



Editorial

Right Information

One of the major conclusions of the report of the World Commission on Dams is stated in this way:

By bringing to the table all those whose rights are involved and who bear the risks associated with different options for water and energy resources development, the conditions for a positive resolution of competing interests and conflicts are created.

How else can people affected by development projects be able to take an active part in resolving competing interests if they are not prepared with knowledge about the issues they are faced with? The commission's report took serious note of the failure in many cases around the world of governments and development agencies to respect the right of affected people to adequate and timely information about dam projects. As a result of this human rights violation, people were summarily displaced or tricked into displacement.

In today's world, information is power. Thus the right of people to information on matters that may affect their situation is now clearly seen as a need as never before.

But the protection and exercise of the right to information cannot be satisfied if there are legal and bureaucratic obstacles posed in the name of national security and public interest. Thus, the fulfillment of the right of people to information must instead be the best way to secure national security and public interest.

FOCUS Asia-Pacific is designed to highlight significant issues and activities relating to human rights in the Asia-Pacific. Relevant information and articles can be sent to HURIGHTS OSAKA for inclusion in the next editions of the newsletter.

FOCUS Asia-Pacific is edited by Yoshio Kawashima, Director of HURIGHTS OSAKA.

Accessing Information in South Asia*

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative

All countries in South Asia have the right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed as a fundamental right under the Constitution. The courts have read the right to information into these provisions as well as those pertaining to the right to life and personal liberty. The pronouncements, however, have largely been obiter dicta. The presence of laws like the Official Secrets Act and other measures for 'national security' severely conflict with the citizens' right to information and have entrenched the culture of secrecy and a reluctance on the part of public officials to give information.

The Constitutions provide a logical starting point and legitimacy to the struggles and movement for the right, as has happened in India. It is difficult for any government to outrightly deny the right. In India, though the development of the right started from judicial verdicts in cases involving the freedom of the press, it went on to cover instances of access to environmental records and access to information in cases of civil liberties such as media's access to prisoners and the police's duty to give timely and correct information regarding arrest and detention of people. In one case,¹ the Judges remarked, "Freedom of Speech and Expression includes within its compass the right of all citizens to read and be informed." This principle was even more clearly enunciated in a later case² where the court remarked, "The basic principle of Freedom of Speech and Expression is that all members should be able to form their beliefs and communicate them freely to others. In sum, the fundamental principle involved here is the peoples' right to know." These cases echo the development of the right to information in Western countries, where the roles and the freedom of the press also started the development of the right for the public.

The Supreme Court of India has however gone much further. In the area of civil liberties, it built up the right to have a transparent criminal justice system free from arbitrariness. Procedural safeguards for arrest and custody given in a recent case³ translate into the right of the accused or his kin to have access to information regarding his arrest and detention such as preparation of a memo of arrest to be counter-signed by the arrestee and a relative or neighbor, preparation of a report of the physical condition of the arrestee, recording of the place of detention in appropriate registers at the police station, display of details of detained persons at a prominent place at the police station and at the district headquarters, etc. Developments in

administrative law also strengthened the right. In a case calling for the disclosure of documents pertaining to the security arrangements and expenses of the then Prime Minister of India, the Supreme Court said, "While there are overwhelming arguments for giving to the executive the power to determine what matters may prejudice public security, those arguments give no sanction to giving the executive exclusive power to determine what matters may prejudice the public interests. Once considerations of national security are left out, there are few matters of public interest which cannot be safely discussed in public." Justice K.K. Mathew went further to say, "In a government of responsibility like ours, where all the agents of the public must be responsible for their conduct, there can be but few secrets. The people of this country have a right to know every public act, everything that is done in a public way, by their public functionaries. They are entitled to know the particulars of every public transaction in all its bearings. The responsibility of officials to explain or to justify their acts is the chief safeguard against oppression and corruption."⁴

Nepal has the right to information guaranteed as a fundamental right in the Constitution but it has not been in much use due to ignorance of the people about their rights. Courts appear to be doing a 'tango' over the issue - one step forward and two steps backward. While in some cases access to official records has been denied, in others, such as in the case of development projects, the information related to them has been declared to be of public importance and therefore must be released. The debate there is, whether a legislation would curtail the right or enhance it. In Sri Lanka, as in India, right to information is now an established fundamental right and is perceived even by the courts as being a part of the right to freedom of speech and expression. As of now, if a person is refused information the only remedy for him or her would be to approach the courts to enforce the right. But the right has not percolated down to the masses because of lack of rights awareness coupled with inaccessibility of courts to the lay person.

Felt need for legislation

Even though the derivation of the right to information is very important and must be a sine qua non, we still need detailed legislation, which spells out detailed instructions for implementation. Legislation is needed not so much to create a right, but to create systems in which the right can become meaningful without recourse to constant litigation.

In India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, there have been, in the past few years, attempts by civil society groups to provide

* This is an excerpt from the conference report entitled *Right to Information in South Asia*, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (Delhi:1999).

government with a blueprint for a right to information legislation. In Pakistan, the draft ordinance was passed in a highly watered down form by the caretaker Leghari government and then allowed to lapse by the new government. The Ordinance suggested by civil society groups had to fail through bureaucratic resistance because it gave broad access to bureaucratic decision-making or discretion on questions of loans and exposed loan defaulters. It provides that everything should be made available to the public. There are punitive measures and fines for officials who wrongly withhold information. These measures significantly curb the Official Secrets Act. Discretionary powers would be controlled and scrutinized. It also lays down rules on who would hold and manage information.

In India there are at least three different suggested models. Of these, one (referred to as the "Shourie draft") was drafted by a Governmental Committee set up in 1997. It is severely lacking in accountability provisions and leaves many loopholes for denial of information rather than enabling people to get information. Either way, governments since then have been ignoring the issue and have been reluctant to give any strong commitment on passing the legislation. Three states in India⁵ have passed laws on right to information while others have tried to enforce it in some form through executive instructions and guidelines. All these leave much to be desired since they have large gaps in accountability and lack teeth to make them effective.

