture, food security and climate change. Agriculture and climate change received attention in a number of programme activities in 2009 because sustainable development contributes towards achieving MDG 1 (to end poverty and hunger), as well as MDG 7 (on achieving environmental sustainability). In October AWEPA signed an MOU with AGRA and began development of a comprehensive programme to support agricultural committees in African parliaments and enhance food security.

A two-day workshop in Liberia in July 2009 for example aimed to facilitate an open discussion about critical issues in agricultural development both in the region and in Liberia itself, with an eye towards the implications and practical application of this information on the daily work of the legislators. The sessions focused on the subjects of Pan- and West African legal instruments on Agriculture, agricultural challenges and opportunities in Liberia, best practices in technological advancements in agriculture, food security, and climate change.

Réseau de Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale (RFPAC)



Donor

Belgium (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Background

In March 2002, *the Network of Women Parliamentarians of Central Africa* (Réseau de Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale) was established on the request of women parliamentarians of the region, gathering all women of the parliaments of Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo and Rwanda as special guest.

The network statutes integrate key statements and documents such as the "Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa", Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Beijing action plan, the UN Resolution 1325, and the Millennium Development Goals.

Objective

The RFPAC aims to contribute to the political, economic and social promotion of Central African women, to the construction of a real gender balanced democracy, to peace keeping and the promotion of an impartial justice, through strengthening of parliamentary women and supporting them in their legislative, executive oversight, and constituent's representation functions, and in representing the voice of women in their home countries. RFPAC also contributes to peace preservation and stability of the region, as women parliamentarians come together during regional activities, each representing people from the different Central African countries, using of parliamentary diplomacy mechanism and by conveying and exchanging the message to and from their countries.

Through supporting RFPAC, AWEPA aims to build the capacity of women parliamentarians in the Central African region, and consequently improve the position of all women in the region. AWEPA facilitates meetings of the Network, enabling women parliamentarians to exchange experiences and best practices on support to women candidates in elections, support for the economic position of women, and promotion of women's access to medical care, among other issues.

Results

- Workshops engaged and empowered women parliamentarians, strengthening their role within their national parliaments
- Women conducted a close follow up investigation of pre-election processes based on the DRC passed process,

which meant that the capacity of Women Representatives is reinforced in ways of strengthening women candidates in the electoral processes for all countries in electoral process for 2010 and after.

- Women parliamentarians drafted a strategic plan on sexual and reproductive health (2009-2012) for the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in August 2008, which was then transformed into a resolution in January 2009.
- Women parliamentarians drafted an action plan with concrete action to implement regional and national strategies of accountability towards future generations regarding socio-economic-environmental problems.
- Women parliamentarians succeeded in the incorporation of gender aspects in AWEPA International Conferences resolutions and action plans.

Activity

RFPAC Regional Seminar on Gender, Cape Town, South Africa, 29 Sept 2009

This is a bi-annual regional meeting gathered delegations from nine member countries to examine the state of central African women's leadership and empowerment in order to determinate the main priorities, actions to be undertaken, urgent tools to be set up and all other means to support actions on gender issues. The documents resulting from the meeting of AWEPA Women Roundtable of Dar Es Salaam, were then discussed in preparation for a meeting the following day, giving female parliamentarians the opportunity to confront the issues they are facing and share observations. The last two sessions of the conference aimed at,

after seven years of operation, making an assessment of the functioning of the RFPAC in order to draw conclusions for the future, and to consolidate the Network's Strategic Action.

Support to the Stability Pact in the Great Lakes Region

Donors

Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) The Netherlands (TMF)

Background

The signing, ratification and implementation of The Pact on Stability, Security and Development is the end goal of the Great Lakes peace process. The 8th ratification out of the 11 core member States has been deposited with the result that the Pact is now in force.

The entry into force of the Pact was the starting point of a process of peace, stability and reconstruction in the Great Lakes region and AWEPA has been asked to facilitate the Forum of Parliaments of Member Countries of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (the "Forum of Parliaments"), together with the Executive Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes region (the "Executive Secretariat"). Continued support has been requested by AWEPA's Parliamentary interlocutors to; (a) ensure that Parliaments are informed and are part of the process; (b) to support the Parliamentary ratification of the Stability Pact; and (c) to support

the vital Parliamentary oversight of the implementation of the Stability Pact.

In February 2007 the first parliamentary conference took place in Kinshasa, DRC, with the objective of promoting the role that parliaments could play in the regional framework. In conformity with the decisions taken at the second regional parliamentary conference of Bujumbura, March 2008, a follow-up Committee, composed of one parliamentarian from each ICGLR Member-State, was established with a view to preparing the governing documents for a Forum of Parliaments. These meetings were held in full cooperation with the Executive Secretariat of the IC/GLR as represented by Ambassador Liberata Mulamula.

The first meeting of the follow-up Committee was held in Kinshasa, in mid-September 2008. A second meeting took place in Kigali, on 2 December 2008 in preparation for the Conference of Parliaments of the ICGLR Member-States, organised on 3 to 4 December 2008. On this occasion, the document prepared in Kinshasa, and finalised in Kigali, was signed by the Speakers of Parliaments in attendance or their authorized representatives.

Objectives

To assist the Forum to develop the capacity to ensure the involvement of National Parliaments in the evaluation and the oversight and implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region.

Results

The number of signatures required to enable the establishment of the Forum has been attained, and as a consequence, this new framework for discussions of the Parliaments of the ICGLR Member-States has been created. Today, the Forum is a reality. It is useful to underscore that direct institutional links exist between national parliaments and the new Forum, insofar as each Parliament will designate 6 delegates, including the Speakers of the different Parliaments, who are a part of the structure of the Forum.

Upon request of the Forum of Parliaments, AWEPA has pledged to support this ambitious parliamentary cooperation process. Furthermore, AWEPA congratulates the Parliaments of the region for the outstanding results reached, which are principally attributable to their appropriation of the process, in order to ensure peace building and the reinforcement of democratic practices through the Forum's member States. As a matter of fact, as stipulated in Article 2 of the Inter-parliamentary Accord establishing the Forum, this is a completely new framework for dialogue and experience sharing and also a great instrument for peace insofar as it allows parliamentary diplomacy and contributes to preventing potential future conflicts as well as to contributing towards the resolution of present conflicts. The Forum also ensures that permanent contacts are maintained between the Parliaments of the region.

Gender



Background

AWEPA already focuses on gender mainstreaming in parliaments and the participation and empowerment of women through:

- workshops on the empowerment of women parliamentarians and gender mainstreaming;
- support of national and regional women's caucuses and gender networks;
- support for the active participation of national and regional women's caucuses and gender networks in conferences;
- ensuring gender-balanced delegations to AWEPA conferences

AWEPA's different programme areas also accord specific attention to gender imbalances.

Whilst continuing these activities, in 2009 AWEPA took this one step further. Whereas it is a recognized universal fact that eliminating gender inequality and achieving women's empowerment are paramount to achieving all of the MDG's, progress with the MDG implementation is slowest in those areas that depend most heavily on

improving the status of women and girls. Consequently at the mid-point towards the 2015 MDG deadline, progress in relation to gender, in many African countries remains behind schedule. In 2009 AWEPA aimed to dialogue with African women parliamentarians to address issues facing women on the continent which African leadership should be addressing with regard to gender relations. The objective of these forums would enable AWEPA to produce a gender programme which will be owned both in terms of process and content by the stakeholders.

Activities

Gender Round Table, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

In June a Gender Round Table was held in Dar-es-Salaam bringing together 14 women parliamentarians representing different parliamentary bodies from across Africa. The meeting discussed and endorsed AWEPA's Concept Note, and recommended six concrete measures/actions that can be taken to improve the situation of women parliamentarians and women as a whole in Africa.

Mission of African Parliamentarians to Ignite Continental Action Towards Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In August Ethiopian members of the Pan African Parliament Women's Caucus supported by AWEPA, organised a mission of Parliamentarians from Ethiopia and seven African Countries. The aim of the mission was to set in motion a coordinated continental effort, in collaboration with the African Union, to shake off the deeply embedded Harmful Traditional Practice

of Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting (FGM/C).

The concrete outcome of the Mission was a set of 10 specific recommendations for review and adoption by the Pan-African Parliament to ensure a more active role of African Parliamentarian as champions and agents of change for FGM/C Abandonment both nationally and continentally.

Gender Forum Cape Town, South Africa:

Following on from the Gender Round Table, in October 2009 AWEPA organised a Gender Forum in Cape Town with 35 African women parliamentarian participants. AWEPA gave an update on activities and projections since the Gender Round Table and asked for further feedback. The meeting narrowed the focus to three main focuses:

- Solidarity between European and African women MP's
- Strengthening the African women's caucuses, forums and institutions
- In order to deepen one theme for a longer period towards concrete measures the area of violence against women was chosen, specifically FGM/C

Taking these recommendations from our African partners the Gender Programme activities focussed on the ways and means needed to actualise them, with specific focus on developing a possible programme with the overall goal to assist in ending the practice of Female Genital Mutilation in Africa and Europe.

TMF: Fostering the Values of Democracy in the Great Lakes Region



Donor

Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (TMF)

Background

In 2009 the programme, 'Fostering the Values of Democracy in the Great Lakes Region' (TMF programme), funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which started in 2005, came to term. Through this programme AWEPA facilitated parliamentary dialogues, exchange of views and experiences amongst parliamentarians in Africa and with parliamentarians in Europe. This has enabled parliamentarians to gain in-depth understanding of socio economic development concerns and challenges and hence make constructive contributions to policy development processes.

The TMF programme consists of three main components:

- Africa: Annual Regional Seminars with a national follow-up workshop in the following year in the national parliaments of Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The thematic focus is on 4 themes:

- Ground Rules on Parliamentary Democracy, Poverty Reduction (PRSP), HIV/AIDS and Private Sector Development (PSD)
- TMF Capacity Building: Capacity building of the African offices and staff
- TMF Europe: strengthening internal European capacity, section building and strengthening contacts with European institutions

Objective

- Strengthen the support for and the understanding of the core values and functioning of parliamentary democracy as well as the values and genuine democratic processes underlying this system.
- Create a better mutual understanding of each other's position among national politicians and members of parliament from countries in the Great Lakes Region.
- Facilitate an intensified cooperation and exchange of experiences among politicians/members of parliament concerning the most important socio-economic problems in the region including poverty reduction, HIV/AIDS and private sector development.
- Promote platforms and meeting places for politicians from the countries in the Great Lakes Region in order to hold political dialogues and make progress towards solving the conflicts and other social and economic problems the region is encountering.
- Strengthen the capacity of AWEPA's African offices in the Great Lakes Region in light of the decentralisation of responsibilities and tasks from European to African offices.

