

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

Annual Review 2007-2008

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The International Council was established in 1998 to conduct practical research into problems and dilemmas facing organisations that work in the field of human rights. The Council is interdisciplinary, strictly independent, international in membership and activity, and consultative in its approach. All the Council's activities relate directly to human rights.

Independent of governments and intergovernmental institutions as well as voluntary and private sector organisations, the Council works closely with all such bodies in the pursuit of its research objectives.

The Council is governed by its Executive Board, which is responsible for overall direction of the Council's programme, finances and organisation. All decisions to start research are taken by the Board. The Board appoints the International Council, which may have up to 30 members and includes Board members. Council members meet annually to identify and discuss emerging international human rights issues and recommend themes for research to the Board.

The Council's Secretariat, based in Geneva, designs and manages the Council's projects and ensures that research findings are brought to the attention of relevant authorities and those who have a direct interest in the policy areas concerned.

The Council is registered as a not-for-profit foundation under Swiss law. The Council has Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC since 2003.

Mission Statement

The International Council on Human Rights Policy will provide a forum for applied research, reflection and forward thinking on matters of international human rights policy. In a complex world in which interests and priorities compete across the globe, the Council will identify issues that impede efforts to protect and promote human rights and propose approaches and strategies that will advance that purpose.

The Council will stimulate co-operation and exchange across the non-governmental, governmental and intergovernmental sectors, and strive to mediate between competing perspectives. It will bring together human rights practitioners, scholars and policy-makers, along with those from related disciplines and fields whose knowledge and analysis can inform discussion of human rights policy.

It will produce research reports and briefing papers with policy recommendations. These will be brought to the attention of policy-makers, within international and regional organisations, in governments and intergovernmental agencies and in voluntary organisations of all kinds.

In all its efforts, the Council will be global in perspective, inclusive and participatory in agenda-setting and collaborative in method.

CONTENTS

REVIEW OF THE YEAR	1
THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME (MARCH 2007-MARCH 2008)	
Projects published	3
Projects in draft or in production	4
Projects in design or in research	14
Proposals under consideration	21
Projects closed	22
Translations and reprints	22
OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Institutional relationships	23
Responding to demand	23
Institutional development	24
Eleventh assembly of the International Council	25
FINANCE	27
APPENDICES	
i. Members of the Council's Executive Board	30
ii. Staff of the Secretariat	30
iii. Members of the International Council	31
iv. Diversity chart 2007	33

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

In 2007 the Council celebrated its first decade at the tenth annual meeting of Council members, held in Bangkok from 3-6 May 2007. To mark the event, a larger than usual Council meeting looked back at the period since 1990 and forward to the next ten years. All current and past members of the Council were invited, as well as a range of local and regional organisations and a number of individuals who have been closely involved in the Council's activity.

The meeting was also extended by one day to include a conference on human rights and empowerment, with special reference to Thailand and the region, held at Thammasat University on 3 May and co-hosted by the University and the Foundation for Democracy and Development Studies. One of the keynote speakers at this event, alongside Mary Robinson, was Philip Alston who, with Margo Picken and Thomas Hammarberg, was one of the organisation's three originators.

An anniversary report produced for the event, titled *These Years – Human Rights*, reviewed trends in human rights since the organisation was conceived in 1994 and included a foreword by Thomas Hammarberg, the Council's founding Chair and now Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and a postscript by Juan Méndez, President of the International Center for Transitional Justice in New York (who joined the Council as a new member in 2008). Re-edited, with a new section on future trends, *These Years* was published at the end of the year under the title of *Catching the Wind – Human Rights*.

As reported in the section on institutional development, this year we created a new website (opened in 2008), began work on a new database, and upgraded the Council's computer and electronic systems.

The most important changes, however, occurred among the staff. In addition to appointing two new Research Directors – Stephen Humphreys and Vijay Kumar Nagaraj, who joined Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona in mid-2007 – the Council created two communications posts. Mariette Grange, External Relations Coordinator, became responsible for developing and implementing the Council's outreach and communications strategy; and Axelle Devun, Communications Assistant, will increase the impact of the Council's website and develop other forms of electronic communication.

We congratulate Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona on being appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as the Independent Expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty, in March 2008.

These investments have better equipped the Council to confront the future. I hope the description that follows of the Council's research programme indicates that much new and challenging work has been started, and that a burst of productivity can be expected in 2008-2009.

Robert Archer
May 2008

THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME (MARCH 2007-MARCH 2008)

PROJECTS PUBLISHED

Catching the Wind – Human Rights (133)

Tenth anniversary report

To mark its first ten years of work, during 2007 the Council prepared and published a report that reviewed trends in human rights since the organisation was conceived in 2004. The preliminary text served as the background paper for the annual meeting of the Council's members, held in Thailand in May (see below). This draft, titled *These Years – Human Rights*, included a foreword by Thomas Hammarberg, the Council's founding Chair and now Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and a postscript by Juan Méndez, President of the Centre for Transitional Justice in New York. The text was subsequently reworked to include a second section that identified emerging issues likely to impact on human rights work in the decade ahead. Drawing on discussions at the Council's annual meeting in Bangkok, it makes reference to trends and changes in a wide range of areas, including the political economy, scientific innovation and technology, climate, culture and religion, and demography. *Catching the Wind – Human Rights* which attempts to capture a wide range of recent trends and highlights the increased influence of human rights thinking as well as areas of regression, was published in December 2007.

Alongside *These Years* the Secretariat produced an anniversary leaflet to introduce the Council's work and a CD-ROM containing all the reports, in different languages, that the Council had published since its first report appeared in 1999. The CD-ROM was made available at the Council's annual meeting, and widely distributed afterwards. We will update it periodically to include more recent work.

Research director:	Robert Archer, the Secretariat.
Start:	November 2006.
Title:	<i>Catching the Wind – Human Rights</i> . In English.
Publication:	December 2007.
Research team:	ICHRP Secretariat: Robert Archer, Mariette Grange, Stephen Humphreys, Vijay Nagaraj, Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona. Foreword by Thomas Hammarberg. Postscript by Juan Méndez.
Advisors:	Members of the Council's Board: Hina Jilani, Lydia Alpizar Durán, Charlotte Bunch, Stefanie Grant, Imrana Jalal, Dimitrina Petrova, Marco Sassoli, Chaiwat Satha-Anand, Wilder Taylor.

PROJECTS IN DRAFT OR IN PRODUCTION

Talking about Terrorism – Risks and Choices for Human Rights Organisations (129)

Published in May 2008

Building on a workshop that took place in May 2005 during the eighth meeting of the International Council, held in Lahore, this report discusses the challenges that acts of terrorism (as well as counter-terrorism policies) present for human rights work, and how human rights organisations are responding to them. It includes a foreword by Professor Martin Scheinin, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism.

In 2007, Richard Carver agreed to complete this project after Monette Zard left the Council in late 2006. The draft was discussed at an international meeting of human rights activists in February 2007 which confirmed that different societies have very different histories with regard to terrorism and relate very differently to the issues it generates. The participants were: Dr Ghanim Alnajjar, Professor of Political Science at Kuwait University, Kuwait; Avi Berg of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel; John Caulker, a human rights defender from Sierra Leone; Aideen Gilmore, Research and Policy Officer at the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ), Northern Ireland; Cecilia Jimenez, South South Network; Tanya Lokshina, Chair, DEMOS, Moscow; Jelena Pejic, legal adviser at the ICRC and ICHRP Council member; Aisling Reidy, Senior Legal Adviser at Human Rights Watch, New York; Feray Salman, General Coordinator of IHOP, Turkey; Malcolm Smart, acting Director for the Middle East and North Africa at Amnesty International, London; Francisco Soberon, Director of the *Asociacion Pro Derechos Humanos*, Peru; Wilder Tayler, Deputy Director of the International Commission of Jurists and ICHRP Board member.