In mid-1997 the chief minister of the Indian state of Goa announced that his government would soon introduce right to information legislation. Goa's activists and press corps were caught off-guard. Rarely are any public or wide consultations done on what should go into laws regarding this issue, and neither deliberations nor recommendations ever sufficiently publicized. Civil society groups must be aware that these processes contain their own seeds of failure. Eventually, after amendments were made, in early 1998, Goa enacted a law explicitly guaranteeing a right to information. Though organizations have been slow to respond, a wide array of individuals have sought to assert their newly confirmed right. After a year in the books, the Goa Right to Information Act (GRIA) has generated about 400 applications for government documents. Many applications are related to inquiries about potentially illegal construction. Some applications involve clearances given to polluting industries. And many are inquiries into application of licensing or taxation rules to the properties and businesses of certain individuals, presumably with a view to expose favoritism. Other requests relate to building permits and subsidies for hotels which violate planning and environmental codes, to toxic waste emitted by a zinc factory, and the role of an Indian Administration Service officer in a lottery scam. In addition, the All Goa Citizen's Committee for Social Justice and Action submitted applications for information involving cases of alleged patronage and nepotism in appointments, promotions and service conditions in higher and secondary education. Willingness to divulge this infor-

mation has varied widely across the government. Some departments have not responded at all, violating the 30-day limit. Others have responded fully. There is enormous variation in charges levied for this information. Some departments have not made any charge, while others have made seemingly arbitrary and sometimes significant charges - charges for 'processing fees', for instance, or for 'the cost of arranging the inspection of documents'. One agency issued a string of objections to requests, including that the requester did not qualify as a 'citizen' under the Act, that the information requested was not clearly in the public interest, and that the information sought relates to commercial secrets protected by law. At one level, these variations are just the 'teething pains' or an administration adjusting to a new procedure. But they lend insight into what should go into a Freedom of Information (FOI) Law for India.⁶

The Sri Lanka Law Commission has put forward a model legislation on Access to Information which is 'weak and insipid' and needs a lot of strengthening to be effective. Not only does it state that Sri Lanka must approach the right to information 'incrementally', it is also not overarching and does not nullify restrictions on access contained in other laws. The lists of exceptions are long, and there is no test for deciding whether restricted information should be released in the public interest, nor does the draft contain any punitive measures for withholding information. The Minister has the power to draft the procedure by which information is given and this does not need to be ratified by Parliament.

In Nepal, certain laws like the Essential Services Act are in conflict with the right to information guaranteed in the Constitution. So the debate is on whether or not legislation on the right will further curtail it. Another view is that one should try to legislate the right in any case. In Bangladesh too, laws come into conflict with each other and restrict release of information. These conflicts of interest have to be resolved by a clear right to information legislation.

Modeling the legislation

This leads to the question of desirable features of a right to information law. In the international arena, Sweden was the first to enact a Freedom of Information law. In the West, too, the right was enunciated in terms of the rights of free speech and expression, especially that of the press. The phrase 'freedom of information' originated in the United States of America. It is widely believed that the US has one of the most open and transparent systems of government. In enacting a law, however, it was suggested that certain basic principles must form the basis of any legislation, drawing upon the experience of other countries.⁷ Accordingly, the main tenets should be:

- Strong pro-disclosure requirements
- Partial retrospectivity
- Reasonable response time
- Measure for urgent requests for information

- Two-tiered fee structure
- Narrowly defined exemptions
- Inclusion of private companies which should disclose information as far as they affect the public
- Appeals to an independent body
- Protection to whistle blowers
- Penalties for violation of the Act
- Publicity for the Act
- Repeal of Official Secrets Acts
- Administrative reform.

The Act must not have "gateway" provisions and must advocate freedom of information.

Some problem areas

These tenets should be the guiding principles for drafting any right to information/freedom of information legislation in South Asia. But there can, however, be some problem areas in legislating the right, which require special attention according to the need of each country. Some of the problem areas are the following:

- The question of public versus private domains would invariably become very debatable. What will be the matters falling within the public domain which must be made accessible to people and who would decide this question? There must be an independent body to decide these questions.
- What would be the scope of protection of privacy? Should individuals have access only to private information which concern themselves? Should personal information be given only when they affect the public?
- Should exemptions be defined narrowly? Should matters about budgets and accounting systems of the state and non-state sectors be made public?
- Should the right to information extend to all the three branches of government? Should Cabinet deliberations be kept secret during the deliberations themselves but made public after decisions have been taken?
- Whether or not questions regarding economic decisions that negatively affect the economic life of a country should be made public.
- Whether or not all tenders be made public.
- Budget allocations for the enforcement of the law will be a matter of concern. The law itself should have budget allocations in it. Otherwise it would be easy for governments to subvert the right effectively by claiming lack of resources.

Joining the debate

Developing standards for legislation and overcoming hurdles through effective advocacy is an ongoing process and needs considerable debate. A follow-up process could

be initiated to develop either 'guidelines', 'models' or 'principles'. This should be combined with a focus on the social charter adopted at the 1999 South Asia Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) summit.

Where drafts of legislation exist, a debate should be started among the public, such as is being done by CHRI in India. To start this, one must have a draft law in hand, howsoever bad, in order to create an image in people's minds. There can be an attempt to introduce right to information as an independent parliament member's bill. Legislation should also be pushed through SAARCLAW. In Pakistan, it would be better to create a model bill and circulate it to build up public pressure on the government. The general consensus was on a slow but focused process so that the process of enacting a right to information law does not get subverted or co-opted. Developing a mass movement alongside is equally important.

A suggestion to emulate the UNHCR-initiated process of drafting the refugee law was made. An Eminent Persons Group was set up, consisting of individuals respected for the work they have done, to work on a two-pronged approach. It developed a regional charter and a national legislation. This helped to create champions for the bill and allowed for networking at the highest levels. They now have the text of a model law, incorporated critiques and revisions, and are now taking it to partners. However, it is not enough just to have a text but also to look at best practices, case law, obstacles, expenditure, cost-benefit analysis, etc. It requires collation of documents pertaining to national security and development of arguments to counter queries and doubts of the bureaucracy, which is generally the most recalcitrant.

One could show through examples how withholding and suppressing information has been detrimental to government itself and has caused disastrous consequences. This may entail commissioning the preparation of a country paper on administrative practices and institutional response in each country. India, for one, has an effective argument from the experiences of bureaucrats who introduced openness in their administrative units, or politicians who introduced transparency measures in their states.