- Inform and mobilise European parliamentarians on policy issues in African-European relations, development cooperation and democratisation in Africa.

Results

The program has contributed to significant progress in parliamentary democracy in the Great Lakes Region. Parliamentarians have increasingly become aware of their crucial role and mandates, including contribution to legislative policy and budgetary processes, oversight and representation. There is also notable improvement in democratic parliamentary processes and improved reach through media and television broadcasting of parliamentary and Committee proceedings.

At regional level, parliamentarians are increasingly identifying the potential and actual roles they play in the development of policies and legislation related to cross-cutting regional issues and concerns as evidenced through Climate Change and its implications to cross-boundary resources. Meanwhile European parliamentarians, including the parliamentarians in the new EU member states, are increasingly raising their awareness on development and good governance issues related to Africa. They are improving their response to these issues through highlighting them as critical agendas in policy decision making in Europe. During the programme period 2005-2009 in total 11 sections were strengthened and 13 sections were established or re-established. Besides during this period AWEPA extended its network in Europe with almost 700 new members joining AWEPA.

Parliaments have also identified the value of linking up with a cross section of actors such as research institutions, business representatives, the media and civil society organisations, including building functional linkages with the executive branch of government. This is impacting positively on efforts to increase representation and participation.

Internally the program has contributed to enhanced PCM systems, and staff have gained in-depth understanding of sectoral socio-economic and political policy linkages in efforts towards poverty reduction. AWEPA has worked to improve its process management systems. Among the innovations implemented is a shared document system, which is now available in the headquarters, Brussels and the national offices. The result is evident improvement in project documentation and retrieval systems and project management and planning processes. This is leading to better coordination between Amsterdam, Brussels and African offices, and also improving the catalyst functions of the national offices.

Activity

The Role of Parliamentarians in Private Sector Development and Climate Change Adaptation, Dar es Salaam 15-16 June 2009

The Role of Parliamentarians in Private Sector Development and Climate Change Adaptation Regional Conference, held on 15-16 June 2009 in Dar es Salaam, focused on enhancing the role of parliaments and parliamentarians in improving the business and investment environment in the Great Lakes Region. Over eighty participants including delegations representing the



Parliaments in the Great Lakes Region and private sector representatives participated. This conference was also in anticipation of the East Africa Common Market which stands to offer considerable opportunities that need to be fully understood by parliamentarians and the business community – in order to stimulate economic growth and reduce poverty in the region. The conference provided opportunities for parliamentarians to address the impact of climate change on private sector development (PSD) and agriculture developments with a view to propose policy and legislative action in support of adaptation, mitigation and food security initiatives.

The conference sought to support MDGs 1, 7 and 8 which respectively aim to ensure eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, environmental sustainability, and the creation of a global partnership for development, that is supportive to commercially viable business ideas that enhance growth, wealth and job creation. The Seminar objectives specifically aimed to:

- Initiate processes to formulate and harmonize national policies and legislation supportive of a conducive

- climate for business with the potential for providing incentives to enhance economic activity in the region
- Initiate a dialogue process on the impact of climate change on food security and potential joint efforts by private sector and parliaments to address the challenges of climate change and agriculture development
- Discuss gender concerns in economic activities, women's access to credit and poverty eradication
- Debate the impact of the current global financial crisis on private sector development and regional integration processes

Thirteen papers were presented during the conference and discussed in plenary to initiate a dialogue process on the impact of climate change on food security and to enhance economic activity in the region. Some of the proposed outcomes included: policy linkages, harmonised legislation and policies supportive of the new East Africa Common Market; climate change adaptation and agriculture development; increased incorporation of gender concerns in Private Sector Development(PSD) processes and enhanced access to credit among vulnerable women; enhanced economic activities and job creation as a result of a more conducive regional business environment; enhanced understanding of the effects of climate change in PSD and food security and improved engagement between parliamentarians and the private sector.



Bilateral African Programmes and Partners

Pan-African Parliament (PAP)



Donors

Belgium (Ministry of Foreign Affairs),
The Netherlands (Dutch Embassy Pretoria)

Background

The Pan-African Parliament, based in Midrand, South Africa, was formally inaugurated on 18 March 2004, to serve as a consultative body to the African Union Commission. National delegations, made up of five Parliamentarians each, represent the majority of African Union Member states.

The PAP provides a common platform for Parliamentarians, representing the African people, to participate in discussions and decision-making on problems and challenges facing the continent. The Parliament's committees strive to harmonise policies and laws across Africa. The ultimate aim of PAP is to become an institution with full legislative powers, with members elected by universal adult suffrage.

Objective

Since 2006, AWEPA has worked with PAP with the overarching aim of capacitating the Parliament to exercise its oversight and advisory powers. Through its institutional capacity building programme, AWEPA helps to strengthen Parliamentary staff capacity and Parliament's ability to communicate

with its diverse constituencies. AWEPA also works with the PAP Committees and Members to enhance their oversight capacity, to deepen Members' knowledge in specific policy areas and to promote principles of gender parity.

Results

- Staff have acquired professional competencies and clear knowledge of management processes
- Website is constantly updated and facilitates PAP's engagement with its members, other African inter-governmental institutions and the general public
- A draft code of conduct for staff was developed
- A draft code of ethics for Members was developed
- Newsletters were produced in six PAP official languages for the two sessions
- Members enriched their knowledge in key policy areas, including oversight and climate change
- PAP Women's Caucus focused on female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and Members of the Caucus undertook a successful fact finding mission to Ethiopia on the topic

Activities

Bureau Retreat, 19-23 January 2009

The Retreat was attended by the PAP Bureau, the Bureaux of Committees and senior staff. The main goal was to revisit the vision and mission of PAP contained in the strategic plan 2006-2010 and strengthening the working modalities towards their realization". The Retreat also provided the opportunity for a PAP mid-term review, so that PAP could undertake a

common analysis of the progress realized in the implementation of both the strategic objectives and difficulties encountered.

Participants developed an extensive draft action plan and recommended that the Parliament establish a working group to take the process further.

Seminar on Domestic Violence, 22 May 2009

The Women's Caucus highlighted the issue of domestic violence as a vital part of their programme. The aim of the seminar was to update members of the Caucus on the situation of violence against women in Africa; the existing legislation in selected countries and for the Caucus members to discuss the possibility of Harmonizing Laws against Domestic Violence in Africa. At the seminar, the participants reiterated their commitment to focusing on the FGM/C and the importance of the planned mission to Ethiopia.

Mission to Ethiopia on FGM/C, 25-29 August 2009

AWEPA and PAP in association with UNICEF Ethiopia organized a high level mission of Women Parliamentarians from 20 African countries. The mission came together to discuss ways in which members of African parliaments can successfully promote the abandonment of harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C. The meeting brought together several high-level Ethiopian members of Parliament including the Minister of Women's Affairs and the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament. Presentations were made by a number of UN agencies and NGOs on the current status of FGM/C in Africa, the

adverse health consequences and the best practices for abandonment. The mission participants also met with several local community members who were part of the community dialogue process and were actively championing the abandonment of FGM/C. Testimonials were heard from a range of individuals including those who had suffered from FGM/C and those who at one point in their lives performed the practise. The mission also agreed on a Draft Framework for the Booklet on “What Parliamentarians can do on HTPs with Focus on FGM/C in Africa”, presented to the PAP Women’s Caucus in October 2009 for further discussion and elaboration.

International Women’s Conference: 2009 Women’s Platform for Action in Africa: ‘Women Parliamentarians against Harmful Traditional Practices in Particular Female Genital Mutilation’, 5-6 October 2009

AWEPA supported this conference whose theme was an outcome of the mission to Ethiopia on FGM/C. The objectives of the conference were to explore the issue and make recommendations for submission to the Plenary of the PAP and finally to the Heads of State Summit. Numerous recommendations were made, including

- governments to put in place votes/ budgets for programs that work towards abandonment or eradication of FGM/C;
- a systematic approach and action plan at PAP and at country level to deal with FGM/C should be developed;
- men should be involved in interventions and strategies for the abandonment of FGM/C;
- there is need to work towards the transformation of governance and the

legislative regimes to eradicate practices and beliefs that discriminate against women;

- there is need for civil society, communities and professionals in all areas to take a stand against FGM/C and strive to transform attitudes that condone or normalize violence against women and children

Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment briefing, 19 October 2009

A briefing focusing on climate change organised for this Committee during the Committee Session. A presentation “Towards reducing the impacts of climate change on poverty in Africa” stimulated much discussion amongst the Members. The meeting recommended follow up sessions to provide Members with additional information, including with regard to the results of COP 15.

Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline presentation, 27 October 2009

The draft Code of Ethics for Members was presented to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline on 27 October 2009 for consideration. After discussion, the Committee requested that the Code be revised and resubmitted to them for consideration at a Committee meeting in 2010.

Transformation and Oversight workshop, 17-18 November 2009

A workshop on transformation and oversight was arranged to examine the oversight role of the Parliament within the structure of the African Union. This took place in preparation for the transformation of the

PAP from an advisory body to a legislative body. The workshop provided a platform for participants to share their perspectives on the transformation of the PAP into a legislative body; the practical parliamentary methodology and procedures to be applied by the PAP through its ten Committees in its relationship with all other AU organs; to discuss a draft parliamentary oversight and accountability framework for a legislative PAP; and finally the role of the PAP in Aid Effectiveness monitoring in Africa. The workshop recommendations included:

- The proposed operational framework including the contributions made by Members of the Parliament and experts be adopted
- The bureau examines the adopted operational framework and makes:
 - a) recommendations to the Organs of the AU recalling the powers and functions of the PAP stipulated in the Constitutive Act and the Protocol; and
 - b) recommendations to the Organs of the Union recalling the legal provisions which spell out their relationship with the PAP
- The bureau ensures that the structures of the PAP effectively implement their functions as stated in the protocol

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)



Donors

Sweden (SIDA), Norway (Norwegian Embassy Dar es Salaam), Ireland (Irish Aid)

Background

The East African Legislative Assembly is the legislative organ of the East African Community and plays a pivotal role in support of the implementation of the EAC development strategies. Established in November 2001, the EALA began as a fully new Assembly with many members having had no prior parliamentary experience. Its membership consists of a total of 52, of whom 45 are elected members (9 from each Partner State) and seven ex-officio members (the Ministers responsible for EAC Affairs from the Partner States, the Secretary General of the Community and the Counsel to the Community). The Second East Africa Legislative Assembly was inaugurated on the 5th June 2007. Out of the 45 elected Members and 7 ex-officio members, only six Members from the First Assembly were re-elected. This high turnover presented a challenge to ensure continuous capacity building of the Members if they are to consolidate the achievements of the First EALA, maintain a regional presence and engagement on legislative and development concerns in East Africa in order to fulfil their mandate in the EAC Integration agenda as specified under the EAC Treaty.