The draft went out for comment in September 2007. In August Richard Carver visited New York and Washington, and in September Uganda and Kenya, to consult human rights organisations.

The report sets out in accessible language the legal issues that surround acts of terrorism and the notion of terrorism, and goes on to discuss how human rights organisations might develop their positions on this issue when they address governments, the public, and those who sympathise with use of terrorist violence. It reaffirms the traditional responsibility of human rights organisations to defend due process and the rule of law and complements two earlier reports by the Council. One, *Human Rights After September 11* (2002), discussed the impact on human rights work of the suicide attacks in September 2001 and the changes to security policy that

followed. The other, *Ends and Means* (2001), advanced a framework for dealing with the problem of how human rights organisations can influence armed groups.

Research director:	Monette Zard (to November 2006). Consultant Project Manager: Richard Carver (from January 2007).
Start:	October 2004.
Papers commissioned:	November-April 2004.
Draft report:	September 2005. Redraft: September 2006.
Review meetings:	20-21 May 2005 (8th Council meeting, Lahore); February 2007.
Consultation:	August-October 2007.
Title:	<i>Talking about Terrorism – Risks and Choices for Human Rights Organisations</i> . In English. <i>Summary</i> in Spanish, French and English.
Publication:	May 2008.
Research team:	Rapporteur: Patricia Gossman. Editor: Richard Carver. Papers: Neil Hicks (state policies); Sidney Jones (Indonesia); Martin Scheinin (legal issues); Wilder Tayler (responses of human rights organisations). Additional writing: Monette Zard, Robert Archer, Richard Carver.
Advisors:	Lydia Alpizar Durán, Charlotte Bunch, Stefanie Grant, Imrana Jalal, Hina Jilani, Dimitrina Petrova, Chaiwat Satha-Anand, Marco Sassoli, Wilder Tayler.

Climate Change and Human Rights – A Rough Guide (136) **Published in June 2008**

The Board asked the Secretariat to develop new work on this subject after the Council meeting in May 2007. From July, the Secretariat started to develop two projects and a book proposal. The first of these – a short report that maps the links between human rights and climate change – was drafted in late 2007 and early 2008 and published in June 2008. The second project will look in depth at a single climate change issue relevant to human rights. (In mid-2008, the most likely theme was technology transfer.) The book proposal was developed during the second half of 2007 when preliminary writing started: a contract with Cambridge University Press was negotiated in June 2008; publication is scheduled for 2009.

To prepare the mapping report, the Council convened a meeting of climate change and human rights experts in Geneva on 12-13 October 2007. It examined where human rights will be relevant to policies and programmes that address climate change: impacts on livelihood, health and income; equity in relation to mitigation and adaptation policies; the potential role of litigation; problems of enforcement; the usefulness of human rights tools when designing, implementing and assessing programmes and policy; and other areas that will need attention and research.

The participants included Sumudu Atapattu, a Sri Lankan lawyer and Associate Director of the Global Legal Studies Centre, University of Wisconsin; Simon Caney, Professor in Political Theory, Oxford University; Philippe Cullet, Founding Director, the International Environmental Law Research Centre (IELRC) and Reader, School of Oriental and African Studies, London; Stefanie Grant, lawyer and member of the Council's Board; Rajat Khosla, Senior Research Officer, Right to Health Unit, the Human Rights Centre, University of Essex and assistant to Paul Hunt, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health; MJ Mace, Director, FIELD's Climate Change and Energy Programme, former Assistant Attorney General of the Federated States of Micronesia; Benito Müller, Director of Energy and Environment, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, Managing Director, Oxford Climate Policy, and senior research fellow, Oxford Institute of Energy Studies; John Mutter, former Deputy Director, The Earth Institute, Professor in the departments of earth and environmental sciences and international and public affairs at Columbia University; Peter Newell, Professor of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, fellow, Oxford University Centre for the Environment; Gonzalo Oviedo, Senior Adviser for Social Policy at IUCN; Dimitrina Petrova, Executive Director, Equal Rights Trust, and member of the Council's Board; Wolfgang Sachs, former Chair, Greenpeace Germany, Senior Co-ordinator, the Wuppertal Institute's Globalisation and Sustainability Project; Frances Seymour, Director General, Centre for International Policy Research, Indonesia; Dinah Shelton, Professor of International Law, George Washington University; Marco Simons, US Legal Director of Earthrights International; Youba Sokona, Executive Secretary, Sahara and Sahel Observatory, former Executive Secretary for international relations, *Environnement et Développement du Tiers Monde*, Dakar; Jorge Daniel Taillant, Executive Director, the Centre for Human Rights and Environment, Argentina; Martin Wagner, Director and Managing Attorney, Earthjustice's International Program, Oakland; Michael Windfuhr, Human Rights Director, Bread for the World, Germany, former Secretary General, FIAN-International.

Stephen Humphreys subsequently drafted an initial text taking into account the 13th Conference of the Parties in Bali in December 2007, which he attended. An incomplete draft was then circulated to experts for comment, and later re-circulated to a second group of interested parties in March 2008. After further revision and consultation the report was completed in April and published in June. The report begins by recognising that, although climate change throws up numerous human rights concerns – new health risks, mass migration, threatened food and water supplies, the disappearance of shelter, land, loss of livelihoods and cultures, and much more – remarkably little research has focused on their interconnection. The report discusses some possible reasons for this. Climate change discussions draw heavily on science and assessments of probability, approaches which have not been common to human rights work and do

not sit easily with its usual methodologies. As a result, although ethical values are referred to frequently in climate change policy documents, the legal and normative human rights tradition is rarely invoked. As a result, it is not straightforward to build intellectual bridges between human rights and climate change specialists. The Council's report has been drafted with this obstacle to communication in mind.

The report foresees that, as governments and other institutions consider the policy issues that climate change will force them to address, they will need to take account of human rights obligations. Many organisations are currently attempting to frame new policies that can mitigate climate change or address its effects. Governments are beginning to design and harmonise complex new climate change policies across ministries that have different intellectual and programmatic approaches. Development agencies are beginning to integrate climate change plans within or parallel to their programmes. Human rights advocates too will be forced to look more deeply at climate change impacts; but also at some conceptual issues it raises. The report examines a broad range of policy perspectives, including the utility of human rights in constructing adaptation and mitigation policies, the importance of procedural rights in continuing negotiations and in implementing policy, the likelihood of increasing litigation in coming years and the mix of ethical and rights questions.

The report triggered interest before publication and the Council expects to be involved in extensive follow up during 2008 and 2009, in association with the further work it will do on this subject. The report was published in English with forewords by Mary Robinson, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Romina Picoletti, Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina.

Research director:	Stephen Humphreys.
Start:	Quarter 3, 2007.
Draft report:	January 2008.
Review meeting:	12-13 October 2007.
Consultation:	February-May 2008.
Title:	<i>Climate Change and Human Rights: A Rough Guide.</i> In English. <i>Summary</i> in English.
Publication:	June 2008.
Research team:	Main writer: Stephen Humphreys. Forewords: Mary Robinson, Romina Picoletti.
Advisors:	Simon Caney, Stefanie Grant, Peter Newell, Dinah Shelton, Youba Sokona, Jorge Daniel Taillant.

