

AWEPA Annual Report 2006

Parliament and Progress



AWEPA

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Message from the Executive President

Conflict, poverty and ignorance are real and present threats to democratisation in Africa. It has proven to be devastating for the development of open and transparent societies where the rule of law and human rights have a prominent place. However, the struggle for equality, freedom and prosperity continues in Africa.



In this struggle for democratisation, parliaments must play a crucial role. The presence of strong parliaments is a fundamental precondition for any well functioning, open and free society. Therefore, empowering parliaments is a good way to promote a democratic society.

AWEPA's capacity building programmes strengthen parliaments and are in many cases a catalyst for a broad parliamentary plan of action to promote justice and human dignity.

For AWEPA, 2006 was a very successful year. Parliamentary support programmes were implemented in partnership with 25 parliaments in Africa, focussing on supporting the capacities of parliaments, parliamentarians and its staff.

In Europe, AWEPA has scaled up its efforts to raise new members and strengthen the sections in the parliaments. New members joined AWEPA in various European Parliaments. In addition, AWEPA had very active sections such as in Ireland and Sweden, and established two new sections: in Poland and the Slovak Republic.

AWEPA continued to broaden and strengthen partnerships and to get more access to and recognition in international forums on democratisation and poverty reduction. The steps taken so far have been fruitful: in 2006 AWEPA obtained special consultative status at the UN ECOSOC and is admitted to the OECD-DAC list of ODA eligible organisations.

In addition, AWEPA has worked hard to further professionalise its organisation through the improvement of monitoring and evaluation, quality control, communications and staff capacity building.

Let me take the opportunity to thank all AWEPA partners, its donors and the experts that participated in AWEPA activities. In addition, I would like to offer a word of thanks to all AWEPA staff. Without their commitment and energy, AWEPA would not have been able to realise the results it has achieved.

This Annual Report reflects on these results achieved in 2006; results that contribute to strong parliaments in Africa. As for development, for progress, you need strong and effective parliaments that promote human rights and human dignity.

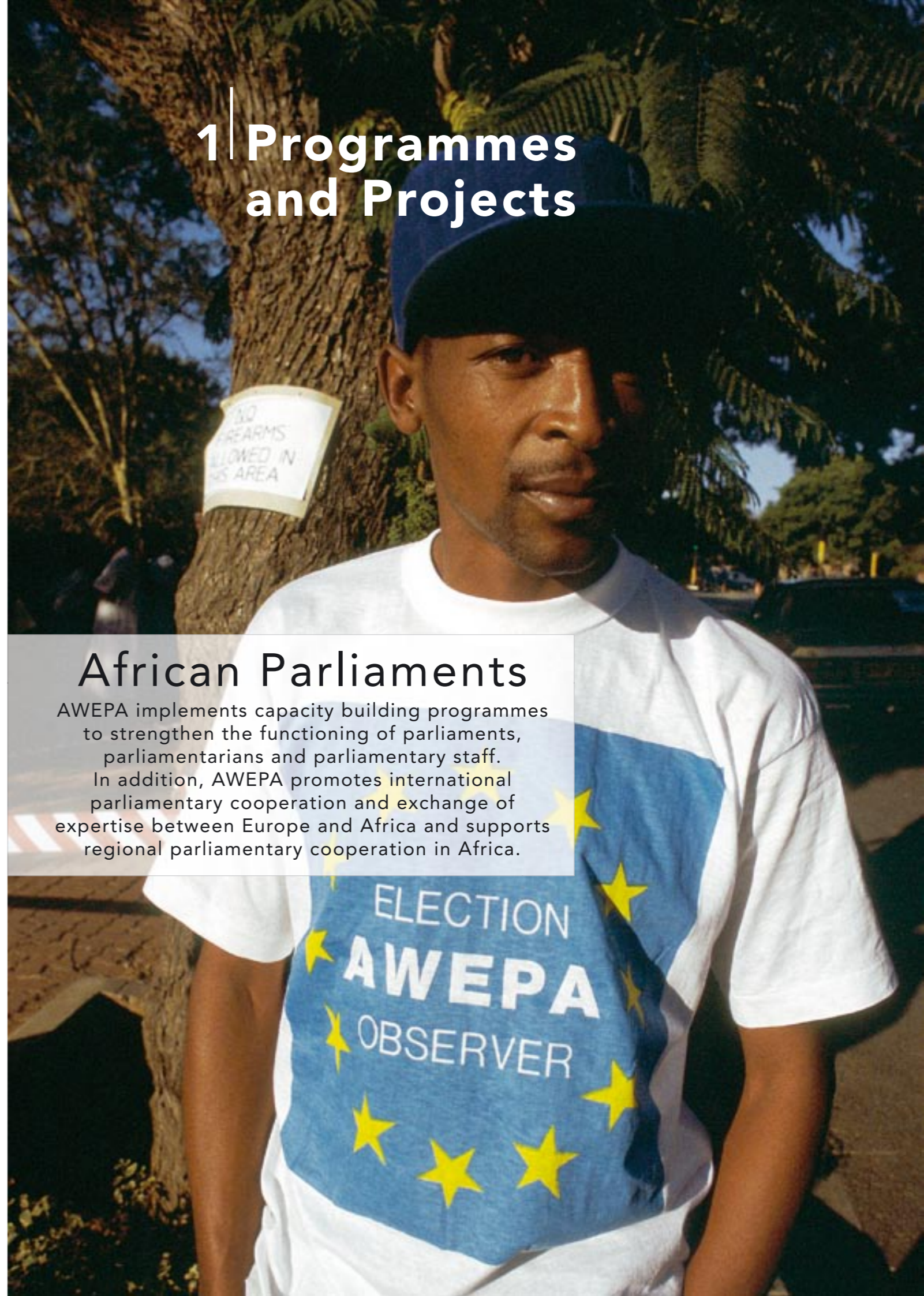
As this is my last report as Chief Executive Officer of AWEPA, I would like to extend a thank you to all who have assisted me in carrying out my duties and responsibilities since 1984.

Dr. Jan Nico Scholten
AWEPA Executive President

1 | Programmes and Projects

African Parliaments

AWEPA implements capacity building programmes to strengthen the functioning of parliaments, parliamentarians and parliamentary staff. In addition, AWEPA promotes international parliamentary cooperation and exchange of expertise between Europe and Africa and supports regional parliamentary cooperation in Africa.





Central Africa Burundi

The democratically elected parliament in Burundi, which consists of some 60% new members elected in mid 2005, is expected to give a credible answer to the positive expectations of the Burundian citizens after the civil war. As tensions between the parties continue after the elections, one of the priorities of AWEPA's work in Burundi, besides capacity building of parliamentarians and parliamentary staff, is the facilitation of a political dialogue between all parties.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Field Visits to the Education Sector, Burundi Constituencies, 8-10 May

- Parliamentary Workshop on PRSPs, Bujumbura, 26 June

- Parliamentary Workshop on Media Article Writing and Communications, Bujumbura, 29 November – 1 December

- Parliamentary Seminar on Analysis and Writing of the Budget, Bujumbura, 4 December

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
198,553 Euro

In the year 2006, the Burundi programme focused on:

- strengthening the capacities and knowledge of newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) on the ground rules of parliamentary democracy, where an exchange of experience with African experts was very much encouraged;
- attention to the dialogue between parties and between MPs and their electorate, which was promoted during nation wide field visits; and
- strengthening the technical skills of key parliamentary staff members from various administrative units.

Results

In 2006, 13 activities were implemented in Burundi, which yielded the following results:

- Members of the leading party and the opposition have an improved understanding of power sharing. Clear results are:
 - a chairperson from an opposition party was nominated to the Committee on Agriculture shortly after a seminar on Standing Committees;
 - oral questions were raised by members of the Committee on Finance and Budget to the Minister of Finance as a result of the recommendations of a seminar on budget allocation; and
 - The rules of procedure of the Senate were amended, clearly identifying the rights and duties of the MPs and

parliamentary staff, following a training session on the basic functioning of a parliament.

- Dialogue between MPs and their electorate was stimulated. This resulted in:
 - information collection during field visits to all constituencies on the living conditions of farmers, pupils and vulnerable groups, such as the Batwa ethnic group, which was reported back in plenary sessions;
 - draft bills that safeguard the interests of the various groups, as a result of those visits; and
 - the launch of a decentralisation programme, which has initiated a permanent dialogue between locally elected authorities and national representatives in the Senate. This will enhance the well functioning of locally elected authorities.

- The skills of members of the parliamentary staff were enhanced and their role better defined thanks to various workshops and a study visit to the Belgian Parliament. As concrete results it is worth mentioning:
 - larger autonomy given to the Secretary-General;
 - stronger cooperation between the communication services of both chambers; and
 - improved information magazine of the parliament.

- Thematic activities for MPs have increased their awareness on the fight against HIV/AIDS and the fight against poverty.
 - the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) was tabled and amended in plenary session after a national seminar on PRSPs;
 - a network of MPs and an ad hoc committee dealing with HIV/AIDS and Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) were created as a result of

regional and national seminars on these issues; and

- civil society was largely involved in the debates concerning a suitable social security system for Burundi and on HIV/AIDS related issues.

Objectives for 2007

The Burundi programme in 2007 will focus on the following elements:

- capacity building of parliamentary commissions;
- strengthening the oversight function of parliament, particularly in relation to controlling the budget;
- supporting the development of directives for staff through protocols;
- training on the functioning of political parties and the related parliamentary factions;
- improving the relations between parliamentarians and decentralised

authorities through field visits to provinces and communities. Through these visits AWEPA also aims to increase the awareness of MPs on issues that affect local communities;

- facilitating communication between MPs and the Diaspora; and
- strengthening the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development.

Another very important focal area in the 2007 programme is Burundi's entry into the East African Community (EAC) and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). AWEPA will actively support this process through organising visits of Burundian MPs to EALA and to its member parliaments.



The Role of AWEPA in Burundi, Parliament and Progress

Since the assassination of late President Mechior Ndadaye, there has been a continuous crisis from 1993 until 1998 when the International Community, among which AWEPA, decided to help Burundians of the Diaspora and those from within the country to meet and talk in order to restore democracy.

During the Peace Process, the Role of AWEPA has been of respected significance. AWEPA's intervention has always come to cope with the needs of the moment.

In fact, starting from simple funding of parliamentarians' travels abroad to meet Burundians of the Diaspora, AWEPA has organised in Burundi (and Europe), seminars and workshops on various subjects related to:

- security and peace restoration;
- implementation of the Arusha Peace Accord for Burundi;
- the role of different partners (parliamentarians, Presidents of political parties, different associations of the civil society) in the process of reconciliation. Those seminars and workshops have helped Burundians to exchange views and come to

reconciliation. Lately, AWEPA has organised seminars and workshops to help Burundians to prepare for the elections.

After the restoration of democracy, AWEPA is now helping parliamentarians to go to their provinces to meet their electors in order to know their needs and priorities. Afterwards parliamentarians vote on laws to meet the needs of the population. In addition, it deals with capacity building of parliamentarians and parliamentary civil-servants, to help them to understand the functioning of a modern parliament.

Thanks to education undergone and visits made to other advanced parliaments, Burundian MPs and parliamentary civil servants become strengthened and try to put their institution on the scale of other advanced parliaments through making amendments of pre-existing laws and reinforcing parliamentary administration.

Ms. Béatrice Ndayizeye
National Assembly staff member, political and diplomatic counsellor
Burundi



Central Africa

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

In 2006, the political scene in the DRC was dominated by the first legislative, presidential and local elections in more than 40 years. As a result of intense electoral campaigning, little room was left for seminars or workshops, while all efforts were concentrated on the good preparation and implementation of the elections. In this framework AWEPA focused on election observation missions and raising awareness in Europe.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Seminar on the ratification of the International Criminal Court/ Ground Rules of Democracy, Kinshasa, 25 January
- Election Observation Missions, Kinshasa, 30 July and 29 October
- National Follow-Up Workshop on HIV/AIDS and PRSPs, Kinshasa, 13-15 December
- Workshop for Women MPs and Civil Society, Kinshasa, 15-16 December

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- The Netherlands (TMF)
- UNDP

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
264,069 Euro

Results

- Before the elections, a workshop on the ratification of the Statute of Rome was co-organised by AWEPA and Lawyers without Borders. As a result:
 - the law n°96/017, authorising the DRC to adhere to the Agreement on privileges and immunities of the International Criminal Court, was published a few months later in the Official Journal of the DRC; and
 - it is foreseen that the Bill on the implementation of the Statute of Rome in Congolese Law will be voted on by the newly elected parliament during the next session (October 2007).
- Observation missions were organised for the first round of the presidential election and the legislative elections, as well as for the second round of the presidential elections and the provincial elections. As a result:



– these missions of European MPs and the prompt release of their statements immediately after each election in the local news papers in Kinshasa contributed to the transparency and the credibility of the election results; and

– various preparatory meetings in Brussels with experts from the DRC and Belgium increased public awareness in Belgium about the elections in the DRC thanks to various media articles following these meetings.

- A seminar for women MPs on the analysis of the electoral results of women was organised shortly after the election, which resulted in:
 - the set up of a mixed working group composed of one former woman MP, one current MP and one civil society representative, in order to draft a five year strategic plan to ensure better results for women in the 2011 elections. It was agreed that a follow-up workshop should be organised at the beginning of 2007 in order to elaborate on this strategic plan.
- On the regional level, AWEPA has been recognised as an important player in the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR) process, which was initiated by the United Nations Security Council in 2000, calling for an International Conference on peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes region. Through AWEPA, parliaments in the region became involved in this important initiative.

Objectives for 2007

For the year 2007 the following focal areas have been identified:

- capacity building of (newly elected) parliamentarians on the ground rules of parliamentary democracy;
- strengthening the oversight function of parliament, in particular in relation to

controlling the budget;

- training of parliamentary staff on the ground rules of parliamentary democracy and their roles therein;
- capacity building on the functioning and financing of political parties;
- supporting women parliamentarians;
- strengthening the relations between parliament and decentralised authorities; and
- strengthening the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty

reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development.