Objective

Linking with the EALA's (EAC) vision of a prosperous, competitive, secure and politically united East Africa, the programme's overall objective is to contribute to strengthening democracies in East Africa in order to reduce poverty and uphold the Human Rights of the citizens of the East African Community (EAC).

Since EALA's inauguration in 2001, AWEPA has been a major partner in supporting the parliament's development towards a modern, critical and effective regional parliamentary body. AWEPA aims to strengthen the capacity of EALA to effectively and efficiently carry out its functions of representation, law-making and oversight in all matters related to enhancing the integration of Partner States into the EAC and to furthering democratisation in the region.

Results

- EALA Members and staff increased their professional capacities through updating their knowledge and skills. Staff undertook professional studies, whilst Members engaged in short advanced management workshops.
- EALA engaged in consultations with citizens and civil society organisations.
- Through workshops, EALA Committees increased their capacity to carry out oversight of both the EAC and the Partner States. E.g. the Members of the Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources Committee, increased their capacity to execute their functions in harmonisation legislation and policy, in this case regarding Food Security.

- EALA improved its administrative capabilities through systematic documentation.
- Networking events and exchanges enhanced the capacity of EALA Members and staff to exchange information and policy ideas with their counterparts in the National Assemblies of partner states, other regional parliamentary assemblies and international partners.

Activities

Workshop for the Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources Committee, Kampala, Uganda 2-5 November 2009

Given the importance of food security in East Africa, especially in the light of climate change, the ATNR Committee initiated a process of evaluating the best way the EAC can ensure food security for its population. Despite food shortages, the region as a whole produces on average adequate food and the East African Common Market provides an excellent opportunity to ensure food security through a common strategy. The annual workshop for the ATNR Committee facilitated by the programme, therefore took place in the form of a Parliamentarians' Consultative Meeting on Food Security in the East African Region. The overall objective of the Meeting was to provide for a regional framework to govern food security in the region after collecting the views of various stakeholders from the Partner States with regard to their national policies on the subject. Specifically, the workshop aimed to achieve the following: create understanding on the situation of food security in the Partner States; gain a better understanding of issues and policies related to seed multiplication, irrigation, grain storage, genetically modified



organisms (GMOs), livestock development, food rights etc; explore gaps and opportunities in existing policies and laws on food production, services, distribution, food availability, trade and storage; (eventually) draft an EAC Food Security Bill. The workshop resulted in a report with recommendations and a resolution that will be brought before the house in 2010.

Workshop of the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution Committee, Nairobi, Kenya 21-23 September 2009

The EAC has conducted five pre-election and Election Day observation missions around the Partner States of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. The EAC delegation teams included 25 EALA Members as well as Secretariat staff, led by EALA Members. However, in all these election observations, EAC mission has not had a standard election observation manual to guide its teams on what to observe from the pre-election day, election day and post election day. The EALA, therefore, embarked upon developing a standard election observation manual for the EAC to serve as a point of reference work for future

EAC election observation missions in the Partner States. The Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution organised a workshop on the 'Development of an EAC Election Observation Standard Manual' to these ends. During the workshop, the participants considered the EAC draft standard election observation manual. Thanks to the outstanding commitment displayed by Committee Members who remained at the workshop until late hours, the objectives of the conference were achieved and a draft standard election observation manual has been produced and disseminated for widespread use by the EAC election observation missions in the future. The manual provides a list of election benchmarks, both international and regional. It also gives guidelines on election observation and monitoring in the region. It also sets principles and conditions for electoral systems, election management bodies, voter registration, the registration of political parties, the nomination process and the campaign process. The manual will be brought before the House in the first plenary of 2010.



National Programmes

Parliament of the Republic of Burundi



Donors

The Kingdom of Belgium; the Kingdom of the Netherlands (TMF)

Partners

The Parliament of the Republic of Burundi
The United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB)

Background

Burundi has been an independent state since 1 July 1962. Following a turbulent period politically, economically and socially, which culminated in civil war in 1994, a historic peace agreement was signed in Arusha, Tanzania, on 28 August 2000 under the aegis of former South African President Nelson Mandela. This agreement generated so much hope that to this day it remains the basis for consensus which ultimately reunited all of Burundi's formerly warring factions.

AWEPA monitored the process of transition that immediately followed the Arusha Agreement and served as one of the independent observers of the legislative election in July 2005. AWEPA's involvement, however, dates back to 1996 when the organisation supported the Burundian parliament in the peace process.

The transfer of political power that followed Burundi's communal, legislative and presidential elections placed it at the top of

the list of African states to have successfully undertaken the process of transition, enabling it to entertain the prospect of lasting change.

Objectives

The programme of collaboration between AWEPA and the Parliament of Burundi (National Assembly and Senate) was implemented against the background of a delicate political situation in 2009. Talks with the Palipehutu-National Liberation Front, which was the last remaining armed group and had remained active after the peace agreement was signed at Arusha, had only just concluded with the signing of a peace agreement and resulted in a firm commitment from this armed group that its members would join the regular army and that the group itself would be transformed into a political movement without any ethnic connotations.

A major political crisis continued from 2007 into 2008, but several significant developments facilitated a return to normality and a peaceful environment in which to prepare for the general election to be held between May and September 2010. AWEPA focussed its activities on preparations for this important ballot which aims to consolidate democracy in Burundi. To this end, various consultation missions were organised with a view to raising awareness among political partners and representatives from the international community.

The AWEPA programme consisted in particular of activities that would promote peace and reconciliation in anticipation of the 2010 elections. To this end, one of the

main activities centred around the book by Professor Luc Huyse entitled *Tout passe sauf le passé* (Everything passes except the past), which was edited and printed with the support of AWEPA. The number of people attending AWEPA's seminars gives an indication of the willingness to achieve reconciliation. Apart from this effort, conventional activities were also organised focussing on budgetary controls, decentralisation and training for members of the government.



Results

- Two parliamentary activities were organised in partnership with UNICEF and in collaboration with elected representatives at communal and provincial level. The aim of these activities was to assess the situation of orphans and at-risk children and to garner support from representatives for the idea of establishing a Children's Forum. Ultimately, these efforts to raise awareness initially resulted in increased participation from civil society, leading to the establishment of a Children's Forum in which the children can express themselves in a formal democratic environment.

- After a major regional seminar in Nairobi, Kenya, from 23 to 25 May 2008, AWEPA and the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB) organised a follow-up workshop at which the Parliament of Burundi was a participant. The workshop was extremely successful and led to a commitment from parliamentarians to work with the media, both to promote democracy and good governance and to publicise their work in order to increase understanding and a feeling of involvement among grassroots supporters.

Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



Donors

The Kingdom of Belgium; the Kingdom of the Netherlands (TMF)

Partners

The Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC);

Background

The DRC is Sub-Saharan Africa's main French-speaking country. Independence in 1960 was followed by a prolonged period of instability, punctuated by major outbreaks of fighting. A historic peace agreement was eventually concluded, however, which introduced power sharing between the government, the rebel groups, the political opposition and civil society. A period of transition then followed, which

ended successfully in 2006 when the first democratic elections in 40 years were held. The year 2011 will provide a challenge when the next general election is held with the aim of consolidating democracy.

AWEPA first started work in the DRC with the Legislative Constituent Assembly-Transitional Parliament (ACL-PT). AWEPA's involvement has since mainly consisted of supporting the National Parliament and enhancing the skills of the members of that institution. According to seasoned observers of Congolese politics, at both the national and international levels, Parliament is the institution that functioned best in 2008. In spite of a temporary crisis that lasted from the end of 2008 into the early part of 2009, Parliament resumed its work and several laws were passed and promulgated in 2009.

The Congolese Parliament is the symbol of democracy as it is the place where the young Congolese democracy robustly exercises not only its legislative prerogatives, but also its authority to control the actions of government.

In 2006, AWEPA organised missions to observe the legislative and presidential elections and it is now preparing to organise a new mission in 2011.

Objectives

The main objective of AWEPA's activities in the DRC is to strengthen the capacities of the two-chamber Parliament, which comprises a Lower House (National Assembly) and an Upper House (Senate). In 2009, AWEPA's activities in the DRC generally focussed on strengthening

legislative skills, such as how to carry out the various budgetary tasks. However, AWEPA also provided support for female parliamentarians with a view to promoting the number of women in leadership positions which is dangerously low in the DRC, partly because of the underrepresentation of women in the national Parliament. AWEPA also worked with the Senate to organise activities involving the provincial assemblies. In addition to exchanges between European parliamentarians and provincial deputies, these activities also comprise technical working group meetings with the members of the provincial assembly administrations.

Activities were organised with a view to raising the awareness of parliamentarians about their role in formulating sound legislation in a whole range of areas. The activities focussed on legislation aimed at eradicating HIV/AIDS, protecting orphans and at-risk children (OVC) and developing the private sector.

Results

- Following the Regional Conference on HIV/AIDS and OVC, which AWEPA organised in Nairobi in 2007, the Parliament of the DRC wanted to jointly organise a follow-up and restitution workshop with AWEPA. This workshop mobilised a majority of parliamentarians to such an extent that a law to protect children's rights was passed in plenary session and has since been submitted to the President of the DRC for promulgation.
- Given the terrible consequences of instability (lack of security, murder and rape) in the east of the DRC in particular,

AWEPA organised a seminar about the role of the parliamentarians in the fight against crime with impunity and against the further spread of HIV/AIDS. The seminar was a great success, the main conclusion being that prevailing legislation should be amended. The law protecting the rights of people infected with HIV/AIDS was finally passed and promulgated in July 2008.