Corruption and human rights (131a and 131b)

In recent years, governments and international organisations have taken many initiatives to reduce corruption; but the latter has rarely been

analysed from the point of view of human rights and in 2007 the Council therefore started a project on this subject. It aims to assist organisations that prosecute or support anti-corruption policies to apply human rights effectively to strengthen their programmes; make human rights bodies and mechanisms more accessible to those who work to end corruption; and make anti-corruption methods and practices more accessible to human rights advocates. What impact does corruption have on enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights? When can human rights principles and tools help to curb or prevent corruption? Where might human rights principles collide with anti-corruption practice?

During 2007, the Secretariat finalised the project design, appointed and convened the advisors and the research team, completed the preliminary research phase (which generated three major papers and nine secondary papers), held a review meeting in Geneva to discuss the direction of the research, and completed the first draft of one of the two principal reports that the project will produce. A draft of the second report was submitted in January 2008.

The project's advisors are: Chong San Lee (Malaysia), Board member, Transparency International, former executive of ExxonMobil; Sandra Coliver (USA), Senior Legal Officer, Freedom of Information and Expression, Open Society Justice Initiative; Stuart Gilman (USA), Head, Anti Corruption Unit and Global Programme against Corruption, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC); Colin Gonsalves (India) Executive Director, Human Rights Law Network; Nihal Jayawickrama (Sri Lanka), Coordinator, UN-sponsored Judicial Integrity Group, former Executive Director, Transparency International, Berlin; Ivan Krastev (Bulgaria), Chair, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia; Shervin Majlessi (Iran) (alternate), responsible for good governance and anti-corruption, OHCHR; Philliat Matsheza (Zimbabwe), Policy Adviser, Anti-Corruption Democratic Governance Group Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP; Eduardo E. Rodriguez Veltzé (Bolivia), former President of Bolivia and President of the Supreme Court; and Ibrahim Wani (Uganda), Chief, Research and Right to Development Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). C. Raj Kumar (India), assistant Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, China, joined the advisory group from July 2007.

The advisory group met on 3 March 2007, together with the project's lead researchers and staff of the Secretariat, to agree the project's design. The advisors met again after the main advisory meeting, in July.

The project's lead researchers were Julio Bacio Terracino (Argentina), Ph.D. candidate in International Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva; and Noel Kututwa (Zimbabwe), former

Executive Director, Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa (SAHRIT). Namawu Alhassan Alolo (Ghana), a Research Associate for the Religion and Development Programme, University of Birmingham, and Policy Analyst at Islamic Relief, led additional research to ensure that the effects of corruption on gender are considered. The main writer of the project is Christian Gruenberg, Director of Transparency Policies at the Center for the Implementation of Public Policies Promoting Equity and Growth (CIPPEC), Argentina.

The papers submitted were *Hard Law Connections between Corruption and Human Rights* by Julio Bacio Terracino; *How to Combat Corruption while Respecting Human Rights* by Noel Kututwa; *Corruption, Human Rights, and Gender: An empirical Investigation* by Namawu Alhassan Alolo; *The Impact of Corruption on the Rights to Equal Access to Justice and Effective Remedy* by Victoria Jennett (UK), Senior Researcher at Transparency International; *The Impact of Corruption on the Right to Health* by Brigit Toebe (Netherlands), Lecturer, University of Aberdeen; *The Role of National Human Rights Institutions* by Maina Kiai (Kenya), Chair, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights; *The Right to Information as a Tool to Combat Corruption* by Helen Darbishire (UK) Executive Director of Access Info Europe; *The Correlations between the Human Rights Situation in a Country and Levels of Corruption* by Todd Landman (USA), Chair of the Centre of Democratic Governance at the University of Essex; *A Comparative Assessment of the Compliance with Human Rights Standards of Anti-Corruption Legislation* by Christian Gruenberg; *The Challenges of Investigating Corruption: An Insider View* by Carlos Castresana (Spain), former prosecutor at the Public Prosecutors Office of Spain; *A Human Rights Approach to National Integrity Systems* by Lucy Koechlin (Switzerland), Programme Manager at the Basel Institute on Governance; and *The Politicisation of Anti Corruption Campaigns* by Jose Ugaz Sanchez-Moreno (Peru), President of *Consejo Nacional para la Etica Publica* (National Council for Public Ethics).

The two-day review meeting, held in Geneva on 28-29 July to discuss these papers and the direction of the research, brought together members of the research team, authors of papers, and experts from anti-corruption and human rights organisations. The following participated: Anna Bossman (Ghana), Deputy Director, Ghana Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice; Michael Hershman (USA), co-founder of Transparency International; Rodrigo Lara (Colombia), Executive Director, Colombia's Presidential Program to Fight against Corruption; Devendra Raj Panday (Nepal), former Finance Minister of Nepal, member of the Board of Directors of Transparency International, and Council member; Dimitrina Petrova (Bulgaria), Executive Director, Equal Rights Trust, Council member; Roy Poses (USA), President, the Foundation for Integrity and Responsibility in Medicine; Nuhu Ribadu (Nigeria), Chairman,

the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFFC), Nigeria; Balakrishnan Rajagopal (India), Director, the Program on Human Rights and Justice, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); Rita Roca (USA), Education Manager, Danish Institute for Human Rights; Flora Sapio (Italy), Researcher at the Swedish Institute of Human Rights; Daniel Smilov (Bulgaria), Programme Director, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia; and Ursula Wynhoven (USA), Head, Legal and Policy Department, Global Compact Office.

From the advisors, Sandra Coliver, Nihal Jayawickrama, Chong San Lee, Stuart Gilman, Shervin Majlessi, Philliat Matsheza and Eduardo E. Rodriguez Veltzé were also present, with the lead researchers (Namawu Alhassan Aलो, Julio Bacio Terracino, Noel Kututwa) and Wrick Mitra, who is conducting gender research for the Council in India. The following authors of papers participated: Carlos Castresana, Christian Gruenberg, Lucy Koechlin, Todd Landman and Brigit Toebes.

The project will produce two reports. The first will clarify the conceptual links between acts of corruption and violations of human rights (recognising that links are sometimes indirect and that in some cases corruption may not violate human rights, as strictly understood), and will discuss how human rights can be used to strengthen anti-corruption work, and how certain frictions between human rights principles and anti-corruption practice might be resolved. This report will be written primarily for readers who have a good understanding of the human rights framework. The second report will examine the institutional context and tradition of practice in which anti-corruption work is undertaken, and will seek to clarify where anti-corruption professionals could usefully integrate human rights tools and principles into their programmes. This report will be written primarily for those involved in anti-corruption work and will not assume that readers are already familiar with human rights law.

A draft of the first report was released for consultation in May 2008; the report will be completed by August. The second report will go out for consultation in July 2008 and will be completed by October. Both reports will be launched together at the end of the year. Follow up after publication will extend into 2009.

The Council has discussed with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights the possibility of co-publishing both reports with the Office; a decision will be made when final texts become available. The Council is also discussing co-publication in Spanish with the University of Monterrey, Mexico, which will take responsibility for translating the reports into Spanish and disseminating them in Latin America.