For further information please contact: Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, e-mail: chriall@nda.vsnl.net.in

Endnotes

1. Bennett Coleman & Co. Vs Union Of India AIR (1973) SC 783
2. Indian Express Newspapers Vs Union of India (1985) 1 SCC 641
3. D.K Basu Vs State of West Bengal (1997) 1 SCC 416
4. State of UP Vs Raj Narian AIR (1975) SC 865
5. Goa, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan
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Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and International Financial Institutions*

Andre Frankovits

The international financial institutions have come under concerted criticism in recent years. Structural adjustment programs are designed to move countries toward outward-looking economic development models by emphasizing export-led growth and smaller government. These resulted in smaller budget deficits and elimination of hyperinflation in many developing countries. The criticism from NGOs focuses on economic, social, political and environmental problems together with the lack of transparency in negotiations between lenders and the government. Governments, on the other hand, take issue with the single economic model that is the condition for the granting of loans. Some argue that the imposition of conditions is an interference with national sovereignty. This conditionality now includes good governance criteria aimed at curbing fungibility and straight out corruption.

Undoubtedly, the emphasis on controlling government budget deficits resulted in the downgrading of basic services in many instances. And the NGO criticism resulted in proposals for better social impact assessment mechanisms of structural adjustment programs. There is some weight to the argument that the imposition of a single economic model by some institutions goes against the principles of self-determination and international cooperation outlined in the International Bill of Rights.

In the face of this mounting criticism, the proposal for relieving the debt of the least developed countries is to be welcomed. However, the international financial institutions must begin to realize that some of the fall-outs of their policies lead directly to a denial of the economic, social and cultural rights of many. It is time that some accountability for the realization of human rights be better understood and accepted by these institutions.

Too much reliance on deregulation associated with "small government" is another challenge for the structural adjustment approach. This is a similar issue that confronts states that have been decentralizing their services

and administration. If it is governments that ultimately stand accountable for the realization of human rights, how will they go about meeting their obligations in situations where they have lesser oversight of service delivery providers because of decentralization or privatization?

Governments have a legitimate and primary role in the fostering of social and economic equity within our community. Governments cannot ignore or contract out their responsibilities for the maintenance of a fair and inclusive community. Markets are no substitutes for government responsibility.¹

The need remains for the international financial institutions to collaborate more closely with the UN's human rights mechanisms. Since these institutions are far more powerful in promoting development, this is a challenge facing human rights organizations as much as recipient governments.

In this context, the World Bank-chaired consultative groups that gather together donors to pledge grants and loans for developing countries provide a golden opportunity to engage in a dialogue on the best ways to promote and protect human rights in poorer countries. The Bank has seen a number of changes in its global policies in recent years.

The World Bank's Comprehensive Development Framework

The CDF approach is anchored in the following key principles: country ownership of the policy agenda; partnerships with all stakeholders; taking a long-term, holistic approach built on national consultations; and treating social and structural concerns equally with macroeconomic and financial issues - not a blueprint but a compass that reflects the growing convergence of views on an approach to development.²

January 1999 saw a breakthrough in global approaches to development thinking. The President of the World Bank, James Wolfensohn circulated "A Proposal for a Comprehensive Development Framework" for discussion within the Bank. In the CDF, as it has become known, James Wolfensohn posited a new holistic approach to development and a "better balance in policy-making by highlighting the interdependence of all elements of devel-

* This is an excerpt from the paper prepared by the author for the UN Inter-session Workshop on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Right to Development in the Asia-Pacific Region held in Sana'a, Yemen, in February 2000.

opment - social, structural, human, governance, environmental, economic, and financial.”³

The document was produced, in part at least, in response to criticism of World Bank policies and projects, not only from NGOs but, increasingly, from economists and government officials in developing countries. The Bank's own Independent Inspection Panel had taken a critical look at some of the Bank's activities and had been recommending changes for some time.

The economic crisis, which affected the Asia-Pacific region in the late nineteen-nineties, brought home as never before the vulnerability of state economies and the human cost of the structural adjustment policies of the international financial institutions in times of economic upheaval. Many Asian countries whose economies had been climbing suddenly saw the gains of recent years suddenly reversed and poverty skyrocketing.

The effect of these upheavals, as always, has been greatest on the poor and the disadvantaged. This brought home as never before the need for social safety nets through the provision of social security. The Bank was in fact quick to offer support for this purpose to some of the worst affected countries in Southeast Asia.

There are a constant themes running through the CDF. These include:

- the concept of partnership whereby it is essential to include civil society as a means of giving voice to the poor,
- the importance of coordination that involves all development players collaborating on activities based on a common understanding of problems to be addressed,
- the necessity of ownership of the development process by each respective country based on decisions that include all stakeholders, especially the poor.

It is amazing but not unexpected that the description of the processes required for the CDF parallels so closely those of human rights development planning.

The recognition of the need for extensive national consultation, agreement based on negotiation and dialogue, reliance on national priorities, the need for appropriate benchmarks echo the human rights approach as the following quote demonstrates:

Building country ownership is a time-consuming process that requires mutual trust between the government and domestic stakeholders, and between the country and its external partners. It also calls for an inclusive approach through national consultations to define the national vision or framework and build reasonable consensus around it. It requires dialogue on benchmarking and diagnosis with the aim of increasing the country's room for maneuver.⁴

A note on conditionality

In his report to the Commission on Human Rights on the effects of structural adjustment policies on the enjoyment of human rights,⁵ the Independent Expert, Fantu Cheru, recommended that to ensure that loans to developing countries are used for sustainable growth and poverty reduction, conditions should be placed on recipient governments on how the loan is to be spent. He argued for greater transparency and accountability on the part of the lenders as well as recipient governments, and for monitoring of how loans are spent by representatives of government, donors and civil society. A number of bilateral donors have also advocated that the provision of development assistance should be linked to the human rights performance of the recipient country. Most often this has been framed exclusively in terms of respect and protection of civil and political rights.

There is no doubt that donor governments and lending institutions have obligations and responsibilities for the development assistance they deliver. If nothing else, they are all accountable in the first instance to their constituencies and political reality dictates that they use assistance wisely. Therefore conditionality has a place in development policy provided it is used responsibly and provided that the process is clear and transparent to the stakeholders in the recipient country. Governments should always retain the option to suspend or withdraw aid.