DRC Elections: AWEPA Election Observer

The year 2006 was an important year for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In this year, I had the privilege, together with many other Belgian parliamentarians, to monitor the whole election process as an international observer for AWEPA: the constitutional referendum in December 2005, the first round of elections for President and parliament in July 2006, and the second round of elections for President and provincial constituencies in October 2006. In a team with colleague and Head of the Belgian AWEPA section, Ms. Erika Thijs, we were sent to respectively Lubumbashi, Kasangulu (Bas-Congo) and Kinshasa.

With these first democratic elections in forty years, the DRC has written history. As observers we came home with dozens of stories that indicated that the Congolese people were determined to cast their vote. I recall, at the referendum, an old lady who had been underway since four o'clock in the morning and only arrived at closing time at the election office, far away in the countryside. However, we couldn't let her cast her vote, as the ballot box had already been opened.

As a result, in the first round of elections it was seen to that also people in the countryside could cast their vote close to home. During the second round of elections, the tropical rain came along. Ms. Erika Thijs told me, she saw the people from the election offices running through the rain with the election ballot papers high above their heads to bring the documents dry and safely to the election office.

For many election observers it was a huge contrast with the situation in Belgium, where people complain because they 'must' vote. Our respect is in the first place for the Congolese people who experienced this election process with enthusiasm and dignity.

Through this whole election process, the country has also won a new democratic legitimacy. Elections are essential to democracy, and public confidence in the institutions and processes surrounding elections is essential to establishing the basis of authority for any democratic government. AWEPA's and other observers' presence in this process has promoted the public confidence, prevented electoral fraud and helped overcoming administrative malfeasance.

Respecting democracy, the rights of the opposition and the rules of good governance now challenges the newly elected. In the future special attention should be given to more gender equality, as only 12% of the MPs and 4% of the Senators are women.

Together with my colleagues from the Senate, I would like to keep on contributing to the strengthening of parliamentary institutions in the DRC through exchanges via the network of AWEPA.

Hon. Sabine de Bethune
Member of the Senate and AWEPA member
Belgium



Central Africa

Republic of Congo (RC)

The Republic of Congo programme in 2006 focused mainly on strengthening the role of parliamentarians in urgent matters such as the fight against poverty and HIV/AIDS, economic development, the functioning of political parties and ensuring enhanced dialogue between central and local authorities. In addition, support to the Congolese parliament had a strong regional dimension, as regional cooperation on urgent issues is promoted and facilitated by AWEPA, with special attention paid to cooperation between women MPs.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- National Follow-Up Workshop HIV/AIDS and Private Sector Development, Brazzaville, 5-7 September
- National Follow-Up Workshop on PRSPs and Ground Rules of Parliamentary Democracy, Brazzaville, 26-28 September

DONORS

- The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
63,877 Euro

Results

Two provincial conferences were co-organised by AWEPA and the parliament:

- A conference on HIV/AIDS and private sector development. Resulting in:
 - raised awareness of local authorities about HIV/AIDS prevention;
 - a pledge from local authorities to be involved in the achievement of the MDGs in order to contribute to the development of the private sector in their department; and
 - the offer of 4 boxes of 1000 condoms to the local authorities who were mandated to take care of their distribution in order to start reducing the propagation of HIV/AIDS in their areas.
- A conference on Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and ground rules of parliamentary democracy. The main results were that:
 - MPs who attended the conference, once back in parliament, raised questions that came up during the conference to their Ministers in the plenary session; and

– women MPs learned how to strengthen their positions in the perspective of the upcoming elections through exchanging experiences with women MPs and civil society from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Objectives for 2007

In 2007, the RC programmes will focus on:

- capacity building of women parliamentarians through regional activities;
- strengthening the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development; and
- planning to include the Congolese Parliament in the regional harmonisation of legislation on small arms and light weapons. Activities around this topic will most likely be co-organised with UNDP.



Central Africa Rwanda

The parliamentary capacity building programme in Rwanda in 2006 focused on strengthening the legislative, oversight and representation skills of parliamentarians, on stimulating political debate and involving civil society in the decision making process.

Other important elements include:

- support to the decentralisation process in Rwanda, which is an important element in the power sharing process;
- support for a well organised women's forum: Forum des Femmes Rwandaises Parlementaires (FFRP), in order to strengthen their leadership and influence in parliament. Rwanda occupies the first position in the world ranking for women representatives in Parliament; and
- support to parliamentary staff as a more permanent element of parliamentary work. Continuity will only be guaranteed when autonomous and well functioning administrative services are in place.

Results

In 2007, results in Rwanda were visible in various fields:

- the oversight function of parliament was strengthened by improving the relations between the Committee on Budget and the Office of the Auditor thanks to a study visit to the Netherlands and the UK to their respective Courts of Audit;
- the role of political parties and their duty to represent Rwandan citizens while eradicating divisionism was discussed during an important conference, which was broadcasted on TV. The conference contributed to a more open atmosphere between political parties and their supporters;
- MPs were trained in three thematic areas:

The fight against the ideology of genocide

- A research report on Genocide Ideology made by the Senate of Rwanda after research done across the country was analysed and translated during an AWEPA activity. Afterwards, the report was voted on by the plenary Session. The official launch of the report took place 26 April 2007 and will be printed soon. This document will help the community to understand the causes of genocide and will assist the unity and reconciliation process
- As fighting against impunity is an important step towards unity and reconciliation, field visits were organised by women MPs to encourage witnesses to keep on contributing to the work of local courts. As a result of these visits it was uncovered that various witnesses of the genocide are killed and that specific action should be undertaken to protect the survivors.

The protection and enhanced legislation for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)

- Research and various field visits resulted in a concrete one year programme of parliamentary action in cooperation with UNICEF that aims to draft an appropriate national law on children and OVC within the framework of the fight against poverty.

The finalisation of harmonised legislation on small arms and light weapons

- This theme is the result of various regional meetings with Burundian and Congolese delegations aimed at harmonising their respective legislation according to the Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. Two workshops allowed experts to give their input and to translate the final draft bill into the national languages of

Rwanda. This bill will be tabled in the next plenary session.

- Training of parliamentary staff focused on improving the writing skills of staff members from the communication and media unit, in order to enhance the image of parliament in order to increase its credibility. In addition, the overall coordination and harmonisation of bill and report writing underwent a profound analysis. The main results that were booked in this field were:
 - the setting up of a specific committee for drafting media articles;
 - a new layout of the parliament's magazine, which for the first time was distributed to all constituencies;
 - the recommendation of the drafting of "legislative guidelines";
 - radio and TV programmes on parliamentary work are now monitored by members of the parliamentary staff; and
- a general canvas on reporting rules and procedures is now used by all units.

Objectives for 2007

For 2007, the following programme areas have been identified:

- strengthening the role of parliament in

peace issues with an important focus on the fight against the ideology of genocide and divisionism;

- strengthening the oversight function of parliament, particularly in relation to controlling the budget;
- supporting parliamentarians in (re)building relations with their constituencies;
- awareness raising of MPs on the needs of vulnerable groups and stimulating legislation to meet their needs; and
- strengthening the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development. The focus will also be on a prompt ratification of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development for the Great Lakes Region.

Another very important focal area in the programme 2007, is Rwanda's entry into the East African Community (EAC) and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). AWEPA will actively support this process through organising visits of Rwandan MPs to EALA and to its member parliaments.



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Study visit to the Court of Audit, Netherlands and United Kingdom, 5-10 February

- Workshop for parliamentary staff on the writing of media articles, Kigali, 23-24 February

- National Follow-Up Workshop 'Field visit to mobilise the community on OVC issue', Constituencies, 31 August – 15 September

- Conference on political parties and civic education, Kigali, 2-3 October

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- The Netherlands (TMF)
- UNICEF

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

119,109 Euro

Eastern Africa / Horn of Africa

Kenya

Besides building the capacities of MPs and parliamentary staff, the Kenya programme in 2006 included support to Caucuses of MPs sharing similar interest, such as the Kenya Women Parliamentarians (KEWOPA) and the Kenya Young Parliamentarians Association (KYPA), which consists of youthful MPs under the age of 45 years.

Results

The implementation of the programme in Kenya saw some delays because of the National Referendum on Constitutional amendments. Nevertheless clear results were recorded:

- greatly approved conduct of members of the Public Accounts Committee while handling and interviewing suspects and compiling reports to the Attorney General for prosecution of suspects;
- formation of a technical committee by the Finance Committee to formulate and produce a Consumer Protection Bill for tabling in parliament;
- implementation of KEWOPA's strategy in dealing with HIV/AIDS and the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) menace in the country;
- improved security details in parliament as a result of a study visit to Egypt by the members of the Security Committee in parliament;
- improved and cordial relations between MPs and the print and electronic media houses following the Media Conference in Nairobi in August 2006; and
- the launch of a parliamentary website following the staff visit to Rwanda to familiarise themselves with e-parliament.

Objectives for 2007

The year 2007 is an election season in Kenya, so all MPs will concentrate their attention on campaigning. Coupled with the fact that the Kenyan Parliament has a history of losing 60-80% of MPs after every general election, it emerges that AWEPA will mostly concentrate on the parliamentary staff and MPs Caucuses such as the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) and the Kenya Youth Parliamentary Association (KYPA). Projects will focus on strengthening the capacity of these Caucuses to deal with issues affecting them.

Another programme focus is to strengthen the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, OVC and HIV/AIDS and private sector development.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Public Accounts Committee Seminar on Enhancing Accountability, Nairobi, 15-17 October
- Parliamentary Staff Visit to Rwanda, Kigali, 15-18 October
- National Follow-Up Workshop PRSP/Private Sector Development - Finance/Public Investment Committees Consumer Awareness Bill, Nairobi, 26-27 November
- National Workshop Ground Rules of Parliamentary Democracy/KEWOPA Workshop on Communication, Mombasa, 17-18 December

DONORS

- Finland
- Ireland
- The Netherlands (TMF)
- Switzerland

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
251,156 Euro



Eastern Africa / Horn of Africa

Sudan (Southern)

New programme: Sudan (Southern)

The Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA) has come into being as the result of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that was signed in 2005 between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). As a completely new parliamentary institution, and operating in a post-conflict environment where the political forces at play have to implement a complex peace agreement and democratic transition, the SSLA faces huge challenges.

After a process of consultations in 2006, AWEPA and the SSLA signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 25 August in Juba and agreed to jointly develop and implement a parliamentary capacity building programme. In order to respond to the challenge to fulfil the representative, legislative and oversight functions, the SSLA needs support in a great number of areas. Therefore a broad programme has been developed that includes capacity building of

parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, committees and to a limited extent, support to infrastructure.

In this broad programme, starting in 2007, knowledge and expertise of other parliaments will be used extensively.



In particular the Ugandan Parliament will be regularly involved. The programme deliverables will include a mix of interventions such as: in-house training, workshops, staff attachments, study visits, participation in regional conferences, small-scale infrastructural support, research, evaluation and publications.



Eastern Africa / Horn of Africa

Somalia

The Somalia programme, funded by the European Commission, involves the organisation of seminars and trainings for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff, and technical support to three different legislatures: the Transitional Federal Parliament of Somalia, based in Baidoa, and the parliaments of the two semi-autonomous Northern States of Somaliland and Puntland.



Tanzania

The newly elected National Assembly, which saw a turnover of 58% new members, started its work at the beginning of 2006. During this year, AWEPA did not implement a comprehensive capacity building project in Tanzania, but MPs and parliamentary staff of the Assembly benefited from various AWEPA activities that were implemented in the framework of specific programmes, such as the Great Lakes Regional Programme "Fostering the Values of Parliamentary Democracy" and the "Parliamentarians for Women's Health Project".

Results

In the framework of the Great Lakes Regional Programme, four national workshops were implemented in Tanzania, targeting those Committees that deal with the themes of HIV/AIDS, Poverty Reduction, Peace and Security and Private Sector Development. The following initiatives were noted as a result:

- MPs are committed to empower all communities in fighting against the epidemic, by educating them to advocate for an increased HIV/AIDS awareness in the society and fight stigma;
- special attention was given to revising new legislation that undermines a

conducive environment for the private sector; and

- input was made by the Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs to adjust the guidelines for the preparation of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework.

The workshop which was part of the Parliamentarians for Women's Health Project in Tanzania produced an agreed Action Plan that outlined the strategies for 2006 to strengthen parliamentarians' efforts to improve women's and girls' access to health services, including HIV and AIDS treatment, prevention and care.

Objectives for 2007

During AWEPA's EU Presidency Seminar in Finland in November 2006, the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Executive President of AWEPA renewed their cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the implementation of a parliamentary cooperation programme in Tanzania. A more detailed programme will be designed with the National Assembly during 2007, while MPs and parliamentary staff will continue to participate in AWEPA's regional parliamentary projects, including national follow-ups.



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- National Follow-Up Workshop Ground Rules Parliamentary Democracy, Dar es Salaam, 9 - 10 March
- National Follow-Up Workshop PRSP-Finance and Economic Affairs Committee Workshop, Dar es Salaam, 19-20 May
- Social Affairs Committee Seminar: HIV/AIDS, Dar es Salaam, 12-13 October
- National Follow-Up Workshop Private Sector Development: Trade and Investment Committee, Dar es Salaam, 26-27 October

DONORS¹

- The Netherlands (TMF)
- Switzerland

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
160,870 Euro

¹ ICRW is not included here, but under the project Parliamentarians for Women's Health.

Uganda

The current Parliament of Uganda was inaugurated in May 2006 and now has a multi-party dispensation, after a long period of "no-party democracy". The current parliament contains a spectrum of views covering various parties like the National Resistance Movement Organisation, the Forum of Democratic Change, the Uganda People's Congress, the Democratic Party, the Conservative Party and a small number of independent MPs.

Results

In 2006, the AWEPA Uganda programme saw a large number of projects that were implemented for parliamentary staff, MPs and Committees. The focus was to assist the Ugandan Parliament in its transition to a multi-party based parliament. Some of the notable results include:

- the various staff training courses led to the development of departmental manuals, guides and strategies prepared by the staff of parliament. These manuals contain guidelines and procedures on how the staff should execute their functions;
- the training in performance management carried out in conjunction with the human resource department led to the development of a new performance monitoring and assessment tool for staff;
- as result of the workshop on maternal health, which was attended by women parliamentarians and civil society organisations, a parliamentary motion urging the Government to be more committed to improving maternal health in Uganda was passed in parliament on the 5th of December 2006;
- as a result of the activities with the HIV/AIDS Committee, the Government accepted the inclusion of the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) into its five year action plan that is being implemented by the Uganda AIDS Commission;

- after the HIV/AIDS workshop organised by AWEPA in cooperation with UNICEF and parliament, the HIV/AIDS Committee tabled the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Control Bill 2007 before Parliament; and
- as recommended during the induction of new East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and Pan-African Parliament (PAP) Members, the Parliament established a fully facilitated secretariat within parliamentary buildings. The secretariat will handle EALA, PAP and other issues of regional integration.