Research director:	Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona.
Start:	Quarter 1, 2007.
Papers commissioned:	February-June 2007.
Review meeting:	July 2007.
Draft report:	December 2007; January 2008.
Consultation:	June-August 2008.
Working title:	<i>Corruption and Human Rights – Hard Law Connections</i> (131a). <i>Corruption and Human Rights – Points of Entry for Strategic Cooperation</i> (131b). In English and Spanish. <i>Summary</i> in Arabic, English, French, Hindi, Russian, Spanish.
Publication:	November/December 2008.
Research team:	Lead researchers: Julio Bacio Terracino (conceptual links); Noel Kututwa (implementation); Namawu Alhassan Alogo (gender). Lead writer: Christian Gruenberg. Papers: Carlos Castresana Fernández (investigation); Helen Darbishire (information); Christian Gruenberg (comparative assessment); Victoria Jennett (access to justice and remedy); Maina Kiai (national human rights institutions); Lucy Koechlin (national integrity systems); Todd Landman (indexes); Brigit Toebe (health); José Ugaz (politicisation).
Advisors:	Chong San Lee, Sandra Coliver, Stuart Gilman, Colin Goncalves, Nihal Jayawickrama, Ivan Krastev, C. Raj Kumar, Philliat Matsheza, Eduardo E. Rodriguez Veltzé, Ibrahim Wani, (Shervin Majlessi, alternate).

Human rights organisations: rights and responsibilities (119)

(Former title: *Issues of accountability for human rights NGOs*)

This project is off schedule but made significant progress in 2007. First approved for development in 2002, an initial report was completed by Michael Dottridge and circulated for review in 2002-03. Responses from the human rights organisations consulted were mixed. Some respondents considered the subject itself should be avoided; others were critical of the tone, or identified areas where coverage of the issue was incomplete. After consultation in 2003-04, and the appointment of a new team of advisors, the Secretariat produced a revised draft in 2005, written by Monette Zard with assistance from Patricia Armstrong. This draft was reviewed by the Board in 2006. The Board recommended a further edit to shorten and improve the draft's argument; new text emphasising the entitlement of organisations and individuals to promote rights; and more consideration of the degree to which context influences the formal obligations of organisations. The Board also changed the project's name to *Human Rights Organisations: Rights and Responsibilities*.

Management of the project passed to Robert Archer when Monette Zard left the Council in late 2006. In July 2007 Elizabeth Griffin, Director of the Human Rights Centre of the UN University in Costa Rica agreed to write a new chapter setting out the entitlement of organisations to promote human rights, drawing on the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and other international texts. She subsequently accepted a second longer contract to redraft the entire report and take it to completion, and to prepare an additional workshop module that human rights organisations can use to organise discussions at their own initiative.

Elizabeth Griffin completed her draft in December 2007, on schedule. The Council's Board discussed it in March 2008 and agreed that it resolved a number of the original concerns and can go forward to the next stage. After revision, the draft will be discussed by an international group of NGO representatives before going out to wider consultation in August 2008. In parallel, the module will be road tested during the consultation and published simultaneously with the report early in 2009. It will be the principal tool used during the follow up phase.

Research director:	David Petrasek (to end 2002); Robert Archer (interim to September 2003); Monette Zard (to November 2006); Elizabeth Griffin (Consultant Project Manager from mid-2007).
Start:	August 2002.
Papers commissioned:	September-November 2002.
Review meeting:	December 2002; quarter 1, 2006; August 2008.
Draft report:	April 2003; fourth draft December 2007.
Consultation:	April-September 2003; February-December 2004; November 2005-June 2006; August-October 2008.
Working title:	<i>Human Rights Organisations: Responsibilities and Rights</i> (retitled in 2006). In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English. <i>Module</i> in English.
Publication:	Quarter 1, 2009.
Research team:	Lead writer: Elizabeth Griffin. Original researcher: Mike Dottridge. Background paper: Hugo Slim. Additional writing: Monette Zard, Patricia Armstrong, Robert Archer.
Advisors:	Fateh Azzam, Ibrahim Kane, Regan Ralph, Wilder Tayler.

Smuggled people, migration and human rights (122)

This project analyses international policies on irregular migration, focusing on human smuggling. The UN Conventions on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990), other core human rights treaties and the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) have important implications for the rights of irregular and

smuggled migrants. Though motivated primarily by the imperatives of law enforcement, the Crime Convention and its two Protocols on Trafficking and Smuggling contain certain protections for migrants but categorise migrants in terms that have proved confusing to apply. In examining the new international legal framework to deal with people-smuggling, the Council's report aimed to develop a realistic policy approach that will properly integrate human rights alongside other relevant considerations such as law enforcement.

The project has nevertheless been complex to complete, because of personnel changes and because the issue is politically sensitive and legally tangled. The primary research was undertaken in 2005 and a first complete draft of the report was prepared by Monette Zard in 2006. When Monette left the Council, Robert Archer took over management of the project from the end of 2006 and in January 2007 appointed an independent human rights consultant, Cecilia Jimenez, to help the Council to complete it.

A lightly edited version of the draft was reviewed by the project's advisors in March 2007 and subsequently reworked in the light of comments by the project's advisors, the Secretariat and the Board (which discussed the draft in October). As this report went to print, a new draft of the report was being reviewed. It remains the Council's aim to complete the report, circulate it for review, and begin preparing it for publication during 2008.

Research director:	Monette Zard (to November 2006). Robert Archer (from January 2007).
Start:	July 2004.
Papers commissioned:	January 2005 (legal analysis); January-March 2005 (country studies).
Review meeting:	July 2005.
Draft report:	October 2005. Redrafted: October 2006, July 2007 and February 2008.
Consultation:	Quarter 4, 2008 (reset, to be confirmed).
Working title:	<i>Smuggled People, Migration and Human Rights</i> . In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	Quarter 1, 2009 (to be confirmed).
Research team:	Lead researchers: Jacqueline Bhabha (legal analysis); Philip Rudge (writer, to end 2005); Cecilia Jimenez (writer, from January 2007). Country research: Ilir Gedeshi (Albania); Paola Monzini (Italy); Ariana Renteria Torres and Cesar Nunez (Mexico); Anni Santhiago (Malaysia); Sue Conlan (UK). Additional legal paper: Rosalind Dixon. Additional writing: Monette Zard.
Advisors:	Chaloka Beyani, Stefanie Grant, Walter Kälin, Juan Méndez, Jyoti Sanghera.

PROJECTS IN DESIGN OR IN RESEARCH

Liberty and social control (126) **(Former title: Administrative detention)**

Preparatory work on this project was undertaken by Susan McCrory in the second half of 2006. Vijay Nagaraj succeeded her as the Research Director when he joined the Council in July 2007. As currently conceived the project builds on but extends Susan McCrory's initial proposal, first considered by the Board in October 2006.

Following extensive consultation, in 2007 the Council changed the project's working title from "administrative detention" to "liberty and social control" because, whereas few cases formally satisfy the definition of administrative detention, a major problem that needs to be addressed is the blurring of the distinctions between crime and social control, which has the effect of restricting liberties while expanding the powers of the executive.

Most human rights advocacy has been concerned with "political" rather than "social" control systems; its emphasis was on political actors and criminal law processes that impinge on liberty (the criminal justice system, due process and trial procedures, imprisonment etc.) rather than "criminality" or "social deviance". In consequence, it has paid less attention to forms of state (and increasingly private) control that regulate liberty but are non-political in appearance. Yet these forms of social control are influential – in welfare and social policies, in the treatment of illness, and in many other areas. This project will look at a range of contexts in which control over liberty is exercised in this way, outside or at the edge of the criminal law, and will examine human rights issues that such programmes and policies raise.