The principal flaw in the current policy is that it lacks a coherent and agreed framework. Consequently it remains susceptible to political manipulation on the part of both donors and recipients and engenders suspicion from the recipients as well. Negative conditionality undermines the notion that development involves a partnership between donor and recipient. For if the donor government can use aid as a condition for ensuring that its own priorities are adhered to, then the unequal footing of the two parties is highlighted. Once the rhetoric of partnership is brought into question, the recipient government is justified in questioning the willingness of donors to give both sides equal weight and the motivation behind the aid is also brought in doubt. Whether or not the rhetoric of partnership is reflected in the reality of other aspects of development assistance, the reliance on conditionality of this sort is inherently inimical to a fuller and more accurate recognition of human rights.

Nevertheless, while many governments decry the imposition or threat of imposition of conditions based on their human rights record, the reality is that conditions are always present in the donor-recipient relationship. General agreements on development assistance are arrived at through negotiation and the International Monetary Fund is a prime example of an organization

which imposes conditions on its activities - conditions that often lead to the denial of the rights of the poor and marginalized who see their rights undermined by the withdrawal of basic services.

The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has commented that development assistance should be applied toward the realization of human rights and in particular that of economic, social and cultural rights. To ensure that the principles of the Covenant with its emphasis on cooperation are followed it is important that donor policies on conditionality:

- are explicit to avoid false expectations and arbitrariness,
- are transparent so that they can be monitored,
- clearly state the grounds on which negative conditionality might be invoked.

The Independent Expert on the Right to Development, Arjun Sengupta, has suggested that it would be useful "to invoke the concept of a development compact once again in working out programmes for implementing the right to development."⁶ Such a compact might include:

- the human rights policies of the donor organization and the recipient government - the specific human rights objectives of the programme,
- including, of course, economic, social and cultural rights,
- a clear and detailed statement on the donor government's position on conditionality - listing conditions under which the assistance would be suspended or withdrawn,
- means of monitoring the articles of the compact that would include civil society.

The compact would not be legally enforceable but if it is transparent, that is if stakeholders on both sides of the relationship are aware of its terms, then public scrutiny would generate a stronger inclination to abide by the compact's terms. Here we see once again the benefits to be gained by providing the means for meaningful people's participation in the development process.

Concluding observations

The realization of the right to development and of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights is a major challenge facing the international community in the twenty-first century. Cooperation between governments, United Nations agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions can lead to genuine progress in addressing poverty, inequity and discrimination if it is based on international human rights law.

Development can only be sustainable if all people are brought into the process and when all people can benefit from the fruits of development. This means that governments and international development players have an

obligation to provide information and ensure transparency so that people can be involved in the decisions that affect their lives. The only guarantee for this is respect and protection for civil and political rights.

The state is responsible and accountable for the realization of rights. Where resources are lacking, it is entitled to expect international assistance and technical cooperation. Any conditions placed on assistance should be negotiated in advance, include the views of civil society organizations and be monitored by independent parties. The obligations of states to respect, protect and fulfil human rights need benchmarks and indicators for the realization of each right. These form the basis for development initiatives by governments, UN agencies, the Bretton-Woods institutions and bilateral donors.

The human rights approach to development requires a human rights situational analysis, the setting of objectives in human rights terms, and monitoring and evaluation based on the analysis. Each of these steps requires bringing on board affected communities in a genuinely participatory manner.

The human rights situational analysis should be shared by the agency that drafts it with other development players. It should take account of national human rights action plans, the views of national human rights institutions, the reports to and comments from the UN Treaty Bodies and the views of civil society organizations.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework provides a model for other development players in terms of coordination of efforts. The essence of the framework is collaboration with governments and civil society, and the integration of human rights. Other multi-lateral players in the development field should emulate this approach.

Andre Frankovits is the Executive Director of Human Rights Council of Australia, Inc. For further information please send communication to: "Andre Frankovits" <andref@netvigator.com>

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2. James Wolfensohn, *A Proposal for a Comprehensive Development Framework, A Discussion Draft*, January 1999.
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5. E/CN.4/1999/50
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Human Rights in Korea

Korean NGOs recently launched a new hunger strike to protest the failure of the Korean government to repeal the National Security Law and to enact a law creating an independent national human rights institution. An appeal to the international community was made by the Korean NGOs on the occasion of the ceremony awarding President Kim Dae-jung the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway last December 11, 2000.

On November 27 to 29, 2000, a three-day sit-in protest was held by the Korean NGOs in front of the Myongdong Catholic cathedral in Seoul. The protest attracted a lot of media attention. Then starting on December 1, 2000, the 52nd anniversary of the National Security Law, a dozen leading activists of the National Solidarity for Abolition of NSL started a new hunger strike. They demand the immediate repeal of the law.

The Korean NGOs state the problem in the following manner:

[The] National Security Law has been used to oppress ... dissident[s] for 52 years. The number of people in South Korea punished under the National Security Law has never ... decreased under the Kim Dae-Jung government in comparison with the past. [The] National Security Law is a major obstacle to the full realization of ... human rights enshrined in [the] Universal Declaration [of Human Rights] and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Therefore, [the UN] Human Rights Committee expressed its grave concern regarding the continued existence and application of the National Security Law and recommend[ed its repeal.]

President Kim has [said] that "the National Security Law will be revised in accordance with the changing situation of [the] times." However, there has been no change. President Kim and the ruling party seem to have no will of revising or repealing the National Security Law. We urge the government to abolish the National Security Law immediately."¹

The Korean NGOs believe that the Inter-Korean Summit of June 15, 2000 provides President Kim with a reason for the repeal of the National Security Law. They demanded at that time, at least, the repeal of parts of the law that restrict freedom of expression on those matters considered to benefit "enemy states." But the government seems to have lost interest on repealing the law. And the ruling party seems to be waiting for a peace treaty between North and South Korea before a repeal of the law is made. Since the government has not taken steps to negotiate the peace treaty, the repeal of the law will take years before it happens. The current efforts by the ruling party (through its Special Committee for the Improvement of Human Rights) to come up with human rights legislations are unsatisfactory to the Korean NGOs.



Anti-NSL hunger strike in Seoul

There is no chance for the repeal of the law to occur within year 2000. The National Assembly closed its regular session on December 9, 2000.

