

HAP International Newsletter

HUMANITARIAN ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERSHIP INTERNATIONAL

No 3 – April 2004

HAP INTERNATIONAL FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND BOARD MEETING

The first HAP International General Assembly was held December 11th, 2003, in Geneva at the Ramada Park Hotel. The objective of the meeting was for all participants to share and discuss their views, expectations, and visions of HAP International. Comments ranged from the collective effort and shared knowledge of members, to a call for HAP International to develop more “teeth” in monitoring. The strategic and operational plan for 2004 was also discussed, and the 2004 operational budget approved. Clarifications were also made to the established complaints procedures. Furthermore, ten Board Members were elected.

HAP INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

Denis Caillaux (Chair), CARE International; Ellen Jorgensen (Vice-Chair), Women’s Commission; Andreas Kamm (Treasurer), DRC; Matthew Carter, CAFOD; Maurice Herson, Oxfam GB; Helen Sirleaf Johnson, Independent Member; Mamadou Ndiaye, OFADEC; Soren Jessen Peterson, Independent Member; Igballe Rogova, Independent Member; Ton van Zutphen, WVI

The following day, December 12th, 2003, the Board met to discuss and decide a variety of issues. The full membership status of Care International, DRC, Medair, NRC, OFADEC and Tear Fund were approved. The Board also approved the associate memberships of CDP, Swedish Sida, and ACFID. Additionally, Igballe Rogova, Andreas Kamm, and Ton van Zutphen were elected as the members of the Standing Complaints Committee. The Board also discussed and set guidelines for their search of a fourth, Independent Board Member.

HAP INTERNATIONAL NEW MANAGEMENT

After actively leading the Board for three years, Niels Dabelstein has decided to step down. As the Head of Danida’s Evaluation Secretariat, Niels will continue to promote evaluation capacity building in developing countries and accountability in the humanitarian sector. He has been a pioneer in several aspects of development evaluation: he was instrumental in drafting the DAC Principles for Aid Evaluation and the DAC Guidance for Evaluating

Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies. In 1994 he initiated and led the first major joint evaluation of humanitarian aid - of the International Response to the Genocide in Rwanda. We are all grateful for his active contribution to enhance accountability within the humanitarian sector.

His successor, Denis Caillaux, was elected by the General Assembly in December 2003. Denis currently is serving as Secretary General of CARE International. As head of an international non-governmental federation of twelve national members, he oversees the relief and development work of more than 12,000 staff members in over 60 countries. Prior to joining CARE International, he spent two decades with UNICEF, most recently as Secretary of the Executive Board. Denis has also served as Senior Advisor to the International Fund for Agricultural Development and as Commercial Attaché for the French Ministry of Finance in Ethiopia.

After three successful years leading the Humanitarian Accountability Project and overseeing the creation of the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership - International, Dr. Agnès Callamard has moved on to pursue her interest in promoting rights and accountability through other initiatives. In the first meeting of the new Board of HAP-I in December 2003, the Board expressed their thanks to Dr. Callamard for her contributions to the development of HAP-I and to advancing the causes of accountability, quality and transparency in the humanitarian field. The Board wished her every success in her new ventures.

As of February 1, Nicholas Stockton has become her successor as Executive Director. For the past two years he has been an independent consultant on humanitarian aid policy. After teaching sociology at Malawi University from 1976 to 1980 Nicholas completed an MA in Rural Social Development at Reading University. He then became ACORD’s representative in South Sudan from 1982 to 1984. After which he joined Oxfam GB, first as their representative in South Sudan from 1984-1987, then in Uganda from 1987-1993, after which he worked in the headquarters, variously as the Emergencies Coordinator (1993-1995), the Emergencies Director (1995-1999) and the Deputy International Director (1999-2002). As well as being widely published as a writer on humanitarian affairs, Nicholas was also the first Chair of the Sphere Project Management Committee from 1996 to 1999.

HAP International Newsletter

HUMANITARIAN ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERSHIP INTERNATIONAL

No 3 – April 2004

Starting March 29, Zia Choudhury has joined HAP-I as the Accountability Advisor. After gaining degrees in Geography and Management at the Universities of London and Manchester, Zia spent two years as a horticultural trade researcher and part-time lecturer in development geography. Zia then worked as a manager and coordinator in various humanitarian programmes in Asia, Africa and the Balkans, mainly for Action Aid and Oxfam, but also with smaller local NGOs. For the past three years, Zia has been the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for Oxfam GB in East Asia.

Noria Mezlef, the Co-ordinator and Maximilien Zimmermann, the Co-ordination Assistant are continuing their work within the organisation.

HAP INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

As of February 2004, 10 Full Members and 4 Associate Members have joined HAP International.

THE FULL MEMBERS OF HAP INTERNATIONAL INCLUDE:

Catholic Agencies for Overseas Development (CAFOD), Care International, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Medair, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Office Africain pour le Développement et la Coopération (OFADEC), Oxfam GB, TearFund, Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children (WCRWC), World Vision International (WVI).

THE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF HAP INTERNATIONAL INCLUDE:

Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP), Department for International Development (DFID), Swedish Sida

For more information about membership, please have a look at our website: www.hapinternational.org.

HAP INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE – www.hapinternational.org

In February 2004 a new website has been launched. Its canvas and structure intend to be simple and user -friendly. Please feel free to share your comments about it. Useful information is available on the mandate and mission of HAP International, its programmes and the different actors working for and with HAP International.

HAP INTERNATIONAL NEW LOCATION



As of 1st February 2004, HAP international has moved to a new building, located at chemin de Balexert 7 & 9 in Châtelaine. This building, which is an expansion of the International Environment House, is primarily intended to host international NGOs working in the field of sustainable development and environment. However, it hosts other humanitarian organizations such as CARE International.

HAP INTERNATIONAL DONORS

HAP INTERNATIONAL IS FUNDED BY (AS OF JANUARY, 2004):

AusAID, Danida, DFID, The Ford Foundation, Netherlands MFA, Norwegian MFA, Swedish Sida

HAP is also funded by the membership fees. The fees for each member are calculated on the basis of their total annual expenses averaged over the last three financial years: 2000, 2001, and 2002. HAP International board requested the Executive Director and the Treasurer to review the 2004 membership fees formula and propose an alternative formula for 2005 to be discussed at the next board meeting in June 2004.

THE SPHERE PROJECT: FUTURE AND DIRECTIONS

The [Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards](#) are an attempt to describe the level of disaster assistance to which all people have a right. The Sphere Project in its current form is scheduled to end in December 2004. As a result, the Sphere Project is engaged in a consultation process through April 2004, to determine possibilities for the future of the Project. The [Consultations on the Future of Sphere after 2004](#) aim to gain perspectives from a broad participation process.

To join the consultation process or for further information, email: sphere-consultation@aidworkers.net or [register now](#).