Objectives for 2007

In 2007, cooperation between AWEPA and the Parliament of Uganda will:

- seek to strengthen and deepen multi-party democracy in the Parliament and further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of MPs and parliamentary staff. This will be done through development of representative and administrative capabilities, taking into consideration the revised Parliamentary Strategic Investment and Development Plan;
- support parliamentary Committees and women parliamentarians;
- strengthen the role of parliament in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, OVC and HIV/AIDS and private sector development.



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Staff Training in Research Methods, Mukono, 1-6 February, 28 February - 3 March
- Staff attachment to Europe, Netherlands, Ireland, 19-25 March
- Induction of Members of the 8th Parliament, Kampala, 19-23 June
- National Follow-Up Workshop on HIV/AIDS and Poverty Eradication Action Plan, Kampala, 14-16 September

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- Finland
- Ireland
- The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
215,810 Euro



Eastern Africa / Horn of Africa

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)

In 2006, the first term of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the legislative arm of the East African Community (EAC), ended. Since its inauguration in 2001, AWEPA has been a major partner of the EALA in supporting its development towards a modern, critical and well functioning regional parliamentary body. The Assembly's presence has started to be noticed and recognised regionally as well as internationally.

The EAC integration process has reached a critical point: the Customs Union is in place, the negotiations for a Common Market are under way, and national consultations on the proposed fast tracking of the political federation have been launched. In all these stages, the Assembly has played an essential role and is expected to continue to do so.

Results

The year 2006 was a very productive year with many projects implemented for the Committees, staff and Members of the EALA, resulting in:

- the development of manuals containing policies, plans and procedures on issues such as security affecting the EALA;
- Committee reports produced after AWEPA projects that were forwarded to the Council of Ministers and on which action has been undertaken;
- new legislation proposed on issues such as the management of Lake Victoria; and
- 10 EALA publications that were widely distributed to the EAC Ministries, the National Assemblies of Partner States and other stakeholders.

A major activity designed to strengthen the relations between EALA and the National Assemblies was successfully held in Tanzania as part of an ongoing process of inter-parliamentary relations seminars.

Objectives for 2007

- The challenge is to quickly get the new Assembly started and adequately prepare it to play its role. The priority will be to conduct the necessary induction programmes for the new Members so as to prepare them to effectively discharge their roles. Upon completion of the induction programmes, the focus for the Assembly will be on ensuring more joint activities with the National Assemblies both at Committee and plenary levels;
- Another priority is to support the admittance of Rwanda and Burundi into the East African Community, including EALA, during the course of 2007. This will have political and administrative implications for the functioning of the EALA as an institution;
- Special attention will be given to strengthening the role of EALA in urgent issues affecting the Great Lakes Region. For 2007 these are: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, OVC and HIV/AIDS and private sector development.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Course in Management Development, Nairobi, 6-24 March
- Workshop for the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges, Nairobi, 6-8 April
- Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources Tour of Lake Victoria, to Assess the Impacts of Declining Water Levels, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, 7-16 May
- Meeting of High Stakeholders in conflicts Resolution in East Africa organised by Regional Affairs and Conflicts Resolution Committee of EALA, Kampala, 13-14 July

DONORS

- Norway
- Sweden

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
465,454 Euro

Eastern Africa / Horn of Africa

RFPAC

The programme for women parliamentarians of the Great Lakes Region (Réseau de Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale, RFPAC) intends to offer a platform for women parliamentarians from the region to exchange experiences and to enhance their participatory and leadership skills in their respective parliaments.

In most countries of the region, women participation is low and women and gender issues are not viewed as the concern of all. During the year, several regional meetings of the network were organised by AWEPA, where specific themes were discussed.

– a Bill to protect women against all kind of violence, which was voted on by the Parliament of the Central African Republic after the RFPAC Chair of this country encouraged her colleagues to ensure a follow-up of the conference on this subject. This follow-up conference took place in Bangui in March 2006.

- The final declaration of a RFPAC meeting on access of women to micro finance was used as a basis for the forthcoming general AWEPA meeting on Private-Public partnership. Furthermore, the Burundian participants, once back, focused on “demobilised women” (former rebels) and supported them to make use of a special micro credit system, which will contribute to peace in the country.

- Lastly, parliamentarians from the Central African Republic set up a “Coordination Committee for the fight against HIV/AIDS”.

Objectives for 2007

The RFPAC programme will focus on the following areas in 2007:

- strengthening the leadership role of women in Central Africa;
- supporting women parliamentarians in their fight to end violence against women, particularly in conflict areas; and
- stimulating the strengthening of the economic position of women.

In order to attain results in these areas, AWEPA organises consultative meetings for RFPAC where expert and/or RFPAC members introduce the topics and where members can exchange best practices. In addition, RFPAC participates in regional AWEPA seminars which will deal with the following subjects in 2007: poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- RFPAC Conference on “Awareness raising, capacity building and mobilisation of Women for Political Leadership and the Fight against Violence and Sexual Abuse on Women”, Bangui, CAR, 16-17 March
- Conference of the network of Women Parliamentarians of Central Africa (RFPAC): ‘The access of Central African women to micro-credit’, Arusha, 7 September

MEMBERS OF THE RFPAC

The parliament of:
Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and the Republic of Congo.

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- UNIFEM

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
14,541 Euro



Results

- A RFPAC meeting on women political leadership and the fight against violence and sexual abuse on women resulted in:
 - the drafting of an action plan by the Burundian participants after they came back from the conference. Their search for funds in order to implement this action plan gave the incentive for the Burundian women to gather and create a national Association of Women Parliamentarians (AFEPABU); and



Southern Africa

Mozambique

AWEPA has supported the peace building, reconciliation and democratisation processes in Mozambique since the beginning of the 1990s. During this period AWEPA was the only international organisation in this field. Since then, cooperation programmes with Mozambican NGOs and Trade Unions in the earlier stages, and subsequently with the National Assembly, Political Parties, Local Government and the media, have been implemented.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Regional Seminar: Scaling up Parliamentary Efforts for Children and AIDS, Maputo, 28-30 March 2006

- Political Parties Programme, Support to the Consolidation of the Women's Parliamentary Cabinet, Maputo, 17 – 18 July

- Parliamentary Public Hearing Meetings on the Electoral Legislation Bill in Provinces, October 2006

- Visit of a delegation of the Mozambican Parliament to the Parliament of Namibia, 11-14 October 2006

DONORS

- Austria
- Copenhagen DC
- Finland
- Ireland
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- UNICEF

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
749,041 Euro

AWEPA's Mozambique Multi-Annual Programme has been developed in close cooperation and consultation with its partners, based on a long term commitment to institutional capacity building at national and local level. The programme consists of four main sub-programmes:

- Parliamentary Programme
- Local Government Programme
- Political Parties Programme
- Research and Publications

The overall aim of the Programme in Mozambique is to support the development of a democratic society, with properly functioning democratic institutions, a fair knowledge of and respect for the rule of law and human rights, for the benefit of the Mozambican population. The cross-cutting themes of the programme are: HIV/AIDS, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and Child Rights and Gender.

Results

National Assembly Programme

- after a series of public hearing meetings in the provinces on the Electoral Legislation Bill, this law was passed taking into account opinions of many citizens;
- in the field of support given to women MPs, a protocol was signed between the Women's Parliamentary Group, AWEPA and civil society women organisations

outlining the main areas of intervention and ways to implement programmes;

- concerning thematic support:
 - MPs consolidated and improved their knowledge on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), and action plans in relation to HIV/AIDS and OVC were developed;
 - MPs have a clearer understanding of the degree of enforcement needed in legislation protecting employees living with HIV/AIDS and to further



disseminate the message on HIV/AIDS among employers; and

- after an exposure visit to Namibia, Namibian legislation on the protection of people living with HIV is used as best (comparative law) practice in the process of revising the Mozambican Legislation on that subject.

Local Government Programme

- after various workshops and studies, there is increased awareness about the lack of strategies to ensure comprehensive collection of revenue. This is mainly due to poor knowledge of different sources of revenue that are legally established. AWEPA will continue to improve this situation through increased information provision and training;
- in the field of strategic planning, Local Authorities' knowledge and the skills necessary to design and analyse budgets and implement strategic planning has improved;

- on the thematic areas of HIV/AIDS and OVC, Local Authorities have consolidated and improved knowledge on OVC and developed action plans to improve the HIV/AIDS issue. After a series of AWEPA Local Government workshops, Consultative Fora dealing with HIV/AIDS and OVC were established in various municipalities.

Political Parties Programme

Although 2006 was not an election year, AWEPA continued to support political parties. Through participating in various AWEPA activities, political parties were able to improve their interaction with party supporters, so that they have a better understanding of their visions and wishes in relation to party programmes. The parties also gained a better understanding of the role of the opposition parties in a multi party democracy.

Research and Publication Programme

Research on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in the municipalities of the Central and South Region shed light on the actual situation and identified where action on OVC should be taken by the municipalities.

Objectives for 2007

The overall general programme goals for the upcoming year can be summarized as follows:

- advanced capacity building of members to play their legislative, representative and oversight roles;
- training of parliamentary staff on parliamentary rules and procedures;
- capacity building of political parties (cadres);
- supporting the improvement of relations between political parties;
- supporting the Provincial Legislatures that will be established in 2007;
- strengthening the local structures (district and municipal) of political parties;
- assisting Local Governments in better meeting the needs of the communities through effective legislation;
- assisting Local Governments to improve their financial and budgetary work;
- supporting the Parliament, Political Parties and Local Government in developing effective policies to protect children's rights, to fight HIV/AIDS and to promote gender equality.



The Role of AWEPA in Parliament and Progress – Mozambique

AWEPA is one of the very few organisations I know to make a difference in the lives of many Members of Parliaments and the citizens they represent, both in Africa and in Europe.

Its commitment to provide a platform for North-South dialogue, regional and continental support for the consolidation of democracy by strengthening the oversight and legislative roles of African parliaments can be attested by my personal involvement in capacity building seminars, both in Europe and Africa since 2003.

For example, I participated in the NEPAD Secretariat Briefing of Parliamentarians in

Nairobi in 2003, in three Seminars of the European Presidency on Africa, the first in London, the second in Cape Town and the third in Helsinki, as well as in the Lisbon Forum events in 2004 and in 2006.

I was particularly happy to have been asked by AWEPA to serve as a resource person for two seminars for the Transitional Federal Parliament of Somalia on the role of a parliament and on transition from war to peace in Mozambique.

Hon. Abel Mabunda
Member of Parliament
Mozambique



Southern Africa

South Africa

The South Africa Provincial Legislatures (SAPL) Programme is a capacity building programme for the nine Provincial Legislatures to assist them in fulfilling their constitutional mandate.

The programme is based on the partnership established in 1995 between AWEPA and the Speakers' Forum and its Human Resources Development (HRD) Committee. The HRD Committee in particular has played a vital role in strategically guiding the focus of the programme to improve the performance of the Legislatures. Furthermore, the SAPL programme is carried out in close cooperation and continuing consultation with the programme beneficiaries and partners.

The purpose of the SAPL Programme is to enable all nine South African Provincial Legislatures to accomplish their legislative duties, carry out their government oversight responsibilities, and represent the people who elected them.

Results

Various workshops on oversight have yielded tangible results. Members of Legislatures:

- discussed the Provincial budget with Local Government Councillors;
- have called municipalities to appear before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts;
- asked for resubmissions after finding inconsistencies in the reports of the government departments and in Limpopo Province; and

- scrutinised the accountability format of the provincial executive, which led to alterations in order to raise it to the required standard of the National Treasury.

Chief Whips, key players in political party organisation and discipline, have also been supported in financial management. This resulted in the setting-up of financial management systems in the offices of the Chief Whips.

Provincial legislatures also undertook several initiatives against HIV/AIDS, such as:

- a proposal to all the Provincial Departments to have HIV/AIDS a mandatory agenda item for all committees; and
- an HIV/AIDS pilot programme in the Eastern Cape Legislature resulting in the revival of the Eastern Cape Provincial AIDS Council and establishment of district and local AIDS councils.

Staff were seen to apply several aspects of the lessons learnt in various trainings about the core-functions of the Legislature. Concrete examples are:

- identification and reporting by staff of inconsistencies in the reports of government departments;
- improved coordination between research units and committees;
- improved quality of oversight reports; and
- development of a guide on oversight.

An important focal area of the SAPL programme is gender. Various capacity building events on this topic were implemented resulting in:



- the establishment of Women's Caucuses in various Legislatures;
- the establishment of gender focal points in all provincial departments in KwaZuluNatal; and
- the beginning of Legislatures examining legislation and budgets through a gender lens.

Objectives for 2007

AWEPA continues to implement the SAPL programme in close consultation with the Legislatures and involved partners. In 2007, AWEPA expects to work in the following areas:

- capacity building of Provincial Legislature Members, Chief Whips and staff on legislation, oversight and budget processes;

- assisting Provincial Legislatures to develop effective HIV/AIDS policies;
- supporting the Human Resource Development Committee;
- assisting Provincial Legislatures in institutionalising the gender agenda; and
- through provincial legislatures, supporting local governments and improving cooperation between local governments and provincial legislatures.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Interprovincial workshop on Gender and the National Budget, Cape Town, 16-17 March

- Team-building workshop for staff management of Mpumalanga Legislature, Aventura Hyde Canyon, 25-26 April

- Northern Cape Provincial Legislature Staff Oversight Workshop, Kimberly, 3-5 July

- Gauteng Standing Committee study visit to Uganda, Kampala, 14-18 August

DONORS

- Austria
- Belgium Flanders
- Denmark
- UNICEF

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
609,521 Euro



Western Africa

AWEPA is involved in activities taking place in West Africa and promotes parliamentary exchanges in the region. It supports the ECOWAS Parliament by involving it in various programmes and activities.