It will look at practices and policies that draw on notions of public morals, public order, public health, and similar normative ideas, to develop policies that sanction "antisocial behaviour", or promote "zero-tolerance policing", or "wars" of various kinds (on drugs, on terror, on crime). The project will examine how these ideas and practices create and consolidate a social environment in which insecurity and danger are emphasised, justifying restrictions on liberty.

It will look, secondly, at the ways in which different strategies and tactics of control, limiting liberty, have been developed to address a range of issues, including urban poverty and homelessness; migration and trafficking; illness, particularly mental illness; (prevention of) terrorism; and various forms of social deviance (such as substance abuse, sex offences and youth offences). While many of these policy areas have been researched

in their own terms, the project will adopt a cross-contextual perspective, with the aim of uncovering the related and distinct elements of policy, law and practice that have a bearing on liberty and protection of human rights.

The research will focus on six countries: Australia, Brazil, India, South Africa, Britain and the United States. The design will be completed in the second quarter of 2008, following a meeting of experts at the London School of Economics, after which research will begin.

Research director:	Susan McCrory (to December 2006); Vijay Nagaraj (from July 2007).
Design:	Quarter 2, 2008.
Start:	Quarter 3, 2008.
Working title:	<i>Liberty and Social Control</i> . Provisionally: In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	Quarter 3 or 4, 2009 (to be confirmed).

Privacy and technology (132)

(Previous title: Information-gathering technologies and human rights)

Consultation on this project started in 2006, but no focus had been agreed by the time Susan McCrory left the Council at the end of 2006. This project was picked up in October 2007 by Stephen Humphreys.

The original plan was to study how new information-gathering technologies are influencing human rights. Specifically, the project proposed to discuss how human rights actors might assess the ways in which emerging technologies could affect human rights positively or negatively. As a result of further reflection and consultation in 2007, the project will now focus on the notion of privacy and its relationship to the right to privacy. It will examine how, at many levels, new technologies (from the mobile phone to consumer tracking systems) are exploited by consumers, corporations and governments to expand individual privacy (private self-expression) as well as to control and curtail it.

Information technologies both extend and diminish personal control over the private sphere. They extend privacy because they offer new means to set personal boundaries, form and project identity, participate in the public sphere and associate with others. Mobile phones, bank accounts and personal websites all harness data that enable individuals to project themselves in the public sphere. Technology is also harnessed in many other ways – to extend lifespan, eliminate disease, increase security – that can bolster the capacity of individuals to act autonomously.

On the other hand, technological advance challenges personal autonomy, as traditionally understood. Private individuals neither manage nor own the technologies they increasingly depend upon. Personal privacy is (or feels) threatened in several dimensions. The architecture of data and communications systems categorises individuals and their attributes in ways that refashion personal identity, often outside the control or knowledge of the individual. Systems are also so complex that users cannot expect to understand their operation or what data they collect, or what use is made of it. The IT revolution, thirdly, has transferred the management of many public services (including elements of policing, post and telecommunications services) into private hands, so that it is no longer clear whether individuals expect the private sector to defend the security of their personal information from the state, or vice versa. Finally, ordinary safeguards of the kind traditionally used to monitor governments tend to fail in a world where data flows barely recognise national jurisdictions.

The project will seek to clarify and deepen understanding of the human rights implications of these profound changes. It will aim to identify realistic approaches to the issues that technology and privacy raise, on the basis of authentic rights concerns, and to revitalise the notion of privacy by clarifying its relation with both rights and technological advance. During 2007 and in early 2008, the Research Director familiarised himself with the issues, and consulted widely. Initial project framing papers were drafted, and a project design will be completed in mid-2008. Research will then start.

Research director:	Susan McCrory (to end 2006); Stephen Humphreys (from September 2007).
Design:	Quarter 4, 2006; quarter 4, 2007 to quarter 2, 2008.
Start:	September 2008.
Working title:	<i>Privacy and Technology</i> . Provisionally: In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	Quarter 4, 2009 (to be confirmed).

Sexuality and human rights (134)

This project was identified by the Board in late 2006. It has required careful preparation due to the acute sensitivity that issues of sexuality can generate. During the second half of 2007 and early 2008, the Research Director, Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, consulted widely to identify the different issues in play and clarify where there is common ground and where there are differences of view.

She participated in a conference on sexuality and rights in Argentina and an experts meeting organised by the World Health Organization (WHO)

in Geneva and spoke to a wide range of individuals with expertise on different aspects of the issue. Those met included: Dr Michael O'Flaherty (main consultant on the Yogyakarta Principles); Philip Dayle (Legal Officer for Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity, ICJ); Chris Sidoti (ISHR); Soledad Garcia (elected member International Council of Amnesty International); Janine Moussa (IWRAP Asia Pacific); Gita Sahgal (responsible for the Gender programme at Amnesty International); Marianne Mollman (responsible for Gender at Human Rights Watch); Scott Long (Director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights Program at Human Rights Watch); Diana Maffia (Director of the Hannah Arendt Institute and elected member of the parliament of the Buenos Aires Government); Monica Petracci (*Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad*, CEDES); Mabel Bianco, (*Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer*, FEIM); Mauro Cabral (International Lesbian and Gay Association, ILGA); Coca Trillini (Catholics for a Free Choice); Monique Alstchul (Executive Director of *Mujeres en Igualdad*); Paola Beragallo, (*Universidad de San Andrés*, Argentina); Marcelo Ferreyra (International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, IGHLC); Alejandra Sardá (*Mulabi – Espacio Latinoamericano de Sexualidades y Derechos*); Eszter Kismodi (Human Rights Adviser, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO); Hossam Bahgat, (Director Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights); Lidia Casas (*Universidad Diego Portales*, Chile); Stefano Fabeni (Director Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Initiative, Global Rights); Alice Miller (visiting professor UC Berkeley School of Law); and Esteban Restrepo (*Universidad de los Andes*, Colombia).

On 19 March 2008, during the 6th session of the Human Rights Council, in partnership with Action Canada for Population and Development (ACPD, Canada), CREA (India), International Centre for Reproductive Health and Sexual Rights (INCREASE, Nigeria) and *Mulabi – Espacio Latinoamericano de Sexualidades y Derechos* (Argentina), the Council organised a side event on "What are sexual rights? A dialogue involving women from the global south, to demystify sexual rights". The panelist were: Bene Madunagu (Nigeria – DAWN), Madeleine Rees (OHCHR – Women's Rights and Gender Unit), Joana Chagas (Brazil – YCSRR), Mónica Alemán (Nicaragua – MADRE/FIMI) and Geetanjali Misra (India – CREA/SRI). The moderador was Sandeep Prasad (Canada – ACPD/SRI).

On the basis of these consultations, in April 2008 the Council commissioned Professor Alice Miller to write a feasibility paper. She has been asked to prioritise issues that deserve study and recommend options for the Council's research. The paper should enable the Council to identify a theme and an appropriate methodology by mid-2008, as well as help to identify potential consultants and advisors. We could start research in the third quarter of the year.

While the Board has not definitively approved a theme and will not do so before the feasibility report has been received, the Council is currently drawn towards a project that would examine:

- i) the degree to which human rights and human rights law entitle individuals to express their sexuality and sexual identity freely; and
- ii) the degree to which human rights and human rights law set boundaries on the expression of sexuality and sexual identity.