- AWEPA helped to organise the first meeting of the eleven Parliaments of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) from 26 to 28 February 2007. A further meeting was held in Bujumbura on 3 and 4 March 2008. The Parliament of the DRC sent a delegation of parliamentarians from all political persuasions. Given its particular involvement in this regional process, the Parliament of the DRC asked AWEPA to organise a series of restitution workshops with the aim of informing and raising the awareness of as many elected representatives as possible in order to garner their support for this regional movement. Organising the restitution workshops marshalled the support of the majority of the parliamentarians who soon voted to ratify the Pact on Security, Stability and Development. The Congolese parliamentarians subsequently addressed the problems of regional security and adopted various resolutions aimed at easing regional tensions.

Parliament of Kenya



Donors

The Netherlands (DGIS)

Background

After independence in 1963 the country has had a fragile democratic foundation evolving from a one party to a multi party democratic system in 2002. However the Kenyan society has coped with high unemployment and poverty, with dire implications to the well being of vulnerable groups. The current constitutional change debates provide potential opportunities for progressive reforms. This will provide the much needed political directions for the coalition government which faces existing and new challenges as a result of the election violence of December 2007. The Kenyan Parliament plays a key role in the reconciliation process, due to the necessary constitutional amendments that the parliament must pass.

Objective

AWEPA's main objective in Kenya is aimed to support for parliamentary democracy through institutional support for parliament and capacity building of parliamentarians. In Kenya AWEPA aims at building the capacity of parliamentarians, parliamentary committees and parliamentary staff. The objective is to enable parliamentarians and parliamentary committees execute their mandates more effectively. In 2009 AWEPA integrated into its activities new

strategic focal points, related to Agricultural development and Climate Change thus working closely with the Parliamentary committees on Agriculture Livestock and Cooperatives and the Committee on Lands and Natural Resources. AWEPA is also working to support the challenges the Kenyan Parliament faces in working with the new coalition government.

Results

Through training workshops and seminars, AWEPA has contributed to building the capacity of the parliamentary committees on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives and the committee on Lands and Natural Resources. Specifically the two committees improved their functions in the following areas;

- Through workshops the two committees were facilitated to develop strategic plans to guide their work in the next three years when both committees come to term
- The Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives improved its oversight role and increased awareness on Climate Change and Food Security issues. As a result, the Committee is planning to reform a number of agricultural sub sectors starting with the sugar sector so as to improve production, economic returns to farmers, food security and Climate change response.
- Through public hearings the committee on Agriculture has improved public representation in agricultural policy and legislative reform efforts
- Parliamentarians gained in-depth understanding of Climate Change issues and Both committees were represented in the Conference of Parties 15 in Copenhagen

- There is enhanced parliamentary engagement with the Private Sector
- The Parliamentary Health Committee has successfully facilitated the establishment of a National Social Protection Policy and Strategy on HIV/AIDS and OVCs and enhanced its oversight role.
- The two committees have improved and enhanced Parliamentary engagement with Civil Society through seminars and forums that AWEPA organised.

Parliament of Mozambique



Donors

ADA, DANIDA, Finnish Embassy, IPAD (Portugal), Royal Norwegian Embassy, SIDA, UNICEF.

Background

The year 2009 had a special significance for Mozambique in the political context because three elections took place on 28 October: the presidential, legislative and for the first time the provincial assemblies. With the approval of provincial assembly elections, the country reinforced the participative democracy of the communities at local level. Because the parliament was in its last year of the mandate, AWEPA put it focus on the newly elected municipalities (elected in 2008).

In 2008 the third Local Government elections took place 43 municipalities. In line with the gradual process of

decentralization and transforming villages into municipalities, the National Assembly approved the creation of 10 new municipalities added to the previous 33 municipalities; meaning that one extra municipality was created in each province. The results of these elections showed a huge victory for Frelimo. Four municipalities that were in the hands of Renamo since the previous elections of 2003 were won back by Frelimo: Marromeu, Ilha de Mozambique, Angoche and Nacala Porto Municipality. In Beira the previous Mayor Daviz Simango, a former Renamo member who was dismissed from his party, won as an independent candidate. Nevertheless, Frelimo has in Beira the majority in the Municipal Assembly.

The results of these elections were officially announced by the Constitutional Council on 27 December 2009. The CC strongly criticised illegal actions by the National Electoral Commission (CNE). This council said that it is necessary to increase the level of confidence and credibility in the electoral administering organs. It called for a complete review of the election laws and the creation of the simplified and rationalised "election code". The Constitutional Council added that the electoral organs (CNE and STAE) must do more to immediately publicise decisions and notify those directly affected. They must better communicate and dialogue with the political parties. But it concluded that various irregularities registered did not influence the results of the elections.

After the inauguration of the President of the Republic, Armando Guebuza nominated the new members of the executive and

the provincial governors. Among several recommendations, Armando Guebuza demonstrated how concerned he is about the climate change in the world and said that climate changes have already affected Mozambique. During the swearing of the 11 provincial governors into office, he said that "we cannot just wait for a world agreement before we act". Guebuza alerted that among the challenges they would face are the natural disasters to which Mozambique is exposed, such as droughts, floods and cyclones, which are likely to occur with greater frequency, due to the effects of global warming.

He said that governors must be prepared to minimize the effects of this climate change on the communities by undertaking a series of programmes including the resettlement of people from flood-prone areas to higher ground, the drive to ensure that each school student plants at least one tree per year, and the programme to ensure community forests for each village.

Besides the trainings provided to parliamentary staff, in coordination with UNICEF, under the Local Government programme, the focus was to introduce the newly elected members in the previous local government elections to the functioning of the Municipality and the coordination among local elected organs and local state organs. In coordination with UNICEF regarding to Child's Right Law, seminars for dissemination of this law took place in all Municipalities of Tete and Sofala Provinces.

In addition, under Aid Effectiveness a regional programme a round table

discussion were held in Beira, involving all municipalities of the Sofala province in which participated elected bodies (members of the Municipal Assembly, Parliament and Municipal Council) Civil Society Organizations (CSO), including community leaders, municipal administrators (*vereadores*) and traditional chiefs.

Objective

Strengthen local elected Authorities' knowledge and understanding of the decentralization process and the underlying legal framework and Promote interaction between the elected local authorities and the electorate and civil society.

Results

Child Rights for were established in two provinces composed by local government, civil society and central government institutions represented in the provinces. The fora involves 7 municipalities.

Activity

Seven provincial seminars took place from June to November 2009, involving approximately 600 elected people from 22 municipalities. As a result the members learnt and discussed the municipal legislation in general and how to transform the electoral manifest into a concrete programme. They learnt about planning and budgeting according to the reality of each municipality. They also learnt how to deal with the "Pacote Autárquico" in order to collect money at local level with the objective to solve local problems and to involve people in the meetings of municipal assembly session. A good discussion was held on the functioning

and the relationship between the municipal organs and "bancadas". Further, the different responsibilities and tasks for municipal organs and local state organs were clarified.

As part of the child rights programme with UNICEF, workshops were organised in April in the new municipalities of Gorongosa, Marromeu and Ulónguè. The main focus of these workshops was to disseminate the newly approved bills on children's rights in Mozambique and to promote dialogue among Local Elected Authorities, civil society and children. The participants committed themselves to share the knowledge gained during the seminar within their local communities.

Parliament of the Republic of Rwanda



Donors

The Kingdom of Belgium; the Kingdom of the Netherlands (TMF); UNICEF

Background

Rwanda experienced serious political problems fanned by interethnic rivalry from the moment the country became independent in 1961. The culmination of these serious interethnic tensions was without doubt the genocide perpetrated against the Tutsis in 1994, the atrocities of which resulted in a new political order. AWEPA's programme in Rwanda has focussed since 1996 on the

country's process of reconciliation and reconstruction, stressing the role parliamentarians can play in that regard. The work carried out in 2009 concentrated on enhancing the skills of parliamentarians in terms of their ability to legislate and identify their role in solving national problems, on-site visits as part of the decentralisation process, control of government actions and how to best represent the people.

How the Parliament communicates as well as support for the parliamentary forums were issues that were also addressed.

Objectives

In general terms, AWEPA's objectives in its partnership with the Parliament of Rwanda are to support the Parliament's tripartite mission of legislating, controlling the actions of government and representing the people.

As regards legislation, AWEPA provided support in the final stages of the drafting of the law on children's rights, which has now been submitted to Parliament for a vote, as well as in respect of the law governing private security firms which is currently in the very early stages of development.

National seminars were organised on the fight against HIV/AIDS, the elections and parliamentary democracy as part of efforts to strengthen the skills of the parliamentarians.

Visits were organised throughout the country to address the themes of representing the people and controlling government action. These visits were for



the benefit of the various committees of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies to assess the partnership between the public and private sectors, to address the issue of human rights (visits to prisons and solitary confinement units) and to consider security-related issues (visits to private security firms).

A Management and Strategic Leadership group was formed from the Management Committees of the two houses of Parliament to strengthen the skills of the parliamentary staff.

AWEPA financed activities carried out to relaunch radio and television broadcasts from Parliament as part of improvements to communications regarding parliamentary activities.

As part of support for parliamentary networks and forums, AWEPA supported the organisation of activities by the General Assembly of the Amani Forum, in particular when the Amani Forum organised the seminar on peace in the Great Lakes Region. AWEPA supported the organisation of the conference on the fight against corruption

by African Parliamentarians' Network Against Corruption (APNAC) Rwanda. AWEPA also supported the visits by the members of the Forum of Women Rwandan Parliamentarians throughout the country to strengthen collaboration between women parliamentarians and women working in local, non-governmental organisations.

Results

- Following AWEPA's involvement, a law protecting the rights of children was finalised. This law is currently before Parliament for a vote. An initial draft of a law regulating private security firms has also been drawn up.
- The national seminars on a range of different themes increased the knowledge of the parliamentarians and resulted in the drafting by Parliament of a national plan to combat the spread of HIV. A parliamentary diplomacy plan is also being drafted.
- The visits organised to increase the involvement of parliamentarians in the decentralisation process have borne fruit. There has been an increase, for example, in the number of Ministers who have appeared before Parliament to explain problematic situations, especially as regards the partnership between the public and private sectors.
- The radio and television broadcasts about the activities of Parliament have been relaunched and can be heard/seen every Saturday from 11:05 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. on National Radio and from 9:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Rwandan Television.
- AWEPA organised activities bringing together the female members of the Chamber of Deputies and the female members of the Senate in a forum of

female parliamentarians, which has helped to strengthen collaboration between these women and the women working in local, non-governmental organisations.