Results

The following main results were achieved in 2006:

- The ECOWAS Parliament was part of the Political Coordination Committee for the recently finalised research project: “The Role of Parliaments in Conflict Management and Peacebuilding”;
- The ECOWAS Parliament is part of the Steering Committee for the parliamentary programme “Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD: Towards the Millennium Development Goals” (MPN);
- In February, the first Expert Workshop of the MPN Programme was hosted by the Senegal Parliament and realised with a wide array of partners:
 - Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC);
 - Parliamentarians for Global Action;
 - Parliamentary Network of The World

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Regional Parliamentary Conference: “The Role of Parliament and Parliamentarians in addressing Small Arms, Conflict Prevention and Justice in Africa”, Dakar, 27, 28 February and 1st March

- AWEPA Participation in the Inauguration 2nd ECOWAS Legislature, Abuja, 13 November

DONORS

- Denmark
- Sweden

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
42,728 Euro

Bank (PNoWB);

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA); and
- World Bank.

It brought together leading parliamentarians from West Africa, Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region to explore the role of MPs in the fight against small arms, conflict prevention, democratisation and justice in Africa.

Objectives 2007

In 2007, AWEPA will be focusing on Trade and Economic Development with a special focus on Agriculture and Private Sector Development within the MPN programme. A Regional Seminar is planned for the West Africa region.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Facilitation of Committee Meetings, Midrand, 24-30 April

- Parliamentary Staff Training, Midrand, 6-8 December

DONORS

- Belgium DGOS
- The Netherlands

The Belgian Government, through DGOS – A programme of support for the PAP (2006-2007), which is principally aimed at strengthening the work of the PAP’s Committees.
The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Pretoria – PAP-AWEPA Institutional Capacity Building Programme 2006-2009. This focuses on enhancing the institutional capacity of the PAP so that it can function effectively and communicate successfully.

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
130,668 Euro

Pan-African Parliament

The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) was formally inaugurated on 18th March 2004 and is one of the nine organs making up the African Economic Community. Consisting of delegations of five parliamentarians from every African Union Member State, the PAP’s MPs represent all the peoples of Africa.

The establishment of the PAP, which has its seat in Midrand, South Africa, is informed by a vision to provide a common platform for African peoples and their grass-roots organisations to be more involved in discussions and decision-making on the problems and challenges facing the continent. The ultimate aim of the Pan-African Parliament is to evolve into an institution with full legislative powers, whose members are elected by universal adult suffrage.

Results

The following results were achieved in 2006:

- In April 2006, AWEPA facilitated meetings of three PAP Committees: Rules, Privileges and Discipline; Monetary and Financial Affairs; and International Relations and Conflict Resolution. Reports from these meetings were communicated to the 5th Ordinary PAP Session in May 2006;
- From May 2006 onwards AWEPA assisted with financing the redevelopment of the PAP website. This process is ongoing, and the new website is expected to be launched in early 2007;
- In September 2006, AWEPA supported a PAP Seminar on the Harmonisation of Regional Economic Communities in Arusha, Tanzania. This was the first seminar in the PAP’s continuing discussion on regional integration, which was reported upon during discussions during the 6th Ordinary PAP Session in November 2006; and

- In December 2006, a Strategic Planning workshop was held for senior PAP staff, including the Clerk, the two Deputy Clerks and the Director of the Bureau, in Magaliesburg, near Johannesburg. In depth discussions took place about the implementation framework of the PAP’s Strategic Plan and Objectives, the institution’s organisational structure, and the PAP’s documentation requirements. These discussions will be concluded in a follow-up workshop in February 2007.

Objectives 2007

In 2007 AWEPA’s activities with the PAP will increase in number, and the following is planned:

- three seminars with PAP Committees on the following issues: NEPAD, Orphans and Vulnerable Children, and the formation of a PAP Women’s Caucus;
- institutional capacity building activities such as internalisation of the Strategic Plan, facilitation of PAP staff regulations, financial policies and procedures and targeted staff training;
- support for the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy and Oversight Framework of PAP;
- a study visit to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Nordic Council for senior PAP Staff;
- further development and updating of the PAP website; and
- production of PAP communication materials for both internal and external use.





Thematic Programmes

AWEPA's thematic programmes inform parliamentarians and mobilise parliamentary action on development related issues.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- AWEPA General Management Training, South Africa, 27-28 May 2006

- Africa's News Media Conference: the Vision, the Need and the Responsibility, Nairobi, 7-9 August

- Parliamentary and Private Sector Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction in the Great Lakes Region, Arusha, 8-9 September

- Parliamentary Conference on the role of Political Parties in a democratic system, Rwanda, 2-3 October 2006.

DONORS

- The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

742,421 Euro²

2 This is total amount spent under the TMF Programme in 2006, including all the amounts booked under various African countries, TMF Africa (decentralisation, General Management Trainings and publications) and TMF Europe.



Democracy in the Great Lakes Region

The Regional Programme for the Great Lakes is a four year programme that has the objectives to strengthen the role of parliaments for peace, human rights and poverty reduction in the Great Lakes region and to stimulate European policy makers to take decisions that positively affect Africa's development.

The programme mobilises parliamentarians of the Great Lakes Region to take legislative action and to strengthen their oversight and representative tasks in relation to poverty reduction, peace, media, HIV and AIDS and OVC and private sector development.

The core of the programme consists of four annual regional conferences that are followed up in the national parliaments of Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and the East African Legislative Assembly. By involving parliaments from Southern Africa to share their experience on the main themes, South-South exchange is also much promoted.

In addition, the programme aims to strengthen the capacity of the AWEPA offices in the Great Lakes Region and to further embed AWEPA in national civil society networks. Within the European component of the programme, AWEPA has established new sections in various new EU Member States, as well as strengthening existing sections, to promote Africa on the political agenda in Europe.

Results

Various specific results and example projects per country are provided in the chapters 'African parliaments' and 'European parliaments'. Overall results

include:

- The Ground Rules of Parliamentary Democracy have been strengthened as major international players and governments in the region recognise the role of parliaments in peace and democratisation processes. These actors from the Great Lakes Region invited parliaments to be represented within government delegations. The issues that have been dealt with at the regional conferences and national follow-up workshops have been taken up by the parliaments, and in some cases amendments to legislation have been discussed.

- The HIV/AIDS pandemic in the region has now been firmly placed on the parliamentary agenda, and it is recognised that HIV/AIDS strongly impacts vulnerable groups such as orphans, other vulnerable children and women.

- MPs are now involved in sharpening national action plans to deal with HIV/AIDS and to protect the vulnerable groups;

- in some of the countries, special committees dealing with HIV/AIDS and/or OVC have been established after a series of AWEPA interventions; and
- MPs are seen to increasingly pay field visits to assess the situation, and they are involved in targeting budgetary resources and monitoring government spending in the scaled up response.

- MPs of the region are increasingly aware of their role in Poverty Reduction Strategies and national development plans. In some parliaments of the Great Lakes Region, this resulted in amendments made by parliament to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and National Development Plans.



- Private sector development has gained a prominent place on the parliamentary agenda. The AWEPA regional conference on private sector development was received with great enthusiasm by the parliaments of the region and MPs are eager to improve the business climate through legislation and regulations.
- Through professional training and on-the-job training of AWEPA's African staff, the AWEPA offices in Africa are better able to respond to the demands of effective programme implementation,

monitoring and evaluation. In the various countries of the Great Lakes region, local AWEPA offices have strengthened their ties with local offices of international organisations, and are better embedded in the national NGO/CSO networks.

Objectives 2007

For the regional programme in the Great Lakes the objective for 2007 is to mobilise parliamentarians of the region to take legislative action and to strengthen their oversight and representative tasks in relation to poverty reduction, peace, media and political parties, HIV/AIDS and OVC and private sector development. Various projects are also foreseen to further embed AWEPA in national NGO/CSO networks.



'The role of AWEPA in progress and Parliament' and why the private sector theme is particularly useful.

The private sector is the engine of growth in any country, including developing countries such as Uganda. Unfortunately, this is not given the due attention it deserves, either by the executive or legislative arms of government.

Parliaments are key in the development process through their mandate of legislation, oversight and representative roles.

Through legislation, MPs can provide a conducive environment for private sector growth and job creation; they can make fair and open rules that encourage competition and discourage corruption. They can also make laws and regulations that control

inflation, create economic stability and promote access to affordable finance. All these lead to economic growth, job creation and poverty eradication.

Hon. Dr. Johnson Nkuuhe
Member of Parliament
Uganda

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- NEPAD Executive Committee & Steering Committee Meeting, Cape Town, 23 & 24 May

- National NEPAD Briefing, Accra, 3 March

DONORS

- Sweden

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

167,130 Euro

Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD (MPN):

Towards the Millennium Development Goals

In 2001, the Heads of State of Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa initiated a vision and strategic framework for Africa's renewal: The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). This socio-economic programme of the African Union is strongly linked to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that the international community has set for the year 2015. After broad consultation with African partners and stakeholders, a five-year (2005-2010) parliamentary support programme was developed: Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD: Towards the Millennium Development Goals (MPN).

The programme purpose is to achieve increased parliamentary action in Africa and Europe in various areas of development relating to NEPAD. The implementation of the programme is coordinated by AWEPA, under the guidance of the Executive Committee, which consists of representatives from the following partner organisations:

- Pan-African Parliament
- NEPAD Secretariat
- African Parliamentarian's Forum for NEPAD
- NEPAD Contact Group of African Parliamentarians (NCGAP)

Additional partners are member of the Steering Committee:

- African Parliamentary Union
- East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)
- Economic Community of West African States Parliament (ECOWAS-P)
- Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF)

Results

The following main results were achieved in 2006:

- leading parliamentarians from West Africa, Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region jointly explored the role of MPs in the fight against small arms, conflict prevention, democratisation and justice in Africa;
- parliamentarians in Ghana, Mozambique and Germany were sensitised on NEPAD and MDG related issues as a result of national meetings in the parliaments of these countries;
- African and European MPs exchanged perspectives on NEPAD-related issues during various African-European seminars;
- the MPN Executive Committee and Steering Committee met to discuss and further fine-tune the programme implementation. This ensured the ownership process: members are informed about developments and are involved in strategising and prioritising the roadmap for the programme; and
- a wide array of partners joined the MPN initiative in West-Africa: the Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC), Parliamentarians for Global Action, the Parliamentary Network of The World Bank (PNoWB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) and the World Bank.

Objectives 2007

In 2007, AWEPA will be focusing on Trade and Economic Development with a special focus on Agriculture and Private Sector Development within the MPN programme. The objective is to progress from the programme's initial Orientation Phase (providing parliamentarians with a solid knowledge about the Millennium Development Goals and the NEPAD process), to the Policy-making Phase (the development of parliamentary action plans), and to design the subsequent National Follow-up process.



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Regional Seminar on Children and AIDS for Lusophone countries, Maputo, 28-30 March

DONORS

- UNICEF ESARO
- UNICEF Mozambique
- Sweden
- Switzerland

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

231,688 Euro³

³ This amount is included in the Mozambique programme expenditures.

Children and AIDS

HIV and AIDS threaten the safety and survival of millions of children across sub-Saharan Africa. The size of the problem makes it impossible to combat it on the scale of families or even small communities. African governments and societies have begun to recognise this impending disaster. They lack, however, the institutional capacity and financial means to combat the effects on the scale expected. To scale up the efforts of parliamentarians for Children and AIDS responses, AWEPA launched a multi-year campaign on Children and AIDS, in cooperation with UNICEF and others.

The first preparation (phase 1) of this campaign began in September 2004 with the Parliamentary Consultation on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Cape Town. The conference resulted in the Cape Town Declaration, which contains guidelines on how parliamentarians can make a unique contribution to scaling up efforts on behalf of orphans and vulnerable children. Phase 2 of the campaign on Children and AIDS consisted of jointly organising a series of regional seminars

with UNICEF. Phase 3 consists of national follow-up workshops that will be organised in African and European national and regional parliaments to bring Children and AIDS on top of the political agenda.

Results

Examples of results achieved in 2006 in the OVC programme are:

- as a result of the regional seminar on Scaling up Parliamentary Efforts for Children and AIDS in Maputo, March 2006, National Parliamentary Plans of Action (NPPAs) for OVC were developed by delegations from Mozambique (Members of Parliament and representatives of Municipalities), Angola, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome & Principe;
- in Kenya, an HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Bill was prepared in parliament and is expected to be passed in 2007;
- an HIV/AIDS Standing Committee in the Parliament of Tanzania is in the final stages of being established;
- conclusions and recommendations to establish an OVC Committee in

parliament from a national follow-up workshop in Burundi were distributed among all parliamentarians. In addition, the President of the National Assembly visited an orphanage and promised parliamentary action on OVC;

- at a national follow-up workshop in Rwanda, parliamentarians adopted recommendations which included the sensitisation of all social levels to the problems of OVC and their impact on the living conditions of the future generation. Parliamentarians also conducted various field visits to explain the OVC problem and to mobilise for action;
- as a follow-up to the regional seminar on Scaling up Parliamentary Efforts for Children and AIDS in 2005, parliamentarians in Uganda developed a "Motion for a resolution of parliament on the adoption of the Entebbe Declaration on an enhanced response by parliamentarians to the crisis of orphans and other vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS in Uganda";
- a Parliamentary Committee on OVC was established by the Transitional Federal Parliament of Somalia; and

● in Europe various parliamentarians raised the issue of HIV/AIDS and OVC in their countries through questions, motions, press releases and an EU statement.

Objectives for 2007

In 2007, AWEPA will continue with phase 3 of the Children and AIDS Campaign. National follow-up workshops will be organised in 2007 and 2008 in at least 11 African countries in order to support the implementation of the National Parliamentary Plans of Action, as well as to foster links with UN organisations and civil society. A further emphasis in 2007 (and 2008) will be to improve the monitoring of parliamentary action through a Parliamentary Performance Tracking Mechanism. Furthermore, with the organisation of national workshops in European Parliaments, a scaling up of European parliamentary efforts for children and AIDS in Africa is envisaged.