The Korean NGOs argue that the continuing existence of the National Security Law threatens anyone who dissents from government policies.

The failure to enact a law establishing an independent national human rights institution symbolizes the resistance of government to be exposed to effective monitoring of its human rights record. As the Korean NGOs put it

When Kim Dae-Jung took office in February 1998, we welcomed the commitments he made to strengthen human rights protection and to establish a national human rights commission. National human rights institutions play a key role in the protection and promotion of human rights but it is vital that such institutions are independent, fully empowered and enjoy the trust and confidence of civil society. However, the government has tried to establish a weak and ineffective human rights institution and doesn't care [about] human rights NGOs' rightful demand. 3 years passed without any progress. We criticize [the] lack of transparency [in drafting the bill on the commission] and neglect of the government [in completing the task].....we strongly urge the government to establish a commission which is fully independent, empowered and has a broad mandate.

President Kim, in his speech during the Nobel Peace Prize awarding ceremony in Oslo, pledged that he will "give the rest of my life to human rights and peace in my country..."² President Kim is being challenged to live up to this commitment.

For further information, contact: Sarangbang Group for Human Rights, ph (822) 741-53-63; fax (822) 741-53-64; e-mail: humanrights@sarangbang.or.kr

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1. "Korean Human Rights Activists are currently on hunger strike!" Article sent via e-mail by Sarangbang Group for Human Rights (humanrights@sarangbang.or.kr), ph (822) 741-5363
2. "Kim makes rights vow as he gets Nobel," *The Japan Times*, December 12, 2000.

Asian NGO Meeting for the WCAR

Kazuhiro Kawamoto

HURIGHTS OSAKA



In line with the objective of bringing as many NGOs as possible into the process toward the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR), the WCAR NGO Liaison office of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights organized a meeting of Asian (including West Asian) NGOs last October 23-24 in Colombo.

In the briefing made by the NGO Liaison (Laurie Wiseberg), she discussed the problem of NGO participation in the preparatory activities as well as WCAR itself. Many NGOs do not have consultative status with the UN. It is thus necessary for them to apply for accreditation. She said that her office would try to be flexible in dealing with the application by NGOs for accreditation.

She explained the progress of the movement so far in both UN and NGO sectors in other regions (Europe, Americas and Africa). Although there are some differences about the issues between regions, matters such as how to organize a movement by NGOs toward the conference, criteria of NGOs that will receive financial support by UN, and ways of lobbying are commonly discussed in every region so far. Basically, the conference itself is an inter-governmental meeting in which state governments prepare and discuss a plan of action and declaration. On the other hand, an NGO Forum, which will be held parallel to the world conference, will be the place for finding out strategies for lobbying, the place to influence the governmental process.

She also said that the UN expects as many young people as possible to participate in the conference. The solution to the problems will greatly depend on the youth who will constitute the core members in the fight against racism in the 21st century.

Reports on other related activities in the region such as the NGO parallel meeting in Geneva at the first PrepCom meeting in May 2000, the UN Experts Seminar on migration and trafficking of children and

women in September 2000 in Bangkok as well as sub-regional and national activities were made.

NGO strategies

The participants discussed possible strategies that the NGO movement in the region can take in preparation for the conference. They agreed that the themes to be adopted would be 1) ethnic and national minorities, 2) caste, 3) indigenous people, 4) women, 5) religious minorities and 6) migrant workers. And the issues, which will intersect all the themes, would be livelihood, violence, gender, equal opportunity, refugees/internally displaced people/asylum seekers, trafficking, land, labor and employment, globalization, self-determination, governance and armed conflict. In addition, possible resources (persons or organizations) who will prepare a report on each theme were discussed as well as the person who will compile all reports into one.

It was agreed that several meetings should be held. They include a global satellite conference on each theme (the one on caste will be held in March in India), a meeting by the indigenous people in Asia, meetings at the national level, meetings of refugees/internally displaced people/asylum seekers, and public hearings.

Countries in which NGOs still need to be identified are also discussed. Among them are Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Tibet, China, Vietnam and Indochina, India (indigenous, religious minorities, migrant workers) and Bhutan.

It was agreed that participants would set up their respective national coalition teams that will link up with the Asian coordinating team. They will publicize the coalition's work and gauge what the gaps are and which groups are being left out. It was agreed that every country should organize at least a national con-

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sultation, and that all draft reports should use the WCAR agenda as a framework.

Asian Coordinating Team

A regional facilitating team for WCAR was discussed as important in conveying information to grassroots groups or victims, making their access to the conference processes easy, and encouraging them to bring their voices to the conference. This body can also coordinate NGO movements in each country.

A three-tiered body consisting of the general body (defined as "NGOs relating to WCAR in Asia, Pacific and Arab Asia"), the Regional Coordinating Team (with 12 members) and the Asian Facilitating Team (with two members) was adopted. Thirteen persons or NGOs were suggested as possible members of the Regional Coordinating Team. Nimalka Fernando (International Movement Against All forms of Discrimination and Racism [IMADR]) and Nizam Assaf (Arab Human Rights Association) were elected members of the Asian Facilitating Team. Three other persons were selected representing the dalit group,

indigenous group and youth. Fernando (IMADR) will continue to act as secretary of the Asian Facilitating Team.

Next activities

Another regional meeting will be held (in addition to the thematic and national meetings previously agreed upon) to discuss further activities in the region. While the UN has already planned an NGO meeting in Amman, another meeting in another sub-region (possibly in Nepal) was suggested.

The participants likewise discussed ways by which the UN fund for NGO participation can be distributed to NGOs who will participate in the parallel NGO meeting in Tehran in February 2001.

The Asian Coordinating Team met for the first time after the general meeting. The team discussed the preparatory activities for the Tehran meeting.

For further information contact: Ms. Nimalka Fernando c/o Asian Facilitating Team, IMADR Asia Committee, 14 Elliot Place - Colombo 8, Sri Lanka, ph (941) 682505/672586; fax (941) 682505 ; e-mail: imadrn@slnet.lk (subject: wcar 2001)

INTERIGHTS' COMMONWEALTH HUMAN RIGHTS CASE LAW DATABASE

INTERIGHTS is proud to announce the release of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Case Law Database*. Containing summaries of recent human rights decisions from national courts in Commonwealth jurisdictions the Database is available, free of charge, on INTERIGHTS' website at <http://www.interights.org>.