- The Forums of Rwandan Parliamentarians have been strengthened.

Somalia

Donors

European Commission, The Netherlands

Background

AWEPA has, with European Commission support, and later with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, been actively supporting legislative institutions in Somalia since 2004.

Objective

The overall objective of this European Commission and Netherlands financed project is to contribute towards democratic development of a modern state, which embodies the principles of good governance, effective representation, respect for human rights, accountability and transparency. This is done through supporting the capacity and development of Somali Legislative Institutions to perform their functions. Besides the traditional functions of representing constituents, debating, amending and passing legislation, and exercising oversight over executive actions, in the Somali context, an additional function can be added; to reconcile opposing parties.

A recent focus is to reinforce the capacities of the Transitional Federal Parliament to play its role in the development of a new constitution.

Results

Specifically, attention is given to develop the capacity of the Legislative Institutions, their office holders, Committees, Members and staff, in order that they may effectively respond to challenges faced in carrying out their legislative, representative, oversight, and reconciliation functions and to be better able to respond to the many challenges they face in addressing often difficult situations.

Parliament of Uganda



Donors

Belgium (Ministry of Foreign); Deepening Democracy Programme (DDP); The Netherlands (DGIS)

Background

The current Parliament of Uganda was inaugurated in May 2006. It is the third democratically elected Parliament since 1966, when the independence Constitution was abrogated and the independence Parliament dissolved.

The Parliament of Uganda and AWEPA first signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2001, which was renewed in 2005. The project purpose of AWEPA's Parliamentary



Support Programme 2009-2011 is an improved performance of the Ugandan Parliament in its functions of oversight, representation and legislation.

Objective

- AWEPA's Parliamentary Support Programme focussed on the following specialised areas in 2009:
- Staff training to enhance parliamentary staff capacities in research methods, monitoring and evaluation, information management and documentation and project planning and management;
- Facilitate policy and legislative workshops for Caucuses, such as UWOPA and Committees. These workshops mainly focused on pending legislations such as the draft Domestic Violence Bill (DVB), Sexual Offences Bill, Trafficking in Persons Bill, Domestic Relations Bill, and the HIV/AIDS Bill 2007;

- Support to Parliament on issues related to the fight against corruption, global warming and climate change, poverty reduction and maternal health.

Results

The main emphasis of the programme in 2009 was put on the gender legislative priorities that were developed at the beginning of the eighth parliament. As a result, some key legislation has been passed and others tabled. The passed legislation includes: the Trafficking Persons Bill (passed on 11 April); Domestic Violence Act (passed on the 11 November 2009) and the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Bill (passed on 10 December 2009 and signed by the President in April 2010).

The long awaited Marriage and Divorce Bill (formerly Domestic Relations Bill) was also tabled for the first reading on the

floor of Parliament on 22 December. The implementation of AWEPA's consultative policy legislative workshops contributed to the passing of the above-mentioned key legislation.

In addition to the gender legislation the AWEPA programme in 2009 also focused on staff training for specific departments. An example of a result, after having organized a staff training on legislative drafting, is the production of a staff manual in legislative drafting for the Library and Research Department.

Activity

Regional Parliamentary Conference for the Great Lakes Region 1-2 December 2009: "Consolidating political will for child well-being":

In order to keep the focus on parliamentary action on children and their well-being, and to keep the momentum after the five-year campaign, AWEPA organised a Regional Parliamentary Conference for the Great Lakes Region: "Consolidating Political Will for Child Well-being". This was done together with UNICEF, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the Ugandan Parliament. This regional conference was attended by more than a hundred participants, including Members from six African Parliaments from the Great Lakes Region and EALA, as well as

European Parliamentarians, development partners, members of civil society and international organisations, experts, and representatives from media and AWEPA.

The conference provided an important follow up to the Regional Parliamentary Conference for the Great Lakes Region: "Towards an AIDS-Free Generation", which took place in Kampala on 23 until 25 October 2008. The parliamentarians shared with their colleagues in the region what they have done in each country since the conference of October 2008. During the working group session the current National Parliamentary Plans of Action (NPPA) for OVC were discussed and reviewed and the updated NPPA for OVC was presented in the plenary. In addition, the conference sought to further define parliamentary action towards a more child-friendly policy. The participants were informed on the current situation of child well-being in Africa by launching the report "The African Report on Child Well-being: How child-friendly are African governments?" and on the situation of violence against the girl child, focusing on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). As a result of the conference and other related events which AWEPA supported in Uganda, the Parliament of Uganda passed the Female Genital Mutilation Bill a few weeks after the conference. It was signed by the President of Uganda in April 2010.



Sub-National Programmes

The Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA) and the Ten State Assemblies of Southern Sudan



Donors

European Commission (Delegation Khartoum), Ireland (Irish Aid), Belgium (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Norway, The Netherlands

Background

Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was signed in 2005, ending two decades of war between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). The CPA shares wealth and power between the centre, a newly autonomous South, and Sudan's other vast, diverse and impoverished peripheries.

The Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly is the legislative arm of the Government of Southern Sudan, which was established as a result of the CPA. AWEPA and the SSLA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in August 2006 in Juba, the capital of South Sudan; and agreed to jointly develop and implement a parliamentary capacity building programme for the SSLA, which was later on extended to include the ten State Assemblies of Southern Sudan.

Achieving peace and improving democracy and governance in Sudan constitute the most important challenge. The completion of this process can make it possible for

poverty to be alleviated in Sudan, for human rights to be steadily improved, and for Sudan as a country to move towards economic development. The legislative bodies in Sudan obviously have a critical role to play in this political constellation in terms of enacting relevant legislation, government oversight and representation of the people of Sudan. The SSLA and the ten State Assemblies in South Sudan face huge challenges being completely new parliamentary institutions operating in a post-conflict environment where the political forces have to implement a complex peace agreement, and enhance a transition to democracy and good governance.

Objective

This Action, implemented by AWEPA in close cooperation with the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly and the State Assemblies of Southern Sudan serves the objective of improving the capacity of legislative bodies in Sudan to respond to the challenges they currently face, and will face even more when elections have taken place, in the discharge of their legislative, oversight and representative functions. The Programme provides support through a mix of activities: workshops, trainings technical consultancies, study visits, attachments to parliaments, participation in (regional) parliamentary conferences, provision of technical equipment (computers, furniture, etc), and publications (parliamentary handbooks, etc).

Activities

Study Visit of SSLA Women's Forum to the Rwandan Parliament, Kigali, 30 November to 6 December 2008

AWEPA capacity building programme for SSLA facilitated a one (1) week study visit of the Women Members of Parliament from the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly under the umbrella of SSLA Women's Forum to the Parliament of Rwanda in December 2008. The five (5) member delegation of the Women's Forum of the SSLA headed by the Chairperson, made a study visit to Rwanda with an intention of sharing experiences between Women MPs not only on matters concerning women empowerment but also means and ways of increasing the influence of Women Legislators on laws passed by the Assembly. The result of the visit was a whole set of recommendations to enable the women MPs to pursue legislation favourable to the women and the girl child.

As a result a draft Bill for the establishment of the Women's Council has been presented to the Committee on Legislation and Legal Affairs for scrutiny. In regard to this bill AWEPA facilitated the consultation between the Members of the Committee and their constituents about the provisions in the draft law. In order to ensure knowledge sharing and transfer, a workshop was organized in Juba – South Sudan involving other Women MPs who had not been part of the delegation. The intervention resulted in the eventual launch of the Women's Forum constitution as a regulatory instrument for the Forum.

Provision of Transcribing Machines and Training in the Use and Maintenance of the Transcribers, Juba, 19-31 January, 2009

AWEPA purchased and supplied five (5) transcribing machines to the Department of Hansard in SSLA. This resulted in

faster and easy production of the verbatim report of the Parliamentary proceedings (Hansard report). The Hansard report is the official report of proceedings of the house and therefore provides evidence of the decisions of the Assembly. It is important that this report is produced in a timely manner and with utmost accuracy. Senior Staff of the Department of Hansard from the Parliament of Uganda conducted training in the Use and maintenance of these machines for seven (7) staff of SSLA from January 19 to 31. This has resulted in an improved speed and efficiency in the production of the Parliamentary Hansard; for instance the time has reduced to a final copy of the mansard produced within three days from the date of sitting of the Parliament. The target is to have the report produced within twenty-four hours of the sitting of the Assembly.

Study visit of the Subcommittee of Youth and Sport to the Ugandan Parliament, Kampala, 1 - 7 March, 2009

A six (6) member delegation of the Committee on Gender (Sub-committee of Youth and Sports) of the SSLA made a 6 days study visit to the Ugandan Parliament to share experiences on youth related issues. They met with their counterparts in Uganda as well as with the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development. The delegation also visited the National Youth Council Secretariat and had a meeting with the National Youth Council Executive. The delegation went as well on an excursion tour to youth projects in Uganda. The visit has led to the presentation of a draft bill to Parliament on the establishment of a Youth Councils in South Sudan. The law would improve on

the participation of Youth in the politics of South Sudan as well as become a launch pad for youth empowerment programmes.

Management Skills Improvement training for Senior Managers, Juba, 6 - 10 July, 2009

Training on Management Skills Improvement for Senior Managers, opened by the Rt Honorable Speaker of the SSLA, was conducted. The participants were drawn from the Deputy Clerks and all Heads of Department and Division of the Assembly. In total they were forty (40). The purpose of the training was to provide the participants with effective leadership skills so as to give direction to subordinate staff. The participants were taken through principles, functions and concepts of management practice such as Managing Conflicts, Time Management, Motivation, Delegation and Accountability, Supervision, and Ethics and Integrity in the public offices and personal development, among others. This training enabled the participants to gain modern management and leadership skills necessary to drive them and their subordinates in the execution of their responsibilities.

Human Resource Management Information System/Database (HRMIS), Juba, 23 - 26 February, 2009

A consultant in Information Technology (IT) was contracted by AWEPA to design, supply and installs a Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS)/ Database software for the Human Resources Department. The Software programme was procured and installed in the SSLA Central Server and the User Site in the HR Department. It has resulted in improved record keeping and

ease of generation of Human Resource Reports. The programme has also facilitated integration of HR activities and quick response to staffing issues by the Human Resource Department.