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- National Workshop for the Parliamentarians for Women's Health (PWH) Project, Gaborone, 17 January

- National Workshop for the Parliamentarians for Women's Health (PWH) Project, Dar es Salaam, 20 February

DONORS

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, through International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

170,489 Euro



Parliamentarians for Women's Health (PWH)

In 2005-6 AWEPA was involved in the Parliamentarians for Women's Health (PWH) project with a selected group of parliamentarians in Botswana, Kenya, Namibia and Tanzania. PWH is an initiative to strengthen parliamentarians' efforts to improve women's and girls' access to health services, specifically HIV and AIDS treatment, prevention, care and counselling.

AWEPA undertook this project in partnership with the International Centre for Research on Women, the Centre for the Study of AIDS at the University of Pretoria, the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS and Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative. PWH is funded by the Bill Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors.

The PWH project provides parliamentarians with accurate and timely information related to women's health, and connects them with HIV/AIDS community networks, so that these leaders are better poised to take action and make decisions relating to women's health issues. Through national workshops in 2005 and 2006 for parliamentarians, community representatives and specialists, and targeted technical assistance such as trainings, awareness raising and related policy work the PWH project enables parliamentarians to make a positive impact on women's access to health care.

Results

The following results were achieved in 2006:

- In Botswana a Legal Policy Group was formed in April to review and promote legislation in support of women's access to healthcare. During sensitisation

training on HIV/AIDS in July MPs made a commitment to tackle stigma issues.

- In Namibia informational meetings were arranged for MPs with youth groups, and HIV positive women which empowered MPs, strengthened the credibility of the groups they visited, and lent authority to stigma reduction. In February 2007 an 'AIDS and Me' training for parliamentarians improved their understanding and received good press coverage. In May, June and July community assessments were made by MPs, including the Speaker of the Parliament, Hon. Theo Ben Gurirab, which inspired other MPs to carry out similar visits to their own constituencies.

- In Kenya the project gained the support of the Minister of Health, who agreed for her department to assist with research during community assessments. These assessments took place from June-September, and raised MPs' awareness about women's healthcare issues, as well as fostering partnerships with civil society organisations, healthcare providers, community leaders and positive women's networks.

- In Tanzania MPs used PWH research inputs in budget debates to justify the need for increased funding for healthcare, particularly HIV/AIDS and maternal health.

Objectives for 2007

AWEPA's involvement in the PWH project ended at the end of 2006, however the project continues into 2007 with the full support of AWEPA. For more information see the PWH website: www.womens-healthcare.org.



European Parliaments
Besides supporting parliaments in Africa, AWEPA also informs and mobilises European parliamentarians on policy issues in African-European relations, development cooperation and democratisation in Africa.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- Briefing of German MPs on AWEPA's programmes, in particular the MPN programme, Berlin, 7 September

- Visit to the Polish Parliament in order to establish a section in this parliament, Warchau, 26-27 October

DONORS

- The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
80,595 Euro

AWEPA Sections

AWEPA has a broad member network of parliamentarians and former parliamentarians from across Europe. In 2006, AWEPA had some 1500 members coming from the European Parliament, the parliaments from almost all EU member states, and Norway and Switzerland. Within a certain parliament, these members are grouped into a section.

Sections undertake various activities, such as:

- promoting Parliamentary Action Plans resulting from AWEPA's conferences;
- initiating parliamentary questions, tabling reports and drafting resolutions on issues relating to Africa;
- stimulating and inviting other Members of Parliament to become AWEPA members; and
- informing AWEPA about activities in their parliaments that are relevant for AWEPA's work, such as parliamentary visits to and from Africa.

Sections play a crucial role in keeping Africa on the political agenda in Europe. AWEPA therefore provides support to its sections to perform their advocacy and function effectively. A priority for AWEPA is to establish sections in the parliaments of the new EU Member States.

Results

- *Strengthening existing sections and gaining more members*

The working relations between the sections in Austria, Germany, Finland, the UK, Portugal, Italy and the European Parliament and AWEPA International were in particular strengthened through regular consultations and activities in these parliaments. Activities included briefings for MPs and Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on themes such as HIV/AIDS and poverty reduction.

The regular consultations and activities resulted in:

- sections taking initiatives to raise more members. In 2006, AWEPA obtained 77 new members;
- members raising questions in parliamentary debates;
- members participating in activities in Africa to share their expertise with their African colleagues; and
- sections receiving African delegations.

Communications with the sections and members was also improved in 2006, especially through the launch of a completely new website and the introduction of a monthly E-Newsletter.

● Establishing new sections

- In 2006, two new sections were established: in the Norodna Rada of the Slovak Republic and in the Sejm of Poland
- Preparations have started to establish new sections in: Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, France and Norway

Objectives for 2007

In 2007 AWEPA will:

- focus on establishing sections in the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria;
- continue its initiatives to strengthen existing sections. The improvement of communication with the sections will be a particularly high priority; and
- work to increase the AWEPA membership base.



The German AWEPA Section

After a period of inactivity, the German AWEPA section has been activated in 2006 and grown by 28 new members.

A first meeting of the German AWEPA section explicitly declared to support AWEPA's work, after Mr. Pär Granstedt introduced the activities and proposals. Additionally, we discussed the role of national and regional parliaments in Africa with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), H.E. Dr. T. A. Salomão, who emphasised the importance of a well functioning parliament for democracy, stability and rule of law in Africa.

The German AWEPA section will go on recruiting members in the national Bundestag and in our regional parliaments; we support the German EU and G8 Presidency putting Africa very importantly on the political agenda – including a Parliamentary Conference in cooperation with AWEPA.

Prof. Dr. Herta Däubler-Gmelin
Member of Parliament and Head of German AWEPA Section
Germany



AWEPA Sections in the new EU Member States

In the new member states of the European Union, the parliamentary activities relating to Africa increased through the creation of AWEPA sections.

At the end of 2006, AWEPA had sections in the parliaments of 7 of the 12 new member states. The experiences of the countries that went through a successful transition from totalitarian rule are valuable for African states.

The interest for Africa in Central Europe is however still comparatively low. That is why

we need to encourage them to put the African agenda higher in their priorities; in this the AWEPA sections play a central role.

Dr. Egidijus Vareikis
Member of Parliament and Vice President of AWEPA
Lithuania

World AIDS Day



On the occasion of World AIDS Day on 1 December 2006 various activities were organised in European Parliaments.

AWEPA sections from Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Latvia and the United Kingdom reported on several initiatives that were taken in their Parliaments, including parliamentary

questions, motions, resolutions, press releases and articles.

Members of Parliament also wore the red ribbon, the global symbol for solidarity with HIV positive people and people living with AIDS, which unites people in the common fight against this disease.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

● Briefing for Members of the European Parliament, Brussels, 17 October

● Parliamentary Briefing for the new EU Member States on the EU Strategy for Africa, Vienna, 20 June

DONORS

● The Netherlands (TMF)

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006
81,632 Euro

European Networking and Advocacy

In order to broaden the impact of AWEPA's programmes, efforts were intensified in 2006 to cooperate with important institutions in Europe. These institutions included the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Commission, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

Results

Advocacy initiatives were undertaken successfully in Europe, and examples include the following:

- the adoption of two resolutions in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, with a specific role identified for AWEPA;
- the amendment of an EU budget line through the section in the European Parliament to ensure sufficient attention is given to parliamentary networking and

capacity development;

- the initiation of new methods of monitoring Irish development aid by the Irish section;
- the initiation of press releases, parliamentary questions and a special motion by the Irish section to pressurise the Irish government into further action on Darfur at EU and UN level; and
- the introduction of a delegation of MPs from new EU member states to the workings of the ACP-EU Parliamentary Assembly.

In addition, AWEPA was very pleased to be included in 2006 on the list of ODA eligible organisations of the OECD/DAC.

Objectives for 2007

In 2007, continued effort will be made to increase the impact of programmes in Europe through institutional networking and advocacy work by the sections.



The Role of AWEPA in Parliament and Progress

The proof of progress in the Irish AWEPA section was shown by a more critical mindset, as well as a more active membership, in 2006.

As early as our sections' first meeting in mid-February 2006, some of the hardest questions were raised: How well are we able to monitor Ireland's development aid to Africa? How responsible have recent election monitoring missions to Africa been? What are the most effective responses to the question of corruption?

The positive way that our section reacted to these questions was critical: new means of monitoring Irish overseas development aid were initiated in the Irish Parliament, in partnership with AWEPA International; enthusiasm for election monitoring remained high among our parliamentarians, albeit informed with a new sense of responsibility; the complex issue of corruption was studied, worked over, and a new range of proposals raised in the Irish Parliament to ensure funds reach their intended recipients.

In 2006, Irish AWEPA members visited and reported back from many of Ireland's most important African partner countries, Uganda,

Ethiopia and Tanzania. As parliamentarians, we tried to spot what worked and what was missing in African parliaments, as I also did on a visit to Ghana. Equally, visits to the Irish Parliament by Kenyan and Ugandan delegations in 2006 communicated first-hand the ongoing challenges to progress in those parliaments, as well as real and impressive evidence of capacity building successes.

As 2006 drew to a close, however, one issue loomed larger than any other: that of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. Irish AWEPA members used all means at their disposal, press releases, parliamentary questions, and a special parliamentary motion, to pressurise our foreign ministers into further action at EU and UN level. It wasn't enough to bring lasting peace to Darfur, but at least the Irish AWEPA section made its voice heard on that issue. We will continue making noise on Darfur, and on other humanitarian crises, as well as supporting longer-term measures to bolster parliamentary democracies and monitor governance.

Hon. Fiona O'Malley
Member of Parliament and AWEPA member
Ireland



EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

- EU Presidency Seminar on Africa "Towards a Euro-African pact for Africa's development: The Role of Parliamentarians" (Austria), Cape Town, South Africa, 25-26 May

- EU Presidency Seminar on Africa "Parliamentary Partnership for Africa's Economic Development in the framework of NEPAD and the MDGs (Finland)", Helsinki, 23-24 November

DONORS

- Austria
- Denmark
- Finland
- North South Centre of the Council of Europe
- The Netherlands (TMF)
- Sweden

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

231,959 Euro

EU Presidency Seminars on Africa

Each year major parliamentary conferences that bring together European and African MPs are organised in the framework of the EU Presidencies. This year these took place in Cape Town under the Austrian Presidency, and in Helsinki under the Finnish Presidency.

AWEPA kept up its tradition during 2006 of holding parliamentary dialogue forums on African democracy and development in combination with the EU Presidency. Inter-regional meetings were conducted in both Vienna and Helsinki to bridge the knowledge gap, seek mutually agreed parliamentary actions to improve African-European relations, and influence the course of the EU agenda on Africa.

Results

The EU Presidency Seminar under the Austrian Presidency in May focused on the EU Strategy for Africa and the monitoring of Official Development Aid (ODA) commitments and spending. Participants included members of 24 African parliaments, including the Pan-African Parliament, and 15 European parliaments, including the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. They agreed on a set of recommendations for parliamentary action, committing themselves to the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through effective oversight, legislation and budgets, as well as to the fulfilment of the promises in Europe made to Africa with regard to ODA, debt relief and trade reforms.

The EU Presidency Seminar in Helsinki in November discussed the role of parliamentarians in creating a conducive climate for sustainable



economic development in Africa. Over 75 parliamentarians from Africa and Europe, experts and representatives from civil society and international institutions took part in the event.

The agreed recommendations for parliamentary action outlined concrete steps for parliamentarians to contribute towards Africa's economic development, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the MDGs.

Objectives 2007

In 2007, an EU Presidency Seminar on Africa will be organised in Portugal.



Research

AWEPA regularly engages in research projects to catalogue lessons learned during our work and to contribute to international debates and dialogues in the field.

ODA Monitoring

The African continent has taken a positive step towards monitoring its own good governance in the African Peer Review Mechanism. In light of this, and the numerous promises made by European countries in 2005 to increase aid to Africa, there is a need for a similar method whereby European parliamentarians can hold their governments to account. In addition, parliaments in Africa and Europe should join forces to share information about Official Development Assistance (ODA), as this will lead to increased and more effective oversight of both the disbursement and spending of aid in Africa.

In 2006, AWEPA therefore launched two research projects to increase the parliamentary monitoring of ODA in both Europe and Africa.

- European Development Policy Tracking Mechanism: this project provides an annual resource publication for both European and African parliamentarians to monitor how good European countries are at keeping their international development promises



with regard to ODA. The publication includes:

- an overview of recent progress and statistics in the European development field;
- a review of European commitments made to Africa; and
- developments in European wide policies such as the EU Strategy for Africa and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

- AWEPA-NCGAP Parliamentary ODA Monitoring: this parliamentary project, carried out in partnership with the NEPAD Contact Group of African Parliamentarians (NCGAP), monitors how ODA is spent by African governments. It tracks the ODA disbursed by a pilot group of European countries to Africa, in relation to the ODA received and spent by a pilot group of African countries.

Results

The following results were achieved in 2006:

- publication of the first resource publication of the European

Development Policy Tracking Mechanism, which was distributed and discussed during the Cape Town EU Presidency Seminar in May. The publication was also distributed widely among AWEPA members and African MPs and was a very useful tool for parliamentarians to hold governments accountable for commitments they made; and

- collection of initial data from the 4 European countries (Finland, Ireland, Sweden and the UK) in the AWEPA-NCGAP pilot project about ODA disbursed to the 6 African countries (Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda). This data was given to NCGAP parliamentarians from the pilot countries for detailed inspection.

Objectives 2007

Both research projects will continue in 2007. A second European Development Policy Tracking Mechanism publication will be published for wide distribution with a focus on aid statistics and policies in 2006-7. In addition, work on the Parliamentary ODA Monitoring project will continue, including parliamentary questions in Europe regarding ODA policies, reports from NCGAP members about ODA spent in African countries, and the strengthening of cooperation between African and European parliamentarians with regard to ODA oversight.



The Role of AWEPA in Effecting Progress and Parliamentary System

I am convinced that as an organisation embracing parliamentarians, AWEPA should play a very significant role as regards to the development of African countries, both in the democratic and economic sphere.

I am convinced that only steps taken on behalf of both these factors simultaneously can produce the desired results, whereas the role of parliamentarians is both to shape public opinion in the donor countries as well as to shape the governments' policy in this regard.