Through a browse facility and search engine, the *Database*, which is updated regularly, is searchable under a variety and combination of fields, including by country, date and keyword. Many of the cases summarized are unpublished decisions, which are not readily available in other jurisdictions.

The *Database* forms part of INTERIGHTS' **Commonwealth Human Rights Case Law Programme** which also publishes the *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, a periodical launched in 1996. While the *Digest* summarizes recent Commonwealth human rights decisions in a traditional printed format, the *Database* uses developing technologies to provide immediate access to a potentially unlimited audience.

During a series of judicial colloquia, convened by INTERIGHTS and the Commonwealth Secretariat on the domestic application of international human rights norms, senior members of the Commonwealth judiciary recognized the importance of ensuring access to human rights judgments emanating from other national courts. However, the judges noted that access to those decisions was limited by the lack of locally available material on comparative human rights law. As INTERIGHTS was in a unique position to disseminate those human rights decisions, due to the judicial network it had established, the expertise of staff in comparative human rights law and its experience of publishing case reports and human rights materials, most particularly INTERIGHTS' *Bulletin*, they requested it to act as a clearing-house for human rights decisions from Commonwealth jurisdictions. The *Database* is the latest stage in this important initiative to disseminate comparative human rights case law.

INTERIGHTS, Lancaster House, 33 Islington High Street,
London N1 9LH, UNITED KINGDOM
Tel: +44 20 7278 3230 Fax: +44 20 7278 4334
Email: ir@interights.org

Regional Workshop on Promoting and Protecting Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Jeff Poirier

A Regional Workshop was recently held in Manila, the Philippines from November 5th to the 10th with the goal of strengthening the capacity of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in Asia and the Pacific in promoting and protecting economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR). Under the theme, "National Human Rights Institutions at Work", representatives from human rights commissions and non-governmental organizations in India, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia and Sri Lanka were invited to participate in the week-long Workshop. The program was organized by the Canadian Human Rights Foundation in partnership with the Philippine Commission on Human Rights and in co-sponsorship with the Canadian International Development Agency and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

To date, 143 member States have signed the United Nations' *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR), which specifically addresses the right to food, health, housing and education among other universally recognized rights. The UN treaty body responsible for the Covenant - the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) - stated through its General Comment #10 that NHRIs have a crucial role to play in the protection of ESCR.

The objectives of the Regional Workshop in Manila were: to examine the role of NHRIs in the promotion and protection of ESCR; to explore state obligations to respect, protect, promote and fulfil ESCR; and, to develop practical strategies for NHRIs to employ in the promotion and protection of ESCR.

Led by an international team of resource persons as well as expert facilitators from the Philippine Commission on Human Rights, the Workshop methodology used a participatory approach where participants provided much of the content, sharing their analysis and experience.

Participants commented that the Workshop case studies and simulation exercise offered a good opportunity for them to use and recognize the importance of ICESCR-related documents such as the UN Committee's General Comments and State Reporting Guidelines. These and other documents such as the Limburg Principles and the Maastricht Guidelines give important interpretative understanding for clarifying standards of rights and obligations under the ICESCR.



Third regional training workshop on NHRIs

As a result of the Workshop activities, a multidisciplinary approach to ESCR monitoring and promotion began to emerge, with a number of strategies identified. One starting point might be building the capacity of the NHRI itself. Specifically, NHRIs need to: maintain independence and credibility through impartial investigation and decision making; interpret the institution's mandate broadly, exercise advisory capacity regularly, promote the visibility and transparency of the institution; respond to emerging issues and emergency situations in a timely manner; and, act as a catalyst in mobilizing the energy and resources of others. The Chair of the UN CESCR, who was present as a resource person at the Workshop, stressed the importance of networking and collaboration between NHRIs and NGOs as well as civil society and government organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels.

NHRIs were challenged to "clutch" their jurisdictions imaginatively in order to find ways to address ESCR. One suggestion was to have NHRIs make use of existing mechanisms such as submitting "parallel" reports to the CESCR or appearing before State parliamentary standing committees whenever matters implicating ESCR are at issue.

Addressing the "justiciability" of ESCR was also seen as important. This could be undertaken through the sensitization of the judiciary and legal profession, monitoring whether existing human rights laws are being effectively enforced, and even direct intervention in human rights cases before the courts.

Workshop discussions emphasized that monitoring efforts of NHRIs should particularly focus on provisions of the ICESCR that describe how the State is to fulfil its obligations. Under the Covenant, States must seek the progressive realization of ESCR. However,

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other Covenant obligations to "take steps" and to protect against discrimination are immediate. NHRIs should put the onus on the State to prove it is undertaking steps to progressively realize ESCR, that it is allocating maximum available resources to ESCR, and that it does so without discrimination. For example, analyzing State budgetary allocations from an ESCR perspective and comparing with actual spending and positive change from one fiscal year to the next can be a powerful measure of the extent to which a State has made effort to progressively realize its obligations under the ICESCR. Efforts to monitor ESCR should look at whether everyone in society is able to enjoy ESCR equally. There is a need in particular to monitor discrimination against women and marginalized groups.

Several other ESCR monitoring and promotional strategies for NHRIs were highlighted and include: determining and comparing the current status of ESCR with standards, benchmarks and indicators set out by domestic and international instruments; monitoring both violations and progressive realization of ESCR; reviewing laws, policies, judicial decisions and national action plans from an ESCR perspective; looking at the State's willingness versus its ability to address ESCR; and, promoting the integration of ESCR into the education curriculum.

One of the biggest challenges for NHRIs is to have state and non-state players adopt a rights-based frame-

work rather than simply a needs or welfare perspective in addressing ESCR issues. Another challenge will be finding ways to hold non-state players accountable for ESCR violations through domestic laws and mechanisms.

Applying what was learned throughout the Workshop, participants, grouped by country, developed and presented draft plans for an ESCR initiative that their NHRI could potentially undertake in the near future. Initiatives focused on displaced persons and communities resulting from armed conflict or development aggression, as well as discrimination against marginalized groups including indigenous peoples, "untouchables", and persons with disabilities.