A specialised training programme for the staff in the Human Resources and ICT Departments was conducted to enable conversion and complete implementation of the system. This user training included nine participants i.e six (6) from the Human Resource Department and three (3) from ICT Department. Reports such as leave rosters, pay schedules, trainings, retirement dates, staffing status etc are some of the reports generated by the HRMIS system.

Development of Job Descriptions for all the Posts in SSLA, Juba, 16 - 22 November 2009

Following the production of the final draft rationalized staff structure for the SSLA; AWEPA commenced the process of developing Job Descriptions for all the posts in the Assembly. The purpose of the Job Descriptions is to clarify the duties and responsibilities of the Job-holders, determine person specifications, and determine required experience for persons to hold posts and the skills and abilities necessary to perform the tasks in the posts. The job descriptions also clarify the supervisory and reporting lines in the Assembly.

The process entailed three days of sensitization on the meaning, structure and purpose of job descriptions and person's specifications. Another two days of focus group discussion with members of staff in their respective departments. Data was collected from the 200 participants using

a questionnaire designed for this purpose. The final two days were for data analysis and drafting of the report. Consultants in Management Services and Organisational Development from the Uganda Public Service facilitated this activity.

The South Africa Provincial Legislatures (SAPL) Support Programme



Donors

Austria (ADA), Belgium (Flanders)

Background

South Africa's nine Provincial Legislatures were established through the interim constitution during the peaceful democratic transition of 1994. As these Legislatures had no institutional predecessor, they face a process of constant development whilst under pressure to fulfil their constitutional mandate. AWEPA has been supporting the SAPL's since 1995 through a partnership with the Speakers' Forum and its Human Resources Development (HRD) Committee, which played a vital role in guiding the programme towards improving the Legislatures' performance.

The year 2009 was a year of national and provincial elections, which were declared free and fair. The elections brought about 39% new Members in the nine provincial legislatures, with eight legislatures having 20 %-57% new Members and Northern Cape having a total of about 75% new Members. For these Members to be

effective, ongoing support for capacity building is required.

Objective

The purpose of the programme is to enable all nine Provincial Legislatures to accomplish their legislative duties, particularly in carrying out their government oversight responsibilities and representing the people who elected them.

Results

Some of the achievements of the SAPL programme include the following:

- Publication of the Standard Procedures for Committees of Western Cape
- Robust oversight by various legislatures and specifically Limpopo whose oversight work has received wide media coverage
- Cooperation, sharing of information and exchange of experiences between the Provincial Legislatures and Municipal Councils especially in Gauteng and Limpopo. This relates to operations of Public Accounts Committees, coordinated response by the three government spheres to petitions and ensuring that grievances raised are addressed during the planning process at both provincial and local government level.

Activities

As 2009 was the national and provincial election year in South Africa, this affected the implementation of the SAPL programme. The first quarter of the year focused on election campaign as elections were in April. The elections brought about new leadership in all the legislatures and this requires ongoing consultation with

the new leadership about the focus of the programme.

AWEPA had consultations with Gauteng, Free State, KwaZulu Natal and Limpopo legislatures regarding priority areas for capacity building. The priority areas identified during the consultation process include oversight training for both staff and Members, strategic planning process for Members, change management for staff, strengthening capacity of the offices of the Provincial Legislatures' Speakers including the provincial Speakers Forums.

In addition to consultations, three activities were implemented, that is, the Gauteng Provincial Speakers Forum workshop (12 Nov 2009), Limpopo Provincial Members oversight workshop (19-20 Nov 2009) and Limpopo Provincial Speakers Forum workshop (3-4 Dec 2009).

The Gauteng Provincial Speakers Forum workshop served as the orientation to the new convenor of the forum that took over after the April elections and was also used as a platform for information exchange as well as for planning purposes.

The Limpopo Provincial Members workshop was aimed at building the capacity of Limpopo Members to understand the oversight processes and enable them to conduct the oversight function effectively. The workshop focused on: oversight and government planning, budgeting and reporting cycle; mandate and powers of the legislature Standing Committee on Public Accounts; reviewing annual reports; and improving the effectiveness of the legislature standing committees.

The Limpopo Provincial Speakers Forum workshop was the first forum gathering under the new Speakership of the Limpopo Legislature, which came into office in May 2009. The main purpose of the workshop was to explore mechanisms for improving oversight at the local government level. Inputs were made by different presenters and these focused on the following issues: audit results for municipalities in the province of Limpopo; oversight and accountability; the state of Local Government in Limpopo; and ethics and Members' interests.

Some of the issues raised during the discussions include over-usage of consultants by municipalities without a plan of transfer of skills to the municipal staff;

most municipalities do not have internal audit committees and it is important to strengthen internal audit function and municipalities can even share this service; and there is insufficient oversight by the municipal councils and as such Speakers need to be trained on oversight and accountability. Establishment of oversight committees at local government level was emphasized, including Municipal Public Accounts Committees and that these committees should ensure that there is adherence to the Municipal Finance Management Act. It was also emphasized that interaction between the Office of the Auditor-General and that of the Speakers should be improved. The municipalities were urged to make an input to the review process of the Municipal Systems Act.



European Programmes

European Programme

Donors

The Netherlands (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Denmark (DANIDA) and Sweden (SIDA)

Background

Besides strengthening parliamentary democracy in Africa, AWEPA has also been active in Europe, mobilising parliamentarians to keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe, and facilitate African-European parliamentary dialogue. AWEPA strives to support partnerships between European and African parliamentarians, in which we look at what European parliamentarians can offer Africa and vice versa. In this light AWEPA decided to change its name in 2010 from European Parliamentarians *for* Africa, to European Parliamentarians *with* Africa.

Objective:

The current European Programme has three main objectives:

- To increase parliamentary action in Africa and Europe in areas of development cooperation related to NEPAD;
- To encourage and enable parliamentarians in Africa and Europe to play an active role in supporting NEPAD in their daily work;
- To facilitate intensified co-operation and exchange of experiences among politicians and members of parliament concerning issues pertinent to socio-economic problems facing Africa: poverty alleviation, climate change and HIV/AIDS.

Results Highlights

Activity	Outcome
EU Presidency Seminar Czech Republic – side events during the ACP-EU JPA 17th Session, Prague, Czech Republic, 6-9 April 2009	A resolution adopted by the ACP Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 9 April 2009 on the role of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement in addressing the food and financial crisis in ACP countries.
Belgium Senator and Head of the AWEPA section in the Belgian Parliament Ms. Sabine de Bethune initiated a seminar on Child Survival on 31 March 2009 in the Belgian Senate in Brussels, Belgium organised by the Belgian Senate in cooperation with AWEPA and UNICEF Belgium.	A resolution initiated by the Belgium Section Head on the survival of children in developing countries.
Conference entitled "Parliamentarians take action on maternal and newborn health" organised by the Dutch House of Representatives, the World Health Organisation and the Inter-Parliamentary Union which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands, on 26-28 November 2008.	In 2009 Dutch MP and AWEPA Section Head Ms. Chantal Gill'ard (PvdA Party) together with AWEPA member Ms. Kathleen Ferrier (CDA Party) and Ms. Esmé Wiegman-Van Meppel Scheppink (CU Party) put forward an amendment aiming to use € 1.5 million within the article on "Reproductive Health" to develop heat resistant oxytocine which has been broadly adopted.

Activities

On the occasion of the EU Presidency of the Czech Republic AWEPA organised two events:

AWEPA Working Lunch ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly 17th Session, Prague, Czech Republic, 7 April 2009

An AWEPA Working Lunch took place on 7 April 2009, parallel to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly 17th Session in the Czech Republic, Prague. Logistical

support was provided by the ACP-EU JPA Secretariat and the AWEPA Section in the European Parliament.

Members of the ACP-EU JPA were informed of AWEPA's general mission. Speakers gave particular attention to the "Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD Programme". The African-European Parliamentary Dialogue on Climate Change, Food Security and Development was the main focus of the event.

Over 75 members and experts participated in the working lunch. Participants were called on to encourage debate and take political action to mitigate the impacts of climate change, which will have particularly damaging effects to African populations.

AWEPA Workshop EU Presidency Czech Republic: "Climate Change - A Call for Parliamentary Action", Prague, Czech Republic, 8 April 2009

A workshop was organised on 8 April entitled: "Climate Change - A Call for Parliamentary Action", on the occasion of the EU Presidency of the Czech Republic. The workshop was jointly organised by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Czech Chamber of Deputies and AWEPA. Climate Change is one of the greatest global challenges confronting humanity and will have its most damaging impact in Africa.

The main topics addressed during the workshop were: Climate Change, the Joint-Africa EU Strategy and the priorities of the Czech Presidency.

AWEPA Swedish EU Presidency Seminar "African-European Parliamentary Dialogue on Climate, Food Security and Development", Stockholm, Sweden, 19-21 August 2009

AWEPA, together with the AWEPA Section in the Swedish Parliament, organised the EU Presidency Seminar "African-European Parliamentary Dialogue on Climate, Food Security and Development" in the Swedish Parliament and a side-event during the World Water Week (WWW). WWW took place in Stockholm 16-22 August 2009, and was organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

Linking up with one of Sweden's presidency priorities, the topic of Climate Change was addressed during the seminar and side-event.

The main focus of the parliamentary seminar was to encourage debate and political action on the topics of Climate Change in Africa leading up to the 2009 UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009 (COP15). The overall aim of the discussions at the seminar was to share knowledge and explore suitable strategies for parliamentary action. Another key area of parliamentary responsibility highlighted at the seminar was scrutiny of development aid, with a particular focus on issues related to Climate Change and Water. At the closing of the seminar the participants adopted a joint African-European statement on the "Way forward to Copenhagen" containing parliamentary recommendations to be presented to the Conference of Parties.

European Sections

Background

AWEPA has a broad network of parliamentarians and former parliamentarians from across Europe. In 2009, AWEPA had over 1500 members from parliaments from almost all EU member states, the European Parliament, and Norway and Switzerland. These members are grouped into a Section within their respective parliaments.