The economic aspect of supporting Africa's development seems particularly important. However, creating a climate conducive to investments, creating conditions for the development of business, is only a fragment of a complex issue. The assistance offered should be of a structural nature, it should concentrate on the elimination of the causes, not of the effects.

It is particularly important that the institutions, the countries offering aid give special attention to monitoring the ways how it is spent. It is of key importance that no effort be spared to have Western aid to Africa used to the maximum effect. It is no doubt a

great challenge to aid beneficiaries, but also to the countries offering that aid.

The mechanisms of NEPAD, of supporting Africa through new investments and cooperation among African countries, and also steps of the peer review kind, which provide that African countries would control one another as regards democratisation and economic reforms, are not always satisfactory.

Enabling ordinary Africans to take advantage of structural aid should, as the most effective means to fight poverty, be the Western countries' priority. Attention should also be given to African countries' terms of trade, which are one of the main barriers to the economic growth of the region.

I am sure that an effective aid to Africa is feasible, and it is in the improvement of ways it is offered where I see the primary scope for activity of AWEPA and of parliamentarians belonging to this Association.

Hon. Malgorzata Maria Bartyzel
Member of Parliament and AWEPA member
Poland

POLITICAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

- Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)
- Speaker of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS Parliament)
- President of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP)
- Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF)
- Executive President of AWEPA

DONORS

- Denmark

TOTAL SPENT IN 2006

103,181 Euro

The Role of Parliaments in Conflict Management and Peacebuilding

In 2006, AWEPA completed the research project: "The Role of Parliaments in Conflict Management and Peacebuilding", funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which involved a unique combination of African political leaders and (regional) democratic institutions.

The Political Coordination Committee, including major African political leaders, met three times during the project to be informed about and especially



to comment on the programme developments and draft research products. Members of Parliament, UN agencies, parliamentary associations and experts from research institutes and civil society organisations were regularly

informed about progress and invited, where appropriate, to contribute to and participate in the project. As expected, this transparent approach created a constructive exchange of information about the issues under discussion.

Results

The research project resulted in a report that contains a comprehensive review of relevant African experiences and sets out recommendations for African policy-makers and guidelines for international assistance. This groundbreaking assessment of the role of parliament in African conflict management and peacebuilding efforts includes the role of regional parliaments and the role of women's leadership in conflict and post-conflict settings.

The research report can be downloaded from AWEPA's website, under Resources, Research.

In 2006, AWEPA published the article "Parliaments and Leadership: Breaking New Ground" in ACCORD's Magazine Conflict Trends issue 4, which was a direct outcome of the research project. The first issue of this magazine in 2007 will be developed with AWEPA's cooperation and will focus on the role of parliaments.

2 Partners

AWEPA is a network organisation that thrives on partnership. Without close operational partners among parliaments, civil society and international organisations, AWEPA would be incapable of reaching its objectives. Partners are therefore essential to AWEPA.

AWEPA's mission emerges from the international struggle for human dignity and human rights. European parliamentarians are banded together under the AWEPA banner to lend their voice to those opposed to the most notorious human rights violations: first apartheid, then bad governance, corruption, orphaned children, and

Goals (MDGs) and then to monitor whether these commitments are met in terms of aid, trade and debt.

AWEPA has developed partnerships at the global level and in Africa and Europe at the regional and national levels. Partners include inter-governmental organisations, inter-parliamentary institutions, regional and national parliaments and key civil society organisations at regional, national, decentralised and grassroots levels.

2.1 Parliaments in Africa

Africa has committed itself to improved governance, in the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and



Africa's millions who are threatened by poverty, disease and ignorance. Such massive challenges require strong partnerships.

The responsibility taken up by AWEPA members is to push for strong European commitments to Africa, to really achieve the promised Millennium Development

the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). AWEPA supports this aim via parliamentary development in Africa, at local, national, regional and continental levels. In total, AWEPA works with some 25 parliaments in Africa. Parliamentary development is a key pre-requisite for achieving poverty reduction and

REGIONAL PARLIAMENTS

- Pan-African Parliament (PAP)
- Southern African Development Committee Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF)
- SADC Regional Women's Parliamentary Caucus
- East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Parliament

REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

- African Parliamentarians Forum for NEPAD (APFN)
- NEPAD Contact Group of African Parliamentarians (NCGAP)
- Réseau des Femmes Parlementaires d'Afrique Centrale (RFPAC)
- Tanzania Parliamentary AIDS Coalition (TAPAC)
- Ugandan Women's Parliamentary Association (UWOPA)
- Kenya Women's Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA)
- AMANI Forum

the other Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), sustainable conflict management and the realisation of human rights.

Regional Partners

Two key partnerships in Africa are outlined in the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with NEPAD and the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). During 2006, major multi-annual programmes were jointly developed with both NEPAD and the PAP, and their implementation was begun. Although separate, these programmes nonetheless do overlap each other and have the ambition to reach across all of Africa's parliaments over the coming years.

At the regional level, major activities were also implemented in cooperation with the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Southern African Development Committee Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) and the Central African parliamentary women's network (RFPAC). Regional cooperation and integration, which is promoted and consolidated in these partnerships, holds the prospect for a peaceful and prosperous Great Lakes region. Progress is underway to translate regional dialogue



into concrete action at the national parliamentary level.

The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness endorsed by donors and recipients alike, calls for ownership, harmonisation and mutual accountability. In all three areas, parliamentarians on both sides of the equation, donor and recipient partner, have a key role to play. AWEPA supports parliamentarians to let the voice of the people be heard in aid targeting, in the selection of implementing partners and in holding governments and donors accountable. A key partner in this effort is the NEPAD Contact Group of African Parliamentarians (NCGAP). Together, NCGAP and AWEPA developed a programme for monitoring and oversight of Official Development Aid (ODA), with roles for parliamentarians in Africa and Europe. The pilot phase started off successfully in 2006, and the first results are expected in 2007.

National Partners

On the national level AWEPA has a cooperation framework with 19 national parliaments in Africa.

- Angola
- Botswana
- Burundi
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Republic of Congo
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- South Africa
- Sudan (Southern)
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

UN ORGANISATIONS

- ECOSOC (Special Consultative Status)
- UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa and Country Offices in Africa
- UNECA
- UNICEF International (New York):
 - East and Southern Africa Regional
 - Office (ESARO)
 - West and Central Africa Regional
 - Office (WCARO)
 - Middle East and North Africa (MENA)
 - Country Offices in Africa
- UNIFEM
- UNEP
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

NGOS

- Netherlands Institute for Multi-Party Democracy (NIMD)
- European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)
- Nederlands Instituut voor Zuidelijke Afrika (NIZA)
- Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative (EGI)
- International Community of Women living with HIV and AIDS (ICW)
- Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC)
- Nelson Mandela Children's Fund

OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

- African Union – NEPAD Secretariat
- International IDEA
- OECD/DAC
- North-South Center of the Council of Europe (NSC)

INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ORGANISATIONS

- Inter-Parliamentary Union (observer status)
- Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)
- Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB)

Local Partners

In addition to national parliaments, AWEPA works together with decentralised authorities such as provinces and municipalities. In 2006, AWEPA worked with nine South African Provincial Legislatures, while in Mozambique with 33 municipalities.

2.2 Parliaments in Europe

AWEPA has built up a broad member network of European parliamentarians that are supportive of its work; its members. Within the different parliaments in Europe, these members form a section.

AWEPA has sections in the European Parliament, in almost all EU member states and Switzerland. Sections represent a broad base of political parties in a given country. In 2006, AWEPA had sections in the national parliaments of the following countries:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Estonia
- European Parliament
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Slovak Republic
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

2.3 Non-parliamentary Partners

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) constitute a global-level poverty reduction strategy, which is paralleled by regional and national approaches fostered by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and supported by AWEPA. The AWEPA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UNDP is focused on mobilising parliamentarians on achieving the MDGs in Africa. With UNICEF, the MoU focuses on orphans and vulnerable children (OVC).

In addition to the organs already mentioned, there are a number of organisations with which AWEPA enjoys a close working relationship. AWEPA has consultative status at the UN and membership on the OECD/DAC list. AWEPA has observer status at the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly. In terms of civil society, AWEPA has membership in CIVICUS at the global level and in PARTOS in the Netherlands. AWEPA also sits on the Dutch umbrella (CABA) of NGOs working on OVC.

Via these partnerships, AWEPA works to strengthen its relations with civil society at the national level in Africa, so that parliamentary capacity building programmes are better able to encourage and develop parliament-civil society relations. As these relations develop, it is more possible to see the ideas of civil society incorporated into the political debate and adopted on the national political agenda. Jointly, parliamentarians and civil society representatives are better able to provide oversight of government action and propose workable improvements and solutions.

3 Organisational Developments

3.1 Planning and Control

Under the motto: “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail” AWEPA has set a high priority in 2006 for improvement of the planning process. During the year a Planning Officer was hired, who has as a full time task to improve and monitor AWEPA’s planning process.

Planning

Planning is the process of determining who will do what, when, where, how and why, and at what cost. At a strategic level, planning enables AWEPA to enhance and achieve the organisation’s approach, which is defined in the strategic planning. At the implementation level, AWEPA is conscious of the fact that through better planning, the quality of the organisation’s work will be enhanced.

To rationalise this approach, the project department in Amsterdam in 2006 has started to develop and to put in place

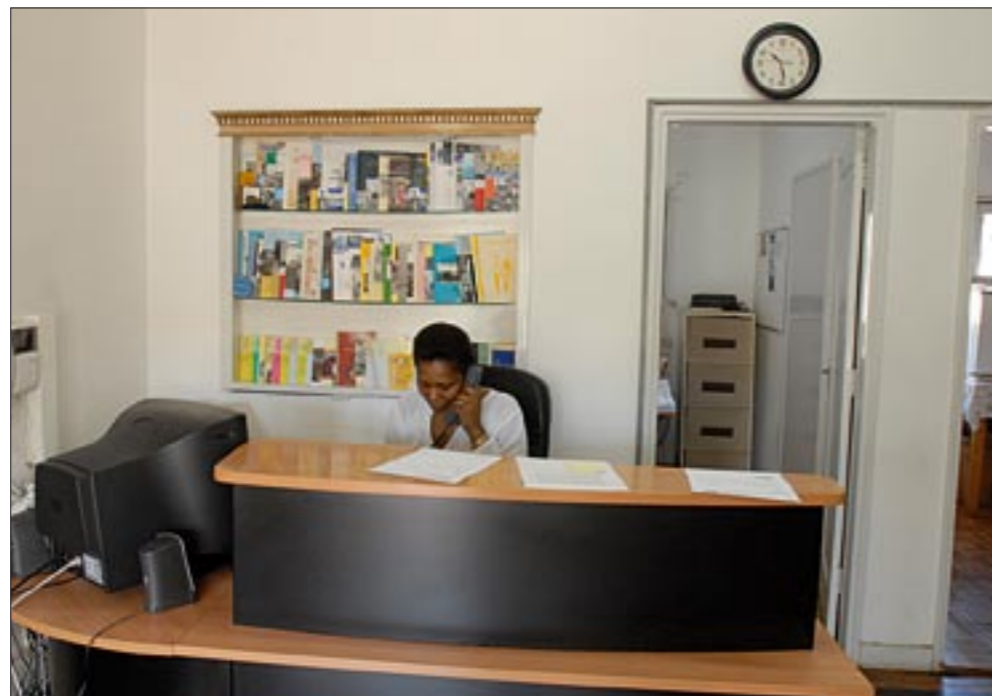
new tools in order to better plan the projects for 2007. One of these is the improved workplan, which contains key information regarding the financial, human resources and scheduling components of each of the projects. This new tool will be used all across AWEPA within the course of the year 2007.

Establishing control

Once a project is set in motion it acquires a direction and a momentum. AWEPA keeps track of changes by identifying and monitoring milestones within the projects.

In practical terms AWEPA reviews the workplan of every office on a regular basis in order to determine the progress in terms of scheduling and budgeting. This is done by:

- monitoring the schedule of the projects, which assesses whether the implementation of the projects is on track, and what should be done if



the implementation of projects is not corresponding to what was initially planned; and

- monitoring the budget, which allows AWEPA to know precisely how much has been spent for each of the projects and assess if the budgeted amount per project is accurate and so predict any potential financial problems.

Planning is an ongoing process, which involves learning by reflecting and acting. Therefore, it will remain a high priority.

3.2 Monitoring & Evaluation

During 2006, AWEPA instituted a new system of monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Following its adoption and introduction in January, extensive staff-training operations were conducted in January and May, as part of an overall Project Cycle Management training effort.

One of the key aspects of the new M&E strategy is called Outcome Mapping. Throughout the year, the ambitious outcome targets of results-based management were increasingly met, leading to important lessons learned for new action in 2007. Although not all of AWEPA’s programmes were reviewed and evaluated formally during the year, a schedule for evaluations was agreed upon for 2007-08. As a result of the successful Outcome Mapping approach, much more evaluative data are being accumulated on a regular basis for all AWEPA programmes.

In addition, AWEPA has adopted a modified Most Significant Change (MSC) methodology as part of its impact assessments, in which the parliamentary partners play a central active role. This was prepared and tested in 2006, and will be integrated into all programmes in 2007.

A further innovation in AWEPA’s M&E strategy involves the Sustainability Profile, which emerges from dialogue and discussion with donors of the impact assessment reports and partner analyses.

3.3 Quality Improvement Plan

The AWEPA leadership has taken the strategic decision to ensure that the organisational management is characterised by a process of continuous learning. With this in mind, AWEPA adopted a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for 2006, which has embarked the organisation on the trajectory toward certification by the European Foundation for Quality Management.

A QIP 2006 plan was developed as a result of an internal audit among participating staff at headquarters and African offices. The following key areas were selected for priority attention:

- Strategy and Policy
- Management of Processes
- Management of Financial Resources
- Management of Human Resources
- Society Relations

During the course of implementation, monitoring tools and procedures were developed, and all main Project Cycle Management processes were assessed to produce baseline data. All programmes were also reviewed in terms of coherence between objectives, results and indicators. Monthly and quarterly reporting processes were also sharpened, and the website was thoroughly redesigned and rebuilt. All these advancements will be further expanded in 2007 under the revised QIP plan.