The Manila Workshop marks the third time that the Philippine Commission on Human Rights and the Canadian Human Rights Foundation have collaborated in the organization of a regional training session for National Human Rights Institutions. For further information on the National Human Rights Institutions Program of the Canadian Human Rights Foundation, visit the Foundation's web site at www.chrf.ca.

Jeff Poirier is the program officer of the Canadian Human Rights Foundation.

Message for Human Rights Day 2000

Following is the text of a statement made by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the occasion of Human Rights Day, commemorated on 10 December 2000:

Five years ago, we began the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education. The idea was to encourage everyone -- governments, international organizations, public and private groups, professional associations, schools and colleges, and ordinary people -- to work together in making human rights better known and understood.

Today, half way through the Decade, we still have a long way to go. Only a few countries have developed effective national strategies for human rights education. There is a big gap between the promises made under the Decade and the resources actually committed.

But non-governmental organizations are doing a lot. Clearly, governments need to work more closely with them, and learn from them.

Why is human rights education so important? Because, as it says in the constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed".

The more people know their own rights, and the more they respect those of others, the better the chance that they will live together in peace. Only when people are educated about human rights can we hope to prevent human rights violations, and thus prevent conflict, as well.

Workshop for Human Rights NGOs in Asia and the Pacific

The Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (ACEIU) held its first regional workshop entitled "Workshop for Human Rights NGOs in Asia and the Pacific: Challenges and Strategies for the Protection of Human Rights" in the ACEIU training center in Icheon, Korea on 4-6 December 2000. The Korean National Commission for UNESCO formally opened ACEIU in close collaboration with UNESCO (Paris) in August 2000.

The workshop took up the following agenda:

- a. Current status of human rights in Asia and the Pacific;
- b. Economic globalization, new technologies, and human rights;
- c. Human rights education as empowerment; and
- d. NGO response to the current human rights situation in Asia and the Pacific.

The workshop developed/strengthened links among human rights NGOs in Asia and the Pacific.

NGO workers from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, and Thailand participated in the workshop. Invitation was sent also to groups in Vietnam, People's Republic of China, Bangladesh, Hong Kong and Papua New Guinea. But they were not able to send representatives.

The NGOs present in the workshop represent a variety of concerns from women's rights to environmental and indigenous peoples' issues.

The participants are junior or middle-level program officers of the NGOs. The workshop was designed to provide these NGO workers the opportunity to widen their view of human rights work through a regional discussion of human rights issues and activities.

Invited resource persons discussed several issues.

The presentation on the current legal mechanisms being developed in the region in support of human rights took note of the UN efforts on regional human rights mechanism. It also pointed out the regional forum of national human rights institutions in Asia-Pacific.

The presentation on globalization and human rights pointed out that the current economic system works more for those who are already economically advantaged and adversely affect those who are poor. In times of economic crisis, the poor become poorer. And in the name of competitiveness, less economic benefits are given to workers.

The presentation on human rights education dealt with the enabling environment existing in the countries in the region. It consists of reform in the formal education system, government human rights policy, constitutional provisions relating to human rights, the persisting economic crisis, and the UN Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004). It stressed the need for human rights education to counter problems of misunderstanding of human rights, and to relate human rights education programs to the issues confronting each country. It was pointed out that much of human rights knowledge has to be linked with the necessary skills in practicing human rights.

The presentation on NGO response to the issues in the region pointed out the new international interest on human rights. This is due to the interest on global governance and human security. The Kosovo issue presented the problem of global governance while the economic crisis brought the need for human security (which translates into individual security). It was also pointed out that NGOs have become very visible in the global governance discussions at the international level. It was stressed that while Asia-Pacific NGOs have

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First regional workshop of ACEIU for NGOs

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participated in international activities on these issues, there are many divisions among them. Much of their time is consumed by fighting each other rather than developing a common stand.

The discussions on the issues reveal the persistent problems in the region. National security laws, restriction on and exploitation of women, negative effects of development projects and business activities on the livelihood of the poor and on the environment, abuse of children, unsettled issues of the refugees and the violations of members of the security forces are some of the issues mentioned.

The negative effects of globalization are seen in the failure of people displaced by economic projects (such as those in the rural areas) from adopting new skills needed by the new industry. This leads to their marginalization. Governments, in turn, while encouraging new industries to come in have no program to help those who are displaced by the operations of the industries. And even those who find work in the new industries are not necessarily properly benefiting due to the usual cheap labor requirement. Added to this are the problems faced by foreign workers, and their families at home.

There are also problems relating to corruption in government, fraudulent elections, and failure of governments to implement human rights programs.

As a response, the participants cited a number of human rights education activities. There are many initiatives relating to schools and non-formal education programs. Training for teachers, lawyers, NGO workers, local government officials, and members of the police are being undertaken. For the informal education activities, some NGOs provide interesting examples. Television and radio advertisement campaigns to create public opinion on human rights issues (such as domestic violence and the role of the police), and mass human rights weddings (that require the couples to pledge to abide by human rights principles in their lives together)¹ are cited.

It was also pointed out that national NGOs strengthen their capacities by focusing on specific issues, doing campaigns, gathering international support, using the internet to disseminate information, supporting the development of the NGO

movement, and formulating common declarations on human rights concerns.

With these activities, NGOs can pressure governments to act on issues, disseminate information, share resources, do joint projects, and obtain support for their involvement in international activities.

Many participants suggested a focus on human rights education activities for government personnel including members of the police and the military. This idea seems to have greater appreciation among the NGOs at present as compared to the NGO perception a decade ago.

The workshop provided ACEIU a good opportunity to become known to NGOs and other players in the field of human rights. It also helped ACEIU identify the needs of human rights NGOs in the region so that it may better serve them in its future programs and activities.

ACEIU aims to facilitate research, training, and exchanges of ideas and experiences in the areas of peace, human rights, tolerance, and democracy in the Asia-Pacific region. In this way, it can contribute to a better understanding and solidarity between peoples in the region.

It is the latest regional institution that can help promote human rights through training and research.

HURIGHTS OSAKA assisted the ACEIU workshop. The Asian Regional Resource Center for Human Rights Education and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Human Rights and the Prevention of Ethnic Conflict (Murdoch University - Australia) also provided support.