Such a theme would bring several advantages. The subject could be approached from a more general and universal perspective; the research might avoid being imprisoned in narrow or very contested areas of argument; as a result the Council's report might help to generate more balanced and enlightened discussions of the subject.

Research director:	Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona.
Design:	From October 2007.
Feasibility:	May-June 2008.
Start:	September/October 2008 (expected).
Working title:	<i>Sexuality and Human Rights</i> . Provisionally: In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	Quarter 4, 2009 (to be confirmed).
Research team:	Feasibility paper: Alison Miller.

Plural legal orders (135)

(Former title: Traditional authorities and human rights)

During 2007, considerable progress was made towards agreeing the focus, identifying potential researchers and advisors, and mapping out the design of this project. On the basis of this work, an expert meeting was organised in Geneva on 22-23 February 2008, which enabled the design to be completed. Research started in the second quarter of the year.

This project is concerned with the human rights issues that arise when multiple legal orders (both state and non-state) co-exist. Such plurality is common and a great variety of arrangements exist within different societies, particularly in the field of personal laws and religious or ethnic identity. While some states do not require customary law to conform with Constitutional standards, others take the opposite position. There also exist endogenous and hybrid forms of "non-state legal orders" or "traditional authorities" that communities rely on to settle disputes and conflicts. This project will seek to clarify the human rights issues that arise in relation to plural legal orders.

- What is their impact on human rights, especially access to justice? What kind of problems do they pose to the enforcement of human rights?

- How can the administration of justice be evaluated, notably the translation of universal standards into localised practice? At issue are standards for defining just process and outcomes; predictability and clarity; accountability; transparency; the competence of key personnel; enforcement of decisions; issues of access and inclusion; cost and affordability; and the inter-relationships between different systems.
- What are the implications for human rights of demands by ethnic or cultural groups especially indigenous peoples, and religious or cultural minorities or majorities, to be subject to distinct forms of law and legal procedure? How do claims for collective rights and identities intersect in such cases with individual rights and identity?
- How do human rights standards clarify claims that cultural values must be privileged? Who speaks for culture? How should the rights of individuals (especially structurally disadvantaged individuals such as women) be defended and articulated within groups that claim distinct legal treatment on the grounds of their "difference"?

Human rights organisations have long struggled with these complex questions, which have become more pressing as identity politics, and religious and ethnic fundamentalisms, have become more prominent. This project seeks to contribute to efforts to achieve greater clarity about the relation between different but recognised rights in this area. The research will also have relevance for legal reform and access to justice initiatives that are engaging with plural legal systems, especially non-state legal orders, and grappling with the challenge of translating universal standards into local practice.

Cassandra Balchin, an independent consultant with considerable expertise in this field, who co-authored a report on parallel legal systems commissioned by Amnesty International in 2006-2007, will lead the research and writing of the report. Two research workshops will be held in 2008 as part of the project. Research started in April 2008. Publication of the final report is expected in the second quarter of 2009.

Research director:	Vijay Nagaraj.
Start:	October 2007.
Planning meeting:	22-23 February 2008.
Review meeting:	October 2008.
Draft report:	December 2008.
Consultation:	January-March 2009.
Working title:	<i>Plural legal Orders and Human Rights.</i> In English. <i>Summary</i> in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	Quarter 2, 2009.
Research team:	Lead writer: Cassandra Balchin. Researcher: Sara Hossain. Research assistance: to be confirmed. Additional writing: Vijay Nagaraj.
Advisors:	To be confirmed.

Poverty reduction programmes and human rights (121)

This project has experienced serious delays. Originally approved by the Board for development in late 2002, a first delay was caused by the departure of the original Research Director in 2004, during design. The project was taken over by the Executive Director, who completed the design and recruited the research team and advisors in 2004. Research started in five countries in early 2005 and country reports were completed in mid-2005 and discussed at a review meeting in Thailand. An initial draft of the synthesis report was then to have been submitted by the lead researcher in November 2005. A second delay occurred, however, when he did not deliver the report. In August 2006 the Council transferred responsibility for preparing the draft to the second lead researcher, Alta Folscher. She agreed to submit a draft at the end of 2006. This work too has taken longer than expected. Given the length of the delay, it is inappropriate to set a new schedule until a text is available. The delay to this project is much regretted.

The project examines where use of human rights methods and principles can raise the effectiveness of programmes to reduce or eliminate poverty. Country research teams were asked to describe and then analyse how different actors had experienced selected poverty-reduction projects or programmes. In each case, the country researchers brought together expertise in human rights and expertise in development, to make sure, first, that those interviewed were heard in their own terms, and second, to encourage inter-disciplinary learning during the research. Researchers were asked to base their analysis on interviews with national government officials responsible for implementing poverty reduction programmes, and civil society organisations that work with communities affected by them. In parallel, the Council commissioned two background papers, describing how "poverty" has been understood by the development community and by the human rights community.

Research director:	Mohammad-Mahmoud Mohamedou (to April 2004). Robert Archer (from May 2004).
Start:	Mid-2004.
Papers commissioned:	November 2004-May 2005.
Review meeting:	July 2005.
Draft report:	Reset.
Consultation:	To be determined on receipt of the draft.
Working title:	<i>Poverty Reduction and Human Rights</i> . In English. <i>Summary</i> in Spanish, French and English.
Publication:	To be determined on receipt of the draft.
Research team:	Lead researchers: Peter Rosenblum (to August 2006), Alta Folscher (from September 2006). Country research: Manuel de la Fuente, Edgar Antonio Aramayo Tejada (Bolivia); Gonzalo de la Maza, Jorge Contesse (Chile); William Ahadzie, Raymond Atuguba (Ghana);

Advisors:

Sriprapha Petcharamesree (Thailand); Meghna Guhathakurta (Bangladesh). Thematic papers: Roger Riddell and Agnès Picod (poverty approaches). Akila Belembaogo, Shanthi Dairiam, Rosalind Eyben, Zie Gariyo, Agnès Picod (succeeded by Mac Darrow), Roger Riddell, Peter Uvin.

PROPOSALS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Climate change and human rights II (138)

The Board decided in 2007 that, after publication of the initial mapping report (see project 136), the Council should produce a more detailed study of one climate change theme relevant to human rights. This project is expected to start in the third or fourth quarter of 2008. A feasibility paper was commissioned to prepare for it in June 2008 when the leading theme was technology transfer. Consultation has begun with experts in climate change, human rights, and technology, including staff of the Centre for International Environmental Law, the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Research director:	Stephen Humphreys.
Start:	Quarter 3 or 4, 2008.
Feasibility report:	July-August 2008.
Working title:	<i>Technology Transfer and Human Rights in the Context of Climate Change.</i>
Publication:	Quarter 3 or 4, 2009 (to be confirmed).

Climate change and human rights III: a publication (302)

In late 2007, the Council submitted to Cambridge University Press a proposal for a book on the subject of human rights and climate change. It would be composed of expert papers, some contributed by participants in the Council's research meeting on climate change (see project 136), as well as redrafted elements of the Council's first report on climate change. The book would be intended for a more academic audience. The Council is pleased to report that the proposal was accepted by Cambridge University Press in May 2008 and will be published in the Spring of 2009.

Editor:	Stephen Humphreys.
Start:	December 2007.
Working title:	<i>Climate Change and Human Rights.</i>
Publication:	Quarter 2, 2009 (by Cambridge University Press).