Objective

The European Sections seek to keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe, and facilitate African-European Parliamentary

dialogue. AWEPA works to support its existing and new Sections so that they may perform advocacy and support functions effectively and efficiently. By promoting African issues on the political agendas of the EU and separate EU Member States, and by lobbying on decision-making, AWEPA can contribute to more favourable and more coherent trade, aid, investment and agricultural policies towards Africa. AWEPA believes that these advocacy efforts can have a powerful impact on structural poverty reduction.

List of sections and section heads

Section	Section Head
Austria	Hon. Barbara Prammer
Belgium	Hon. Sabine de Bethune
Denmark	Hon. Karsten Lauritzen
Finland	Hon. Krista Kiuru
France	Contact person: Hon. Nicole Ameline
Germany	Hon. Patrick Meinhardt
Greece	Mr. Theodosis Georgiou
Ireland	Hon. Brendan Howlin
Italy	Hon. Enrico Pianetta
Netherlands	Hon. Chantal Gill'ard
Norway	Contact person: Hon. Marianne Marthinsen
Portugal	Hon. Maria Antónia Almeida Santos
Spain	Mr. Francisco Arnau Navarro
Sweden	Hon. Rosita Runegrund
Switzerland	Hon. Brigitta Gadiet
United Kingdom	Lord David Chidgey
Cyprus	Contact person: Hon. Antigoni Papadopoulus
Estonia	Hon. Mart Nutt

Latvia	Hon. Ingrida Circene
Lithuania	Hon. Egidijus Vareikis
Malta	Contact person: Hon. Leo Brincat
Poland	Hon. Tadeusz Iwiński
Romania	Ms. Minodora Cliveti
Slovakia	Hon. Boris Zala
Slovenia	Contact person: Ms. Stasa Kobi Smid
Czech Republic	Hon. Jan Hamáček

European Section Highlights

In 2009 AWEPA gained a total of 50 new members. 17 sections in Europe were strengthened or (re-)established (Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, the European Parliament, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom), with a new section head in Italy, Hon. Enrico Pianetta.

AWEPA Sections in the new EU Member States

Polish Section

The newly re-established AWEPA Section in the Polish Parliament, headed by Hon. Tadeusz Iwiński and including MPs from all political parties and represented in both chambers of parliament, the Sejm and the Senate, held a meeting on 19 March with African ambassadors to Warsaw. The meeting focused on the most pressing topics on AWEPA's agenda, including: combating the consequences of HIV/AIDS; strategies to stimulate development in



Africa; the NEPAD framework, which will be the subject of upcoming debates in the Polish Section; and establishing contacts and building cooperation with African parliamentarians.

Latvian section: World AIDS Day 1 Dec.

The Latvian section, headed by Hon. Ingrida Circene, reported back on a meeting in the Latvian Parliament, the Saeima Human Rights and Public Affairs Committee about HIV/AIDS related issues. Members of the committee met representatives from Latvia's Association for Family Planning and Sexual Health 'Papardes zieds' ('Fern Flower') to discuss family planning, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Portuguese Section



On 24 March AWEPA together with the Portuguese section headed by Hon. Maria Antónia Almeida Santos, the North-South

Centre of the Council of Europe and UNICEF organised a seminar entitled "Children Orphaned and made Vulnerable by HIV and AIDS: A Call to Parliamentary Action" in the Portuguese Parliament, Lisbon. Members of the Parliaments of Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Portugal, Embassies and NGOs met at the seminar and identified parliamentary recommendations on action towards vulnerable children and families living with HIV and AIDS. The delegations adopted a statement in which they pledged to take action, in particular to take the social protection agenda forward.

Belgium Section

Hon. Sabine de Bethune, Belgium Senator and Head of the AWEPA section in the Belgian Parliament initiated a seminar on Child Survival on 31 March 2009 in the Belgian Senate in Brussels, Belgium organised by the Belgian Senate in cooperation with AWEPA and UNICEF Belgium. At this event a Resolution initiated by the Belgium Section Head on the survival of children in developing countries has been addressed.

At the occasion of the celebration of AWEPA's 25th anniversary the Belgium section together with the Senate Committee for Foreign Affairs and National Defence in Belgium a seminar on "Peace and Reconciliation" in the Belgium Senate, Brussels, Belgium on 8 December. During the event Luc Huyse's book "All Things Pass, Except the Past" on the consequences of civil wars, bloody repression and conflicts was presented.

A parliamentary report was made on this event by the Belgium section.

Irish section

On 8 April, in the Parliament of Ireland, the Irish section, headed by Deputy Speaker of the Irish Parliament and AWEPA Vice-President Hon. Brendan Howlin, debated the motion: "The Economic Partnership Agreements - are they a fair deal for Africa?" This was an important meeting on a subject which the Irish AWEPA section had not discussed in recent years: The EU's trade relationship with Africa.



The meeting was chaired by the Irish AWEPA section's chairperson, Brendan Howlin TD, and a number of contributions were made by parliamentarians from the Irish AWEPA section. They were joined by a large audience consisting of members of the African community in Ireland, representatives of the trade justice movement in Ireland, academics and representatives of NGOs working on this subject.

UK section

AWEPA's 25th anniversary function in the UK took place on 18 November and was hosted by Lord Chidgey, AWEPA's

representative in the British Parliament on the day that the Queen performed the State Opening of Parliament. Baroness Kinnock, Minister of State with responsibility for Africa, was guest of honour. The function was attended by a current cabinet minister, Peter Hain, a former cabinet minister, Peter Lilley, by Members of Parliament and the Lords, representatives of the business community, the news media, and by seven high commissioners and ambassadors from African countries.

Mandela Day 18 July

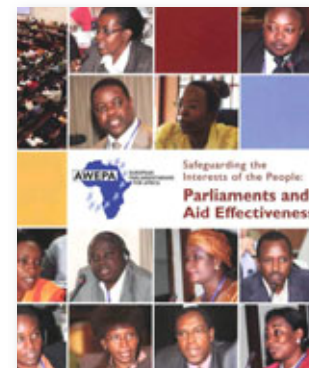
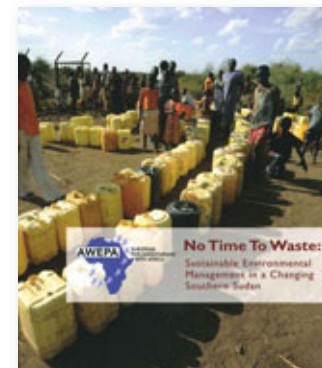
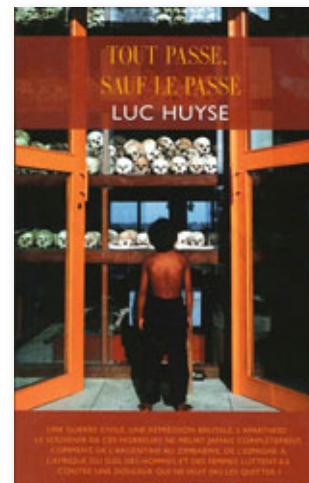
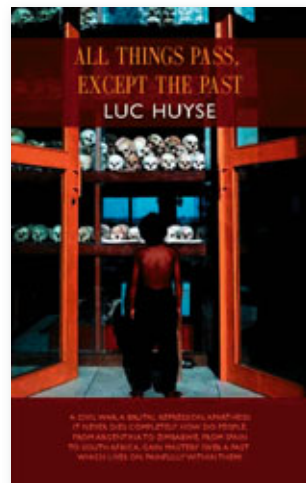
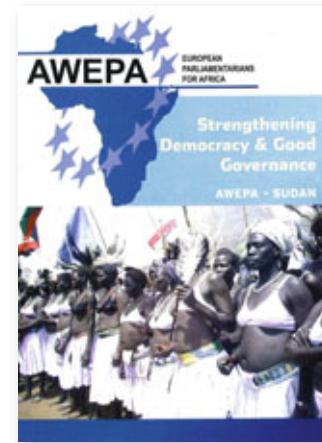
Nelson Mandela, recipient of the AWEPA Human Dignity Award, has been honoured by the inauguration of the official Mandela Day, to be held annually on July 18th, his birthday.

AWEPA initiatives by the sections in support of Mandela Day include:

- the passing of parliamentary resolutions in the Belgian and Irish Parliaments and the holding of special commemoration activities in the Polish, Romanian and Lithuanian Parliaments
- the AWEPA Council meeting of May 2009 voiced its support for the 46664 campaign, which is now calling for a UN General Assembly resolution endorsing Mandela Day

The Irish parliament passed an all-party motion on 10 July, which stated that courageous defenders of human rights, like Mr. Mandela, are needed today more than ever.

AWEPA Publications



AWEPA Eminent Advisory Board

AWEPA'S RELATIONS WITH AFRICA are guided by the 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 served as Archbishop 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. He now plays a leading role in The Elders: an independent group of eminent global leaders, brought together by Nelson Mandela, who offer their collective influence and experience to support peace building, help address major causes of human suffering and promote the shared interests of humanity.



Ms. Graça Machel (Chairperson)

Ms. Graça Machel has campaigned 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. She is currently a member of the Panel of Eminent Persons of the African Peer Review Mechanism, a system introduced by the African Union to help countries improve their governance.



Hon. Prof. Wangari Maathai

Prof. Wangari Maathai received the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for her pro-democracy, 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 woman in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree and has served as Assistant Minister of Environment in Kenya.



Ms. Mary Robinson

Ms. Mary Robinson was a member of the Irish Parliament from 1969 to 1989 and became a member of AWEPA in the 1980s. She was elected the first woman President of Ireland (1990-1997) and served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002). A human rights advocate, Robinson serves as President and Founder of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative.



Prof. Albert Tevoedjre

Professor Albert Tevoedjre has been the Special Envoy for the United Nations Secretary-General to the Ivory Coast since 2003. Before his current responsibility, Tevoedjre chaired the Commission on the 'Millennium for Africa' Project, which completed its report in May 2002. Tevoedjre also played a prominent role as 'Head of Government' in Benin. A political scientist by training, his book 'Poverty, Wealth of Mankind' was awarded the 'Prix de la vie économique'.



His Excellency Mohamed A. Sahnoun

H.E. Mohamed Sahnoun, the former Ambassador of Algeria to the United Nations, to the United States and to Morocco, has served as Special Representative for the Great Lakes region of Africa since 1997. Sahnoun is also a member of the Special Advisory Group of the War-torn Societies Project and served as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on the Eritrean-Ethiopian conflict from 1999 to 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, Dr. Jan Nico Scholten, Vice-Presidents and the AWEPA Secretary General, Mr. Pär Granstedt, who serves as Chair.