3.4 Decentralisation

3.4.1 Background

Decentralisation is one of the themes AWEPA has decided on in its Strategic Vision 2006-2009. The strategy to decentralise, which mirrors the European Commission's own strategy of deconcentration and most member states' respective strategies of decentralisation of operational decision making processes to their embassies, is aimed at increasing operational efficiency



and responsiveness while focussing AWEPA's European capacity on its strengths

The gradual decentralisation of responsibilities to AWEPA's African offices means that more work will be done in Africa. And whereas till recently the responsibilities of African offices concentrated on planning and implementation, during the coming years it is foreseen that a growing share of their work will be related to fundraising, programme development and evaluation.

The European offices will spend more time on servicing and strengthening existing National and European Parliamentary sections, development of parliamentary sections in the new EU member states, serving as a parliamentary policy pipeline between Africa and Europe and coordinating and monitoring the AWEPA network. The work of African AWEPA offices will also continue to be monitored by the Amsterdam office. In addition, more attention will be paid to the improvement of relations with European institutions such as the European Commission, the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

The African offices will gain more responsibility for regional project preparation and implementation and coordination of regional activities. They will become more embedded in country and regional civil society networks and become more capable to contributing to fundraising efforts to support local programming. They have gained skills which enable them to do programme development, high quality reporting that reflects qualitative results of AWEPA's work, and thorough programme evaluation.

3.4.2 Developments in 2006

Although some tasks were already decentralised in the years before, the decentralisation project within AWEPA was introduced in 2005. During that year comprehensive plans for decentralisation were developed, outlining the objective of decentralisation and the processes that need to be followed to reach that objective. The decentralisation process, mainly directed to the Mozambique office and the regional AWEPA offices in South Africa and Kenya, was further implemented in 2006.

Mozambique office

The first object of decentralisation has been the Mozambique office, as a pilot project. With the help of consultancy firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), and funded by SIDA Mozambique, the process started by an initial diagnosis of the capacity of the Mozambique office. Building on the findings of this diagnosis, a capacity building project of the Mozambique office was composed, again with the input of PWC.

The capacity building project can be divided into three phases: in the first phase, the mission, vision and strategy of AWEPA Mozambique are formulated, and all processes related to project management, communication with donors/partners and financial management are laid down and bundled in handbooks and protocols. During the second phase, the capacity of the Mozambique office is built out to a level that it can fulfil its mandate. During the third phase, actual decentralisation of tasks and implementation of processes takes place.

At the beginning of 2007, the decentralisation process is in phase two, although some aspects of phase one still need to be rounded off. At the same time, preparations for phase three are already starting. One of the central aspects of phase two is hiring new staff: a senior officer for monitoring and evaluation has been hired, and a position for manager operations has been newly created.

Kenya office

For the Kenya office, a diagnosis of the office's capacity took place in December 2005, with the help of the Dutch consultancy firm MDF, and funded by the Netherlands. A report was produced, identifying the current capacity and an action plan was developed, outlining

the steps to be taken to bring the skills, competencies and systems on such a level that the Kenya office can fulfil its mandate of Regional Office.

As in Mozambique, the action plan included tasks that can be divided into three phases: determination of mission, vision and strategy, as well as documentation of processes during phase one; capacity building of staff during phase two, and actual decentralisation of tasks during phase three.

While some aspects of phase one still need to be completed, the planned decentralisation process has actually been overtaken by practice: large projects in the Great Lakes Region generated more work in 2005/2006, which was partly decentralised to the Kenya office. Highly qualified staff has joined the Kenya team, and existing staff have been trained to fulfill the great number of duties.

In the meantime, AWEPA will continue to implement all aspects of the decentralisation action plan, so that the decentralised Kenya office will have a solid base.

South Africa office

The overall decentralisation plan also foresees decentralisation of tasks to the South Africa office. However, until date, a specific decentralisation and capacity building project has not yet been formulated for the Cape Town office, due to unavailability of funds to run a full-scale project for this office.

The current strategy is to make usage of lessons learnt in the Mozambique and Kenya offices, and to apply models and processes, after adaptations, to the situation in South Africa. Also, South Africa office staff joins the trainings

that are organised in the framework of the capacity building projects for the other offices. An officer for qualitative programme development and monitoring & evaluation will be hired in 2007.

Other Offices

For the smaller AWEPA offices (Burundi, DRC, Rwanda and Uganda) no comprehensive decentralisation and capacity building project will be implemented. However, also these offices are getting more responsibilities in the field of programme development, fundraising, high quality reporting and monitoring & evaluation. During the past two years they have regularly been trained (two training modules and four on-the-job trainings per year) to get the necessary skills to fulfil the increasing responsibilities.

3.5 Communications

Improvement of the external communications was a high priority of AWEPA in 2006. A Communications Team was formed to streamline and improve AWEPA's communications process. As a result the content and design of the AWEPA website and publications were significantly improved.

Website

A major project in 2006 was the transformation of the AWEPA website into an attractive, informative and easily accessible website. The new website is updated with AWEPA news on a regularly basis and contains information about AWEPA in general, AWEPA's programmes, projects and upcoming events, and its partners. In addition, all AWEPA resources as of 2004, such as Bulletins, conference reports, Declarations and Action Plans from

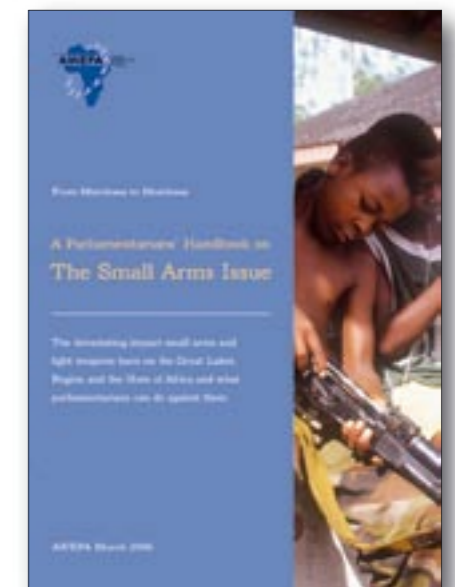
conferences, research publications and Parliamentary Handbooks can be found on the new website. This makes the website a unique source for information in the field of parliamentary democracy. With the launch of the website on 1 November 2006, AWEPA also started a monthly E-Newsletter covering recent developments and events, for its members and all other interested in its activities.

Publications

In 2006, AWEPA published four Bulletins, ranging from conferences on Children and AIDS to Small Arms and three Conference Reports, of which two relate to the EU Presidency Seminars on Africa and one to a Seminar on Private Sector Development. Further, a Handbook on Small Arms was published and two special Election issues of the Mozambique Political Process Bulletin were distributed.

In addition, AWEPA started sending out pre and/or post press releases related to the major regional conferences and created an AWEPA Fact Sheet for informational purposes.

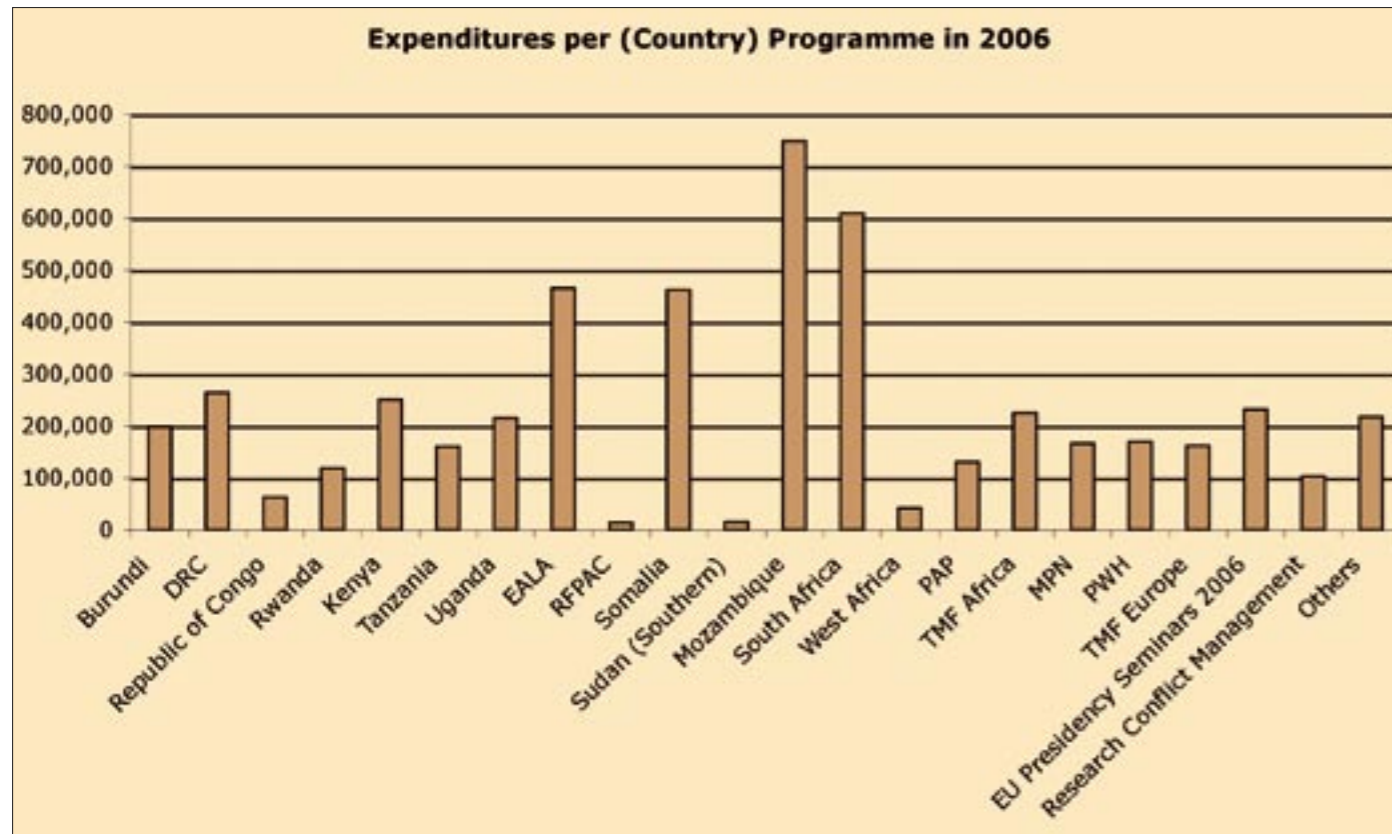
For 2007, it is foreseen to further improve the overall communication of AWEPA. The focus will be on developing a comprehensive communications strategy, improving communication to the sections, and improving AWEPA's external communication. The Communications Team will be supported by external expertise in media and communications.



4 | Financial Report

4.1 Expenditures

In the year 2006, the total expenditure was 5,041,118 Euro. This amount was spent on programmes as indicated in the table below.



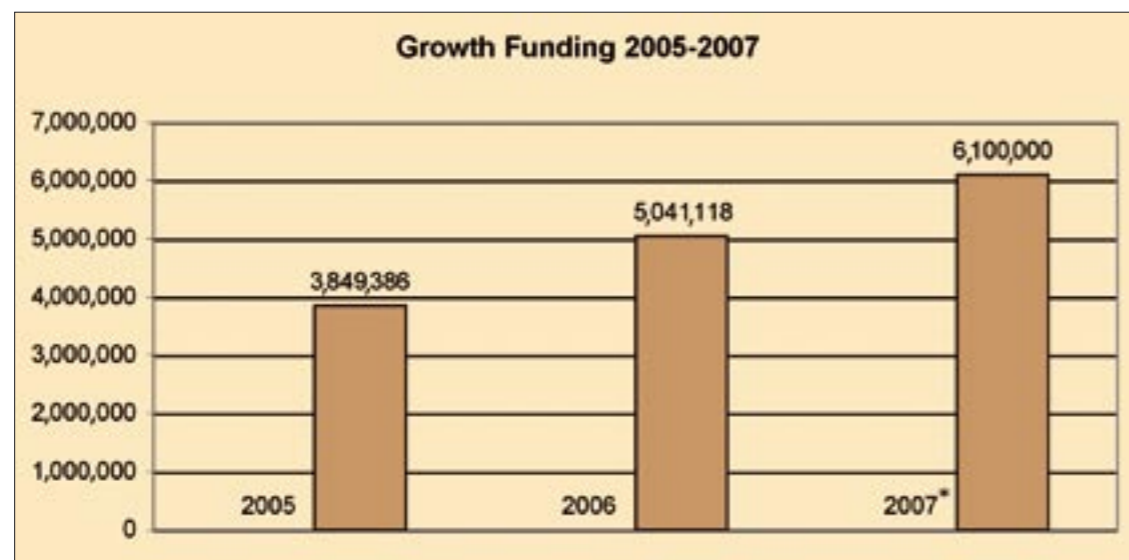
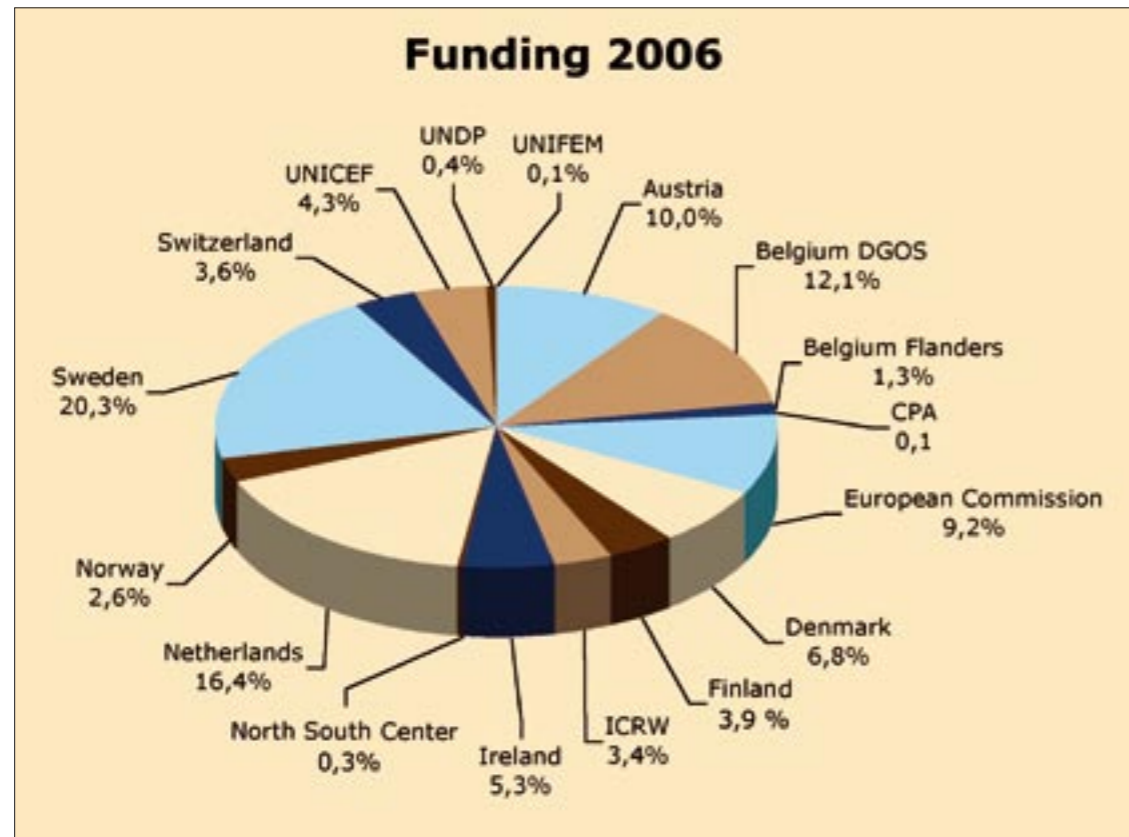
TMF Africa includes decentralisation, General Management Trainings and publications.