A history of the UN Human Rights Commission (301)

With the Netherlands Commission of Justice & Peace and the International Service for Human Rights, in 2007 the Council began discussing a proposal to write a history of the UN Human Rights Commission. No detailed history currently exists, which means that new generations of diplomats and NGOs involved with UN human rights institutions or working at the new Human Rights Council are not able to draw on experience gained during the Commission's 60 years of activity. The project would aim to generate an objective and accurate history of the Commission's work, in order to draw lessons that will put the work and procedures of the new Human Rights Council in some perspective. An author has been approached and a firm commitment will be made in 2008, if the project is feasible. At that time, the organisations involved may widen the range of institutions that have a stake in the initiative.

Coordination:	Robert Archer (interim); representatives from Netherlands Justice & Peace and International Service for Human Rights.
---------------	---

PROJECTS CLOSED

Human Rights Standards – Learning from Experience (120b) (2006)

Negotiating Justice? Human Rights and Peace Agreements (128) (2006)

TRANSLATIONS AND REPRINTS

The following reports were translated or reprinted during 2007:

- *Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions* (125) was translated and printed in Arabic (2006-2007), and printed by UNDP in Russian. It was also reprinted in English.
- The English text of *Human Rights Standards: Learning from Experience* (120b) was reprinted.
- After UNHCR purchased 500 copies of *Negotiating Justice? Human Rights and Peace Agreements*, the report was reprinted in English. The Council and UNHCR co-operated in translating it into French; the translation has not been published but is posted on the Council's website and was used for training.
- *Beyond Voluntarism – Human Rights and the Developing International Legal Obligations of Companies* (107) was reprinted.
- *Human Rights Crises – NGO responses to Military Interventions* (115) was reprinted.
- In 2007 the Council produced an anniversary CD-ROM that contains all its reports in English and in other languages.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Realizing Rights – the Ethical Globalization Initiative (EGI)

The Council continued to support Realizing Rights during 2007, with the Aspen institute and Columbia University. The Council's Executive Director and a Board member sit on EGI's Board, and Council staff provide policy support to some of EGI's programme. Scott Jerbi, EGI's co-ordinator, works out of the Council's offices in Versoix. Mary Robinson has been a member of the Council since 2004.

RESPONDING TO DEMAND

Secretariat staff participate in a range of meetings or initiatives that are relevant to the Council's mandate but not directly linked to the Council's research programme. We list below examples of these events and speaking engagements of Council staff during 2007.

- Co-organisation, with Amnesty International, of a meeting to discuss Amnesty's 2009 campaign on poverty.
- Presentation at One World Week, Warwick University.
- Presentation on corruption at a training course of the Danish Institute for Human Rights, Copenhagen.
- Presentation at a CIDA-IDRC workshop on human rights measurement, Ottawa.
- Presentation on standard-setting, at Civicus Biennial Conference, Glasgow.
- Presentation on the accountability of human rights NGOs at an NGO conference, Barcelona.
- Presentation on the economic, social & cultural rights of minorities, National University of Ireland, Galway.
- Presentation at a PICUM conference on Access to Health Care for Undocumented Migrants, Brussels.
- Presentation on sovereignty at the Law and Society Association annual symposium, Berlin.
- Presentation on human rights and governance to the Executive Board of Caritas Internationalis, Rome.
- Presentation during the Intergovernmental meeting on Climate Change, Bali.
- Presentation at conference on terrorism and development, City University of Hong Kong.
- Presentation at conference on Reform of Human Rights Charter Bodies convened by the Galway Centre for Human Rights, Potsdam University Centre for Human Rights, and the Minerva Centre for Human Rights (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Potsdam.
- Participation in NGO meeting with Professor John Ruggie, UN Special Rapporteur on business, Geneva.

- Participation in poverty workshop of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for National Human Rights Institutions, Geneva.
- Participation in a Roundtable discussion on culture and women's human rights, Human Rights Council.
- Participation in AAAS lunchtime workshop on science and human rights, Washington.
- Participation in a Council of Europe consultation on human rights with international NGOs, Strasbourg.
- Participation in a conference on migration and trafficking, Wilton Park, UK.
- Participation in a Conference of the Privacy Commissioners, Montreal.
- Member, Civil Society Watch Advisory Group.
- Rapporteur for Frontline's Fourth Platform for Human Rights Defenders, Dublin.
- Rapporteur at the European Presidency's annual Conference on Human Rights Defenders, Lisbon.
- Briefing for student groups: Weisseberg University (Germany); Institute of Commonwealth Studies, (London); Hong Kong and Chinese students (study trip to Geneva).

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council took the opportunity offered by the anniversary year to strengthen its communications and technical capacity.

Website

The Council designed a new website, using contemporary technology, that permits users to search the 20 reports and more than 150 research papers that the Council's research has generated since 1998. Commissioned in 2007, the new website opened in March 2008, following changes in hosting and design. Most postings feature in three languages or more; it includes a turnover of regular updates on the Council's outreach activities and on-line consultation facilities for direct input into drafts and interaction with relevant staff. It can be accessed on www.ichrp.org.

Database

Over ten years the Council has built up a list of some 16,000 contact addresses, including a core list of human rights organisations and numerous specialised lists associated with its research projects. The original software became increasingly unwieldy with time, however, while the lists needed substantial cleaning and review. In 2007, therefore, the Council decided to purchase a new system to meet its needs. It will be installed in 2008 and will interface with the Council's website. In 2006-2007 the Council also upgraded its computers and telephone system.

Staffing

In line with an impact evaluation commissioned by the Ford Foundation and the Swedish International Development Agency in 2005, the Council created two posts that will enable the Secretariat to consolidate and strengthen its outreach. Mariette Grange, the External Relations Coordinator has headed both Amnesty's and Human Rights Watch's UN office in Geneva in addition to working for the World Council of Churches. She is responsible for developing and implementing an outreach and communications strategy for the Council, and for presenting the Council's past and current research in different forums. Axelle Devun, the Communications Assistant, will focus on increasing the impact of the Council's website and developing other forms of electronic communication.

Restocking

To complete the effort made in 2007 to build a sound foundation for dissemination and outreach, at the end of 2006 and during 2007 the Council reprinted six reports that were out of stock, namely: *Beyond Voluntarism* (reference 107), *Human Rights Crises* (115), *Negotiating Justice?* (128), *Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions* (125), *Ends and Means* (105) and *Local Perspectives* (104). As a result, all the Council's main reports are currently available in print (in English).

Financial consolidation

Finally, the Council used the anniversary year to establish a reserve fund based on surpluses accumulated during the previous three years. The fund currently covers almost three months of operating costs and provides, for the first time, a degree of financial security.

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

As reported, Council members held the Council's tenth anniversary meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, in May 2007. The eleventh annual assembly took place in May 2008 in Kampala, Uganda. It was hosted by Sylvia Tamale, Dean of the Law School at the University of Makerere. Eight Council members stood down at the end of their term of service: Charlotte Bunch, Dharam Ghai, Stefanie Grant, Dimitrina Petrova, Asma Jahangir, Mary Robinson, Chaiwat Satha-Anand and Sylvia Tamale. Six new members joined the Council: Fouad Abdelmoumni, Maggie Beirne, Juan Méndez, Chidi Odinkalu, Taswell Papier and Usha Ramanathan.

FINANCE

This Council's financial year covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2007.

AUDIT

The 2007 accounts were audited by an independent auditor, Mr Marc Bétemps, in accordance with Swiss requirements, and approved by the Executive Board on 1 March 2008. The International Council's accounts comply with International Accounting Standards.