Mr. Pär Granstedt
(Sweden)



Dr. Jan Nico Scholten
(Netherlands)



Ms. Brigitta Gadiant
(Switzerland)



Ms. Miet Smet
(Belgium)



Mr. Jeppe Kofod
(Denmark)



Mr. Brendan Howlin
(Ireland)



Dr. Egidijus Vareikis
(Lithuania)



Ms. Lydia Maximus
(Belgium)

AWEPA Council

THE COUNCIL IS THE HIGHEST BODY within AWEPA. It consists of representatives of the 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:

Ms. Inge Jäger (Austria)
Ms. Sabine de Bethune (Belgium)
Ms. Magda de Meyer (Belgium)
Mr. Jan Hamáček (Czech Republic)
Mr. Karsten Lauritzen (Denmark)
Ms. Silver Meikar (Estonia)
Mr. Johan van Hecke (European Parliament)
Ms. Krista Kiuru (Finland)
Ms. Brunhilde Irber (Germany)
Mr. Theodissis Georgiou (Greece)
Mr. Charlie O'Connor (Ireland)
Mr. Enrico Pianetta (Italy)
Ms. Ingrida Circene (Latvia)
Ms. Chantal Gill'ard (Netherlands)
Ms. Maria Antónia Almeida Santos (Portugal)
Ms. Minodora Cliveti (Romania)
Ms. Carina Hägg (Sweden)
Ms. Rosita Runegrund (Sweden)
Lord David Chidgey (United Kingdom)
Dr. Luc Dhoore (Belgium)
Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland)
Ms. Katharine Bulbulia (Ireland)
Mr. Jan Willem Bertens (Netherlands)
Ms. Barty Lührman Fuchs (Netherlands)
Mr. Francisco Arnau Navarro (Spain)
Mr. John Corrie (United Kingdom)

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Mr. Lennart Andersson, *Administrative Director*
Dr. Jeff Balch, *Director Research and Evaluation*
Mr. John McKendy, *Director Programme Development*
Ms. Marion Verweij, *Assistant to the President and Secretary-General*

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Ms. Tatjana van den Ham, *Project Officer*
Ms. Kristen Heim, *Project Officer*
Ms. Pamela Matinde, *Project Officer*
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Mr. Erick Hoekzema, *Financial Reporting Officer*
Ms. Sahila El Fahsi, *Financial Officer*
Ms. Gul Mert, *Junior Financial Officer*

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Ms. Rita Santos, *Office Assistant*

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Ms. Katrin Verstraete, *Project Officer*

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Ms. Angeline Nahimana, *Project and Administrative Officer*
Mr. Ferdinand Soferi, *Driver*

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Ms. Joyce Lucas, *Office Attendant*
Mr. Frank Kayitare, *Project Officer*

Mozambique Office

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Somaliland Office

Mr. Erik Landemalm, *Project Officer*

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Ms. Nomawethu Xali, *Project Officer*
Ms. Christine Leibach, *Project Officer*
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Ms. Rachel Shibalira, *Legal Advisor*
Ms. Mirjam Younan, *Logistics Officer*
Mr. Jackson Ligigo, *Driver*

AWEPA-EALA Office, Tanzania

Ms. Tine Hemelings, *Programme Manager*

Uganda

Ms. Jeniffer Kwarisiima, *Project Officer / AWEPA Representative*

Income and Expenditures 2009

Income

In 2009, AWEPA received funding from various European governments, through their development agencies and country embassies in Africa, UN organisations and foundations. AWEPA does not engage in public fundraising.

Donor	Grants Received in €
Austria - ADA	26.398
Belgium - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1.182.660
Belgium - Flanders	50.350
Denmark - Danida	533.314
Germany - GTZ	73.766
European Commission	1.773.084
Finland	10.193
Ireland - Irish Aid	377.618
Netherlands - AIID	46.427
Netherlands - DGIS	1.632.170
Norway - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	608.618
Portugal - IPAD	49.999
Sweden - SIDA	1.255.341
Switzerland - SDC	53.054
United Kingdom - Foreign and Commonwealth Office	141.449
UNDP	34.631
UNICEF	109.025
Others	20.046
Total	7.978.143

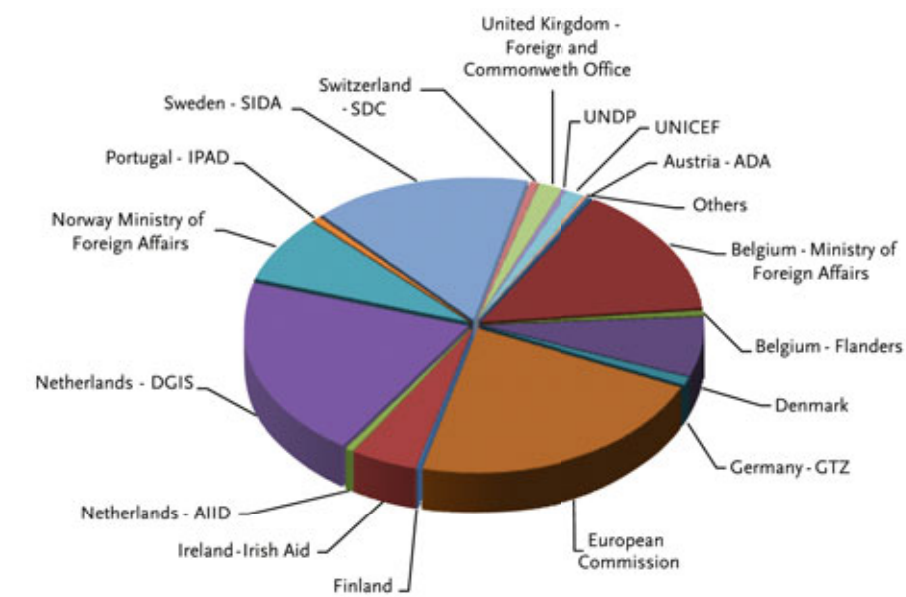
Expenditures

In the year 2009, the total expenditure was € 7.978.143. This amount was spent on programmes as indicated in this chart:

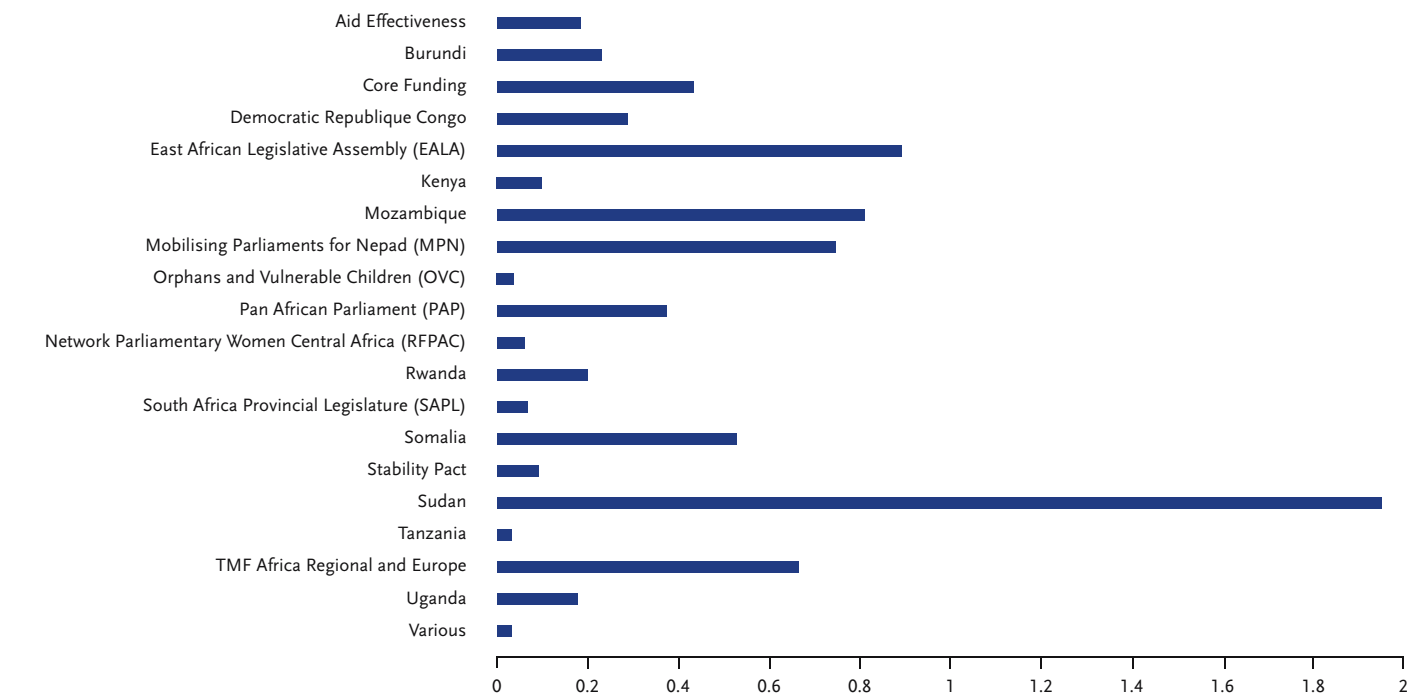
Expenditure per Programme / Country	Amount in €
Aid Effectiveness	193.290
Burundi	227.172
Core Funding	424.708
Democratic Republique Congo	274.711
East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)	904.420
Kenya	93.236
Mozambique	814.430
Mobilising Parliaments for Nepad (MPN)	775.343
Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)	38.351
Pan African Parliament (PAP)	389.206
Network Parliamentary Women Central Africa (RFPAC)	60.109
Rwanda	216.370
South Africa Provincial Legislature (SAPL)	67.952
Somalia	531.880
Stability Pact	92.682
Sudan	1.960.299
Tanzania	32.972
TMF Africa Regional and Europe	669.679
Uganda	178.260
Various	33.073
Total	7.978.143

Donor Grants Received

The income and grants received were spent on country/programmes as indicated in this chart. For more financial information, the audited financial statement for 2009 is available upon request.



Expenditure per Programme / Country in 2009 in millions of Euro



Colophon

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Cover Photo

Final election rally in Soweto, prior to the 1994 South African elections.