



Conference:

ARE WE ON THE RIGHT TRACK?

PARADIGM REVIEW BY CSOs AS DEVELOPMENT ACTORS

Date: 14th – 16th May 2008

Venue: Prague Hotel Pyramida, Bělohorská 24, 160 00 Praha 6, Czech Republic
(www.hotelpyramida.cz)

List of Speakers

Olga A. Ponizova (Russian Federation) Executive Director of Eco-Accord Centre on Environment and Development. She has a Ph.D. in economics and master's degrees in journalism, all from Moscow State University. In 1988-2000 worked as a researcher at the Department of Economics, Moscow State University. She has about 110 publications on environmental economics, environment and sustainable development policy, world economy and international trade, public participation in environmental decision-making. Olga Ponizova plays an active role in NGO movement for environment and sustainable development at national sub-regional (EECCA Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia) and regional (UN ECE) levels. Currently main focus of her activity relate to WTO, trade and sustainable development for Russian and other EECCA countries.

T. Rajamoorthy (Malaysia) has been practising as a lawyer for the last 37 years. He is also one of the founders and council member of the Regional Council on Human Rights in Asia, a human rights body based in Manila with consultative status with the UN. He is currently a legal advisor to the Third World Network and one of the editors of *Third World Resurgence*, the monthly magazine produced by the Network.

Rebecca Tanui (Kenya) works as the Coordinator of Building Eastern Africa Community Network (BEACON). She has worked in the organization in various capacities. She has an academic background of community development and economics. BEACON is a regional network focusing on economic and social justice of CSOs and faith based organizations in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Sudan, Ethiopia and Eritrea. The organization's core programmes are economic justice with a focus on food security, budget processes and trade justice. BEACON is a network organisation that is made up of a number of members operating in six countries in the region. BEACON's approach includes capacity building, lobbying and advocacy. Prior to Rebecca's joining the civil society, she worked in the private sector.

Francisco ('Chico') Whitaker Ferreira (Brazil) is a Roman Catholic activist, who has worked for democracy and against corruption throughout his life, both at home in Brazil and in exile. As Executive Secretary to the National Council of Brazilian Bishop's (CNBB) Commission of Justice and Peace (CBJP) Whitaker has been instrumental in the conception, development, and implementation of an anti-corruption bill in Brazil. He is also co-founder of the burgeoning World Social Forum (WSF) – a large conference event, parallel to the World Economic Forum in Davos, to share the various insights of those from around the world who are working for alternatives to “world domination by capital, within the parameters of neoliberalism”. The idea has been a great success and the annual Forums have become platforms for civil society organisations from all around the world to exchange views, form coalitions, work on concrete strategies and coordinate campaigns. He received the Right Livelihood Award in 2006.

Duncan Green (UK) is Head of Research at Oxfam GB. He was previously a Senior Policy Adviser on Trade and Development at the Department for International Development (DFID), where he covered agricultural and non-agricultural trade in goods. He went to DFID on secondment from CAFOD, the Catholic aid agency for England and Wales, where he was a Policy Analyst on trade and globalization. Prior to going to DFID, he was also Head of Research and Engagement at the Just Pensions project on socially responsible investment, an advisory board member of the Globalisation and Poverty Programme and a board member of the Ethical Trading Initiative.

Hildegard Hagemann (Germany) since 1997 she works for the Catholic Church in Germany in various responsibilities, among others as a desk officer for Africa at the catholic Bishops' Conference. Presently, for almost 6 years she is in charge of the sector development at the German Commission for Justice and Peace. The German Commission for Justice and Peace is a round table of catholic Organisations and institutions in the filed of human rights, peace and development politics. Its task is to intensify and qualify the political dialogue with government, parliament and civil society. Together with the protestant church Justice and Peace pursues this task in the Joint Conference of church and development (GKKE).

Justin Kilcullen (Ireland) has worked in Tanzania, Cambodia and Thailand as an architect with the government and with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. In 1993 he was appointed Director of Trócaire, the Irish development agency. In 2002 he rejoined the EU NGO Liaison Committee and was one of its representatives on the Founding Committee of CONCORD. On the foundation of CONCORD Justin Kilcullen was elected to the Board where he served as vice president and chair of the Advisory Committee before being elected as the President of CONCORD in June 2006.

Petr Lebeda (Czech Republic) is founder and director of the Prague Global Policy Institute – Glopolis, a non-profit think-tank active in policy and advocacy on economic globalization and development. He studied universities in Prague and Monterey, California, and worked as a teacher, journalist and researcher with focus on international trade and development. He serves on the board of the Czech Forum for Development Cooperation (FoRS).

James Mackie (UK) works at the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) in Maastricht, Netherlands, where he is the Programme Coordinator of the Centre's programme on Development Policy & EU External Action. Before joining ECDPM in 2002, James Mackie worked for twenty years in the development NGO sector, latterly as the Secretary General for the European NGO umbrella group, the NGDO-EU Liaison Committee (now CONCORD). He also worked for the British NGO VSO in Asia and Africa and in their headquarters in London on programme funding. He holds a PhD in Geography from the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London.

Eva Marn (Slovenia) graduated in Law and specialised in International Law. She worked as a Human Rights lawyer and adviser at the European Court of Human Rights and for the HR Ombudsperson in Sarajevo. She is a founder and president of a Slovenia based NGO HUMANITAS, dealing mainly with Development Education and Intercultural Education, Fair Trade and other Development cooperation projects. She was also an executive director of the foundation TOGETHER - Regional centre for the Psychosocial Well-being of Children. Currently she is President of the Board of SLOGA-Slovenian NGDO Platform.

Šimon Pánek (Czech Republic) is a founder and currently president of Člověk v tísni (People in Need), which is a dominant Czech organization that provides relief aid and development assistance, while working to defend human rights and democratic freedom. In 1989 he performed as one of the "student leader" in Velvet revolution. Pánek was also one of the founders of a private informational agency Epicentrum, which worked in a field of reporting and monitoring current situation of unrest over the world. He is a chair person of FoRS - a platform of Czech non-governmental non-profit organisations (NGOs), involved in development co-operation, development education and humanitarian assistance.