4.2 Income

In 2006, AWEPA had a stable financial situation. It received funding from various European governments, UN organisations and foundations. AWEPA does not engage in public fundraising.

| DONOR | AMOUNT SPENT 2006 |
|--|--------------------|
| Austria | 505,307 |
| Belgium DGOS | 610,771 |
| Belgium Flanders | 64,606 |
| Commonwealth of Parliamentarians Assembly | 6,728 |
| European Commission | 462,375 |
| Denmark | 341,007 |
| Finland | 196,407 |
| International Center for Research on Women | 170,489 |
| Ireland | 265,505 |
| North South Center | 15,250 |
| Netherlands | 825,453 |
| Norway | 130,287 |
| Sweden | 1,025,041 |
| Switzerland | 180,723 |
| UNICEF | 216,425 |
| UNDP | 19,931 |
| UNIFEM | 4,812 |
| TOTAL | € 5,041,118 |

5 Organisation and Personnel



* Budget

Eminent Advisory Board



Desmond M. Tutu, Honorary Chair



Graça Machel, Chair



Wangari Maathai



Mary Robinson

5.1 Political Organs

Eminent Advisory Board

AWEPA is being guided by the fruitful and inspiring 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.

New Roles within AWEPA

Dr. Jan Nico Scholten, who served as Executive President since AWEPA was established in 1984, decided to resign as such half way his new five year of office, namely on 1st July 2007. After this the AWEPA Council decided in November 2006 to abolish the function of Executive President and to split the function into two functions, namely:

A President, who is President of the AWEPA Council, the policy organ of AWEPA, and at the same time member of the AWEPA Executive Committee.

A Secretary-General, who is Chair of the AWEPA Executive Committee, the executive organ of AWEPA, and at the same time Chief Executive Officer of the Association.

In November 2006 the Council elected as President, Dr. Jan Nico Scholten and as Secretary-General, Mr. Pär Granstedt. Both are involved in AWEPA since its inception.

This new situation commences on 1 July 2007.

Council

The highest political body within AWEPA is the Council, which comprises representatives from the AWEPA sections

in the European Parliament and the national parliaments of Europe. The Council operates as a general assembly for a five years term and meets on a minimum once a year. The Council decides on the overall policy of AWEPA and as of 1 July 2007, will be chaired by the President of AWEPA.

The AWEPA Council is composed of the members of the AWEPA Executive Committee and the following persons:

- Mr. Toomas Alatalu, Estonia
- Ms. Arja Alho, Finland
- Mr. Francisco Arnau Navarro, Spain
- Mr. Jan Willem Bertens, The Netherlands
- Ms. Katharine Bulbulia, Ireland
- Ms. Ingrida Circene, Latvia
- Mr. Charlie O'Connor, Ireland
- Mr. John Corrie, United Kingdom
- Prof. Dr. Herta Däubler-Gmelin, Germany
- Dr. Luc Dhoore, Belgium, Honorary Vice-President
- Mr. Laurentino Dias, Portugal
- Mr. Theodossis Georgiou, Greece
- Ms. Carina Hägg, Sweden
- Mr. Johan van Hecke, European Parliament
- Ms. Inge Jäger, Austria
- Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen, Finland
- Ms. Barty Lührman-Fuchs, The Netherlands
- Ms. Magda de Meyer, Belgium
- Mr. Bert Middel, The Netherlands
- Ms. Rosita Runegrund, Sweden
- Baroness Janet Whitaker, United Kingdom
- Ms. Rosmarie Zapfl, Switzerland

Executive Committee



Mr. Pär Granstedt
Dr. Jan Nico Scholten
Ms. Brigitta Gadiant
Ms. Lydia Maximus
Ms. Miet Smet
Mr. Brendan Howlin
Mr. Jeppe Kofod
Dr. Egidijus Vareikis

Executive Committee

AWEPA's Executive Committee is the board of the organisation. As of 1 July 2007, the Secretary-General will be Chair of the Executive Committee and Chief Executive Officer of the organisation. The Executive Committee is elected by the Council for a period of five years to execute the policy of the organisation and meets four times a year. As of July 2007, it is composed of the President, Vice-Presidents and the Secretary-General.

Political Coordinators

Some AWEPA members play crucial roles as political coordinators. They guide the AWEPA programmes politically in one or more countries or steer programmes on political and thematic issues. They exercise their responsibilities within the overall AWEPA policy, but with a strong own mandate. They are involved in the whole project management cycle of AWEPA's programmes. It is worth noting that the Political Coordinators carry out their responsibilities on a voluntary basis.

AWEPA has 10 Political Coordinators, for a country, groups of countries or regions:

- Political Coordinator for Burundi and Rwanda
Ms. L. Maximus, Belgium
- Political Coordinator for the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Angola and Peace Process Great Lakes Region
Dr. L. Dhoore, Belgium
- Political Coordinator for Uganda
Mr. B. Howlin, Ireland
- Political Coordinator for Tanzania
Mr. J. Kofod, Denmark
- Political Coordinator for EALA and Kenya
Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands
- RFPAC
Ms. Julie Standaert and Dr. Luc Dhoore

- Political Coordinator for Pan African Parliament
Ms. M. Smet, Belgium and Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands
- Political Coordinator for Mozambique
Ms. B. Gadiant, Switzerland, Ms. M. Smet, Belgium and Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands
- Political Coordinator for Southern Africa
Mr. P. Granstedt, Sweden and Dr. E. Vareikis, Lithuania
- Political Coordinator for West Africa
Mr. P. Granstedt, Sweden
- Political Coordinator for the Horn of Africa (Somalia and Sudan)
Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands
- Political Coordinator for South Africa
Ms. M. Smet, Belgium and Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands
- Political Coordinator for NEPAD
Mr. P. Granstedt, Sweden
- Political Coordinator for OVC
Dr. J.N. Scholten, The Netherlands

5.2 Organisational structure

AWEPA's organisational structure has clearly elaborated functions, responsibilities and lines of responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the Administrative Director, the Deputy Director/Head of the Project Departments, the Heads of the African offices, Directorate Staff (Director Research & Evaluation and Director Programme Development) and other staff.

Directorate

The Administrative Director supervises the daily management of the organisation, with a focus on finance, personnel and the secretariat. In addition, the Directorate of AWEPA consists of the Director of Research & Evaluation, the Director of Programme Development and the Deputy Director/Head of the Project Department. The

Head of Project Department maintains a functional, project related relationship with all AWEPA offices.

In 2006, the position of the Administrative Director was filled in on an ad interim base. During the year the application process for this position was carried out and a new (Swedish) Administrative Director followed an introduction period of six weeks. As of beginning 2007, he started on a fulltime basis in Amsterdam.

The Project Department is steered by a Deputy Director/Head of Project Department, while the Finance Department and the Secretariat is steered by the Administrative Director. The units in the line organisation fall directly under the remit of the CEO and can be described as follows:

Line organisation African and European Offices

The Administrative Director is in charge of policy implementation in the fields of finance, the secretariat and Human Resources Management. The Administrative Director advises the CEO in respect to appointment and dismissal of personnel in accordance with AWEPA's HRM policy.

The Deputy Director/Head of Project Department has a functional working relationship with the African and European office, with respect to project coordination and follow-up on project management and project implementation.

Directorate Staff

The Director of Research and Evaluation has a political content advisory and implementation role in the field of strategic policy, research, quality assurance, including monitoring and evaluation, external communication, network management and fundraising.

The Director for Programme Development has a political content advisory and implementation role in the field of strategic policy, long-term programme development, managing complexity and network management and fundraising.

African Offices

AWEPA African offices are headed by Country Representatives. The offices fall directly under the competence of the CEO with the following responsibilities:

1. Country Representative, with the overall responsibility of managing the office, programme/project management and implementation, in cooperation with AWEPA country Political Coordinator, maintain contacts with partners and donors;
2. Finance and Administration Officer, responsible for financial management at the programme/project level, administering the infrastructure needed for the office, including logistics and a secretariat;
3. Project Implementation Officers, per project dependent on the programme/project size, intensity of activity and its duration.

5.3 Personnel

AWEPA's HRM policy reflects the strategic vision of AWEPA and directly concerns the execution of the core business of AWEPA: its capacity building projects in Africa. In 2006, an intensive HRM policy was implemented.

In 2006, AWEPA needed to respond to the increasing demands placed on the organisation and the expansion of its activities. The positive financial situation created the opportunity to increase the number of staff members in all AWEPA. Seven new staff members were hired in the African offices and six new staff

members in Amsterdam, including a part-time officer for HRM.

In 2006, AWEPA had 15,7 fte in its Headquarters in Amsterdam, 1 fte in Brussels and 27,5 fte staff in 8 offices in Africa. AWEPA had 46 staff members in total and 4 interns at its Headquarters. The majority of the employees are women (34). Three out of four Heads of Africa Offices are women and the Deputy Director/Head of Project Department is also a woman.

The remuneration of the staff has been partly adjusted in 2006, following the remuneration developments. In addition, focus has been put on training and development of staff in management development and language courses. Especially in relation to the decentralisation process intensive training was provided. Three General Management Trainings (GMTs) were organised for staff members in Africa, relating to Project Cycle Management, planning of regional programmes and yearly work plans, monitoring and evaluation, decentralisation, quality control and administrative procedures.

For the Headquarters in Amsterdam, a new version of the Employment Regulations was developed, complying with new Dutch regulations, and the employee files were updated. Many initiatives in the field of a safe, healthy and pleasant labour environment (Dutch ARBO law) have been taken, such as an external Risk and Evaluation Inventory. In the Amsterdam office new desks and chairs that comply with ARBO regulations were provided, same as computer flat screens and mobile air conditioners.

Objectives for 2007

In 2007, the HRM policy will maintain its intensive character. New International Employment Regulations will be developed and updated. Protocols will be implemented. Based on the Risk and Evaluation Inventory of 2006, a labour environment plan will be developed and implemented. In addition, an in-house emergency officer will be appointed.

Staff training and capacity building in the light of the decentralisation process will continue. Special attention will be given to develop Personal Development Plans for all employees. For this, all management and the HRM officer will be trained in this field. The focus will be on competence management, considering what knowledge, attitude and skills are important for AWEPA as a project organisation.

AWEPA Staff⁵

The Netherlands

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

Project Department

Ms. Geertje Hollenberg
Deputy Director/Head of Project Department
Mr. Marc Holtkamp
Regional Programme Co-ordinator
Mr. Nicolas Dupic
Planning Officer
Ms. Liselot Bloemen
Project Officer
Ms. Tatjana van den Ham
Project Officer
Ms. Lidewij Helmich
Project Officer
Ms. Nathalie Lasslop
Project and Research Officer
Ms. Zoë Ware
Project and Research Officer

Finance Department

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

Human Resources

Ms. Martien Meenhorst
Human Resources Officer

Secretariat

Ms. Madelon Doesburg
Office Assistant
Ms. Ilona Kaandorp
Project Assistant

Belgium Office

Ms. Katrin Verstraete
Project Officer

Burundi Office

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

Congo Office (DRC)

Ms. Gertrude Bamba Makabi
Project Officer

Kenya Office

Ms. Marianne Lateste
Head of Office
Mr. Lawrence Thiong'o Kagicha
Senior Project Officer
Ms. Marie Heuts
Programme Officer
Ms. Ruth Mungai
Administrative Officer
Ms. Peninah Ogeto
Office Manager

Mozambique Office

Mr. Angelo Matusse
Head of Office
Ms. Zaida Beete
Accountant
Ms. Rosita Alberto
Project Officer
Ms. Telma Mahiquene
Project Officer
Ms. Elisa Silveira Muianga
Programme Officer
Mr. Jorge Manuel Bernardo Cuinhane
Programme Officer
Ms. Ilda Mbeve
Secretariat Officer
Ms. Alzira Muchana
Office & Logistic Manager
Mr. Lazaro Chachuaio
Office Guard
Mr. José Matavele
Driver
Ms. Ivete Tivane
Hostess

Rwanda Office

Ms. Beata Mukabaranga
Project Officer

South Africa Office

Ms. Jessica Longwe
Head of Office
Ms. Nomawethu Xali
Project Officer
Ms. Christine Leibach
Project Officer
Ms. Pamela Mpama
Logistic Officer
Ms. Alexandrina Wonani
Financial Officer

Tanzania Office

Ms. Linda Baas
Consultant
Mr. Lawrence Makigi
Consultant

Uganda Office

Ms. Jeniffer Kwarisiima
Project Officer

Representatives

Somalia

Ms. Elena Montani
Liaison Officer

Somaliland

Mr. Libon Hassan Aw-Said
Liaison Officer

⁵ Situation as per 1-05-2007

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