OPERATIONS

The Council's expenditure in 2007 was CHF 2'167'553.65. Income amounted to CHF 2'180'158.50. A surplus of CHF 12'604.65 was carried forward.

INCOME

The International Council received almost all its income in the form of grants, as follows (in CHF):

Department for International Development (DFID), UK	635'944
Ford Foundation	451'008
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands	311'042
Tides Foundation	306'895
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	226'882
Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)	150'000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland (DFAE)	11'200
CAFOD	9'609
Total Contributions	2'102'580

FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND INTEREST INCOME

A high proportion of the Council's income was paid in US dollars, Euros and UK Sterling; most expenditure was in Swiss Francs. Volatile exchange rates in 2007 (notably sharp falls in the US dollar and pound sterling) led to a loss of CHF 53'505 on foreign exchange. This loss was partly balanced by interest income of CHF 43'425.

EXPENDITURE

The Council's expenditure in 2007 was within the budget. Project expenditure amounted to CHF 1'345'910 against a budget of CHF 1'540'000. Projects absorbed 55% of all the Council's expenditure in 2006, a lower proportion than usual. This was due to lower activity for the first part of the year due to staff turnover and recruitment, additional costs associated with the Council's tenth anniversary and anniversary meeting, and investment in the Council's information and computer systems, notably the design and construction of a new website. Salary costs also rose, largely due to the creation of two new posts; the effect of this increase will be felt mainly from 2008.

Each project has its individual budget which in most cases covers more than one year. The annual expenditure on each budget is calculated from the project design, and is stated in the annual budget put to the Board for approval.

As noted the Council was able to establish a small reserve fund in 2007, for the first time.

APPENDICES

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE BOARD

At 1 January 2008

Hina Jilani	Chair
Dimitrina Petrova	Treasurer
Lydia Alpizar Durán	
Stefanie Grant	
Imrana Jalal	
Marco Sassoli	
Chaiwat Satha-Anand	
Wilder Tayler	

Charlotte Bunch stood down from the Board in October 2007. Dimitrina Petrova, Stefanie Grant, and Chaiwat Satha Anand stood down from the Board and Council in May 2008, having completed their term of service.

STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT

At 1 January 2008

Robert Archer	Executive Director
Stephen Humphreys	Research Director
Vijay Nagaraj	Research Director
Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona	Research Director
Mariette Grange	External Relations Coordinator
Fairouz El Tom	Research and Publications Officer
Axelle Devun	Communications Assistant
Patrick Cattan	Finance and Administration Officer
Elisabeth Nyffenegger	Programme Administrator
Sabrina Lambat	Office Administrator
Richard Carver	Consultant Project Manager
Elizabeth Griffin	Consultant Project Manager
Cecilia Jimenez	Consultant project Manager
Scott Jerbi	Senior Adviser, Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative

Interns in 2007: Jola Ajibade, Irene García Muñoz, John Tzanos, Max Frigo.

Departures: Ms Corinne Baustert, Office Manager, left the Council in October 2007, having worked in the Secretariat since 2003. Ms Anne-Claude Treboux took extended maternity leave from August 2007.

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

At 1 January 2008

Fateh Azzam (Palestine)	Regional Representative, OHCHR in the Middle East; Board Chair, Arab Human Rights Fund (AHRF), Beirut.
Lydia Alpizar Durán (Costa Rica)	Executive Director, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).
Akila Belembaogo (Burkina Faso)	Lawyer; Deputy Regional Director, UNICEF's Office for the Middle East and North Africa.
Tapan Kumar Bose (India)	Documentary filmmaker; Secretary General, South Asia Forum for Human Rights, Nepal.
Charlotte Bunch (United States)	Director, Centre for Women's Global Leadership, Rutgers University.
Roberta Clarke (Trinidad & Tobago)	Regional Programme Director, Caribbean Regional Office, UN Development Fund for Women.
Lyse Doucet (Canada)	Presenter and correspondent, BBC World Television and BBC World Service Radio.
Tiebile Dramé (Mali)	Former Foreign Minister of the transitional government of Mali; Leader, Party for the National Rebirth (<i>Parti pour la renaissance nationale</i> , PARENA).
Dharam Ghai (Kenya)	Development economist; Adviser, International Institute of Labour Studies, ILO
Stefanie Grant (United Kingdom)	Lawyer; former Director of the Research and Right to Development Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva.
Asma Jahangir (Pakistan)	Lawyer; AGHS Legal Aid Cell, Lahore; UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief.
Imrana Jalal (Fiji)	Lawyer; Human Rights Adviser, Regional Rights Resources Team, Fiji.
Hina Jilani (Pakistan)	Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders; Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan; human rights activist.
Konstantin Korkelia (Georgia)	First Deputy Minister of Justice in Georgia; Deputy Director, Institute of State and Law, Georgian Academy of Sciences; Senior Lecturer, Faculty of International Law and International Relations, Tbilisi State University.
Ian Martin (United Kingdom)	Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Nepal; former Vice President, International Centre for Transitional Justice.
Jessica Montell (Israel)	Executive Director, B'tselem, Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

Devendra Raj Panday (Nepal)	Former Finance Secretary and Finance Minister, Nepal; Elected member, International Board of Directors, Transparency International, Berlin.
Dimitrina Petrova (Bulgaria)	Executive Director, Equal Rights Trust, London.
Roger Raupp Rios (Brazil)	Federal Judge, State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; Professor of Law, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul.
Mary Robinson (Ireland)	Director, Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative; former president of Ireland (1990-1997); former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-2002).
Anthony Romero (United States)	Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union.
Chaiwat Satha-Anand (Thailand)	Professor of Political Science, Thammasat University; Director, Thai Peace Information Centre, Foundation for Democracy and Development Studies, Bangkok.
Marco Sassoli (Switzerland)	Professor of International Law, University of Geneva; Chair of Boards of Geneva Call and of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.
Sylvia Tamale (Uganda)	Lawyer; Associate Professor and Dean of Law, Makerere University.
Wilder Tayler (Uruguay)	Lawyer; Deputy Secretary-General, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ).

DIVERSITY CHART 2007

The Council seeks to be truly international and interdisciplinary. In 2007, the regional and professional backgrounds of those who collaborated with the Council are set out below. The list includes all those who conducted research for Council projects, acted as advisors or attended research meetings.

	Secretariat	%*	Council	%*	Consultants	%*	Total	%*
Western Europe	11	65	4	15	31	27	46	29
Eastern Europe	0	0	3	12	3	3	6	4
North America	1	6	3	12	20	18	24	15
South America	1	6	4	15	8	7	13	8
Middle East & North Africa	1	6	2	8	7	6	10	6
Sub-Saharan Africa	1	6	4	15	13	11	18	11
Asia	2	12	5	19	27	24	34	22
Australasia	0	0	1	4	5	4	6	4
Total	17	100	26	100	114	100	157	100
Women	11	65	14	54	41	36	66	42
Men	6	35	12	46	74	64	92	58
Total	17	100	26	100	115	100	158	100
International organisations	2	12	5	19	17	15	24	15
Government	0	0	2	8	9	8	11	7
Judiciary / Law	0	0	4	15	4	3	8	5
Private business	2	12	0	0	1	1	3	2
University	6	35	4	15	35	30	45	28
NGO	3	18	9	35	41	36	53	34
Journalism	0	0	1	4	2	2	3	2
Self-employed consultant	3	18	1	4	4	3	8	5
Other	1	6	0	0	2	2	3	2
Total	17	100	26	100	115	100	158	100

* Percentages are rounded off.