For further information contact: Mr. Lim Hyun-Mook, Korean National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO House 8F, Myung-dong 2-Ga, Choong-gu, Seoul 100-022 South Korea, ph (822) 755-3015; fax (822) 755-7477; e-mail: hmlim@unesco.or.kr

Endnote

1. On December 10, 2000, a mass human rights wedding for 36 couples was held in Taipei in celebration of Human Rights Day. See *Taipei Times* (December 10, 2000).

Events

Recently-Held Events

1. The membership committee of South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR), a South Asian regional initiative on human rights formed in New Delhi (on July 22, 2000) met in Lahore last September 26-27, 2000 to formulate membership rules and finalize plans for the membership drive. Its interim bureau, on the other hand, met on December 5-6, 2000 in New Delhi to finalize plans for establishing a permanent secretariat and determine a programme of action for the coming year. For further information contact: Provisional secretariat, South Asians for Human Rights, c/o Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, 107 Tipu Block, New Garden Town, Lahore, Pakistan, ph (92-42) 583-8131, 586-4994; fax (92-42) 588-3582; e-mail: sahrhr@yahoo.com

2. On November 10-13, 2000 a Leadership Training Workshop for leaders and potential leaders of children's organizations (CWA NGO partners) in North Sumatra, Indonesia, was held. The activity was aimed at enhancing the leadership and participation skills of the children as they learn to share and network with other children in their region and interact with adult groups within their communities and even at regional levels.

On December 15-20, 2000 in New Delhi, a Regional Field Exchange Activity among field workers of the different CWA NGO partners in Nepal, Pakistan, and India who are working directly on the bonded child labor issue was held. The host organization was Mukti-Ashram of the South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude (SACCS). The field exchange was aimed at improving the capacities of the field workers in dealing with the children, their families, and communities, and in identifying appropriate approaches to the issue of bonded child labor in this region. For further information, please send communication to: Child Workers in Asia (CWA) ph (662) 930-08-55 to 56; fax (662) 930--08-56; e-mail: cwanet@ioxinfo.co.th

3. The Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO, and UN ESCAP jointly organized the conference entitled "Asian Women for a Culture of Peace" in Hanoi on December 6-9, 2000. The conference was designed as a forum for Asian women to discuss and plan how to improve their role in sustainable development, conflict prevention, non-violent conflict resolution and peace- building in Asia. It was attended by women from 31 countries in the region. The participants were women leaders, politicians, gender and peace researchers, educators, writers and philosophers, national and community-based peace promoters, and media and communication professionals. They participated in their personal capacities. For further information contact: The Women in Development Section, ESCAP, ph (662) 288-

1989; fax (662) 288-1000, 288-1018; e-mail: kay.unescap@un.org

Events

1. A Tamil Nadu (India) campaign on right to education and to human rights education in schools will be capped with a state-level conference on January 31, 2001 in Chennai. Over 3,000 students who participated in human rights education programs are expected to participate. Also expected to come are teachers, NGO workers, representatives of schools/universities, members of the state parliament, and government officials. Officials from the education, tax and police departments will be invited. The experiences of the students and teachers in implementing human rights education programs (along with exhibits of their work) will be presented in the conference. For further information contact: Mr. Henri Tiphagne, People's Watch Tamil Nadu, No. 7, P.T. Rajan Road, 2nd Street, Madurai, Tamil Nadu 625002 India, ph (91452) 532-432; 531-874; fax (91452) 531-874; e-mail: henri@pronet.xlweb.com

2. HURIGHTS OSAKA will hold the "Asian Dialogue on Human Rights Education" on January 27-30, 2001 in Osaka city. The dialogue will bring together educators from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, south Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Taipei, and Thailand. The dialogue will review the results of the series of workshops in 1998 held in South, Southeast and Northeast Asia by HURIGHTS OSAKA. It ultimately aims to discuss ways of institutionalizing human rights education in Asian schools. For more information contact: HURIGHTS OSAKA, 1-2-1500 Benten 1-chome, Minato-ku, Osaka 552-0007 Japan, ph (816) 6577-35-78, fax (816) 6577-35-83, e-mail: jeff@hurights.or.jp

3. A conference in preparation for the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance is planned to be held in India on March 1-4, 2001 in New Delhi. This conference is entitled "Global Conference Against Racism and Caste-based Discrimination: Occupation and Descent-based Discrimination Against Dalits." The conference aims to focus attention on the practice of caste discrimination, which is very particular to South Asia but also prevalent in other parts of the globe, and to develop a global strategy that can be presented at the forthcoming Asian Preparatory Meeting for the WCAR. For further information, contact: Mr. Henri Tiphagne, People's Watch - Tamil Nadu, t (91452) 532-432; 531-874, fax (91452) 531-874; e-mail: henri@pronet.net.in; henri@satyam.net.in

HURIGHTS OSAKA ACTIVITIES

Representatives of HURIGHTS OSAKA, the Philippine Commission on Human Rights and the Department of Education, Culture and Sports met in early November 2000 to finalize the program for the ASEAN Writeshop on Human Rights Education in Schools. This preparatory meeting, held in Manila, was also attended by representatives of partner organizations in Indonesia and Thailand. The writeshop is slated to be held in March 2001 in the Philippines. Teachers and curriculum developers (representing schools, government education agencies and NGOs) from ASEAN countries are expected to attend this writeshop.

The fourth volume of *Human Rights Education in Asian Schools* is now in the editing stage. Reports from various countries in South and Southeast Asia, surveys on human rights education and regional activity documentations will be included in this volume. It is expected that the publication will be ready by April 2001.



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HURIGHTS OSAKA, inspired by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, formally opened in December 1994. It has the following goals: 1) to promote human rights in the Asia-Pacific region; 2) to convey Asia-Pacific perspectives on human rights to the international community; 3) to ensure inclusion of human rights principles in Japanese international cooperative activities; and 4) to raise human rights awareness among the people in Japan to meet its growing internationalization. In order to achieve these goals, HURIGHTS OSAKA has activities such as Information Handling, Research and Study, Education and Training, Publications, and Consultancy Services.



HURIGHTS OSAKA

HURIGHTS OSAKA

(Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center)

1-2-1-1500, Benten, Minato-ku, Osaka 552-0007 Japan

Phone: (816) 6577-3578 Fax: (816) 6577-3583

E-mail: webmail@hurights.or.jp

Web site: <http://www.hurights.or.jp>