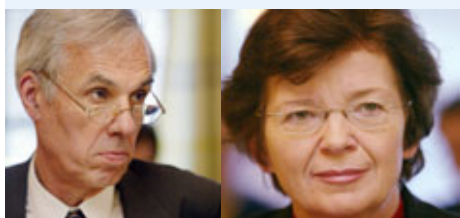




Helsinki Process on Globalisation and Democracy is in search of novel and empowering solutions to the dilemmas of global governance. It offers a forum for dialogue between major stakeholders, governments, civil society and business. One of the aims is to promote democracy in North-South relations. Thus, the high-level Helsinki Group is co-chaired by the Foreign Ministers of Finland and Tanzania, Mr. Erkki Tuomioja and Mr. Jakaya Kikwete. Its recommendations will be presented at the next Helsinki Conference in 2005, 7-9 September.

This eNews provides updates on the current issues of the Helsinki Process. You may subscribe to the eNews at www.helsinki.fi



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HELSINKI GROUP: TOWARDS FAIR AND DEMOCRATIC GLOBALISATION

The Helsinki Group outlined its work aiming at fair and democratic globalisation at its second meeting, held in the Tanzanian capital Dar es Salaam 29-31 August. Tanzania's Foreign Minister Jakaya Kikwete and his Finnish counterpart Erkki Tuomioja emphasized the need for structural changes in global decision-making.

"We require global partnership which will lead to right policies in the developing countries, but on the other hand will provide assistance from the rich nations with debt relief, market access, technology transfer, development aid and investments", said Tanzania's President Benjamin William Mkapa when addressing the meeting.

The Helsinki Group also discussed how to mobilize support for the Helsinki Process and its plans of action. The Helsinki Conference held 7-9 September 2005 will serve as an important tool for building global partnerships to bring about change in global governance.

HELSINKI PROCESS LAUNCHES DIALOGUE ON PARLIAMENTS IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

The Global Governance Track of the Helsinki Process launched a dialogue on the role of parliaments in global governance at the Forum Barcelona 2004 on 24th September. The parliamentary dimension of global governance was examined at a workshop jointly organized by the Helsinki Process and the Spain-based World Forum of Civil Society Networks UBUNTU.

"We want to facilitate the birth of a parliamentary dimension of global governance by creating global parliamentary committees to find solutions to particular global problems, and by making the international institutions - preferably jointly - accountable to groups of parliamentarians. This would increase the transparency of intergovernmental organizations such as the World Bank, IMF and WTO and invite them to better coordinate their responses to global problems. No doubt, parliamentarians should work closely with the civil society. These two agents should see each other as allies and not as competitors on influence," said Heidi Hautala, Finnish Parliamentarian and member of the Global Governance Track of the Helsinki Process. Other speakers at the event, chaired by Global Governance Track member Dr. Ngaire Woods (Oxford University), included Malta's former President Guido de Marco and Richard Falk (Princeton

UPCOMING KEY EVENTS

- **9-12 Oct. 2004:**
Helsinki Process side-event at the meeting of Club of Rome in Helsinki, Finland
- **11-14 Oct. 2004:**
Third meeting of Track on Global Economic Agenda in Pretoria, South Africa
- **28-31 Oct. 2004:**
Third meeting of Track on New Approaches to Global Problem-Solving in Sao Paulo, Brazil
- **26-30 Jan. 2005:**
Helsinki Process event at World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil
- **26-30 Jan. 2005:**
Helsinki Process event at World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland
- **7-9 Feb. 2005:** Third Helsinki Group meeting in New Delhi, India.
- **20-22 April 2005:**
Fourth Helsinki Group meeting in New York, USA.

University). A Finnish follow-up event will take place 13th October in Helsinki.

HUMAN SECURITY IN THE SOUTH

The Helsinki Process Track on Human Security discussed urgent human security priorities facing the South at its meeting in Cairo 30th September – 2nd October. Finnish stakeholders gave their contribution to the Track's work at a human security seminar held in Helsinki on 28th of September.

Helsinki Group member Dr Heba Handoussa, former Managing Director of the Economic Research Forum for the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey, stressed the need to address gender-based insecurity at the Cairo meeting's outreach event "Responsibility to Protect and the Southern Perspective".

"Although human security has emerged as an issue of global political concern in the last decade, proponents have not been able to mobilize the requisite level of resources and political support required for the many humanitarian, social, economic, environmental and developmental challenges that threaten human security," said Professor Fen Hampson from Carleton University in Canada, Convenor of the Human Security Track.

It was agreed that political will needs to be mobilized in order to ensure resources for human security. Vice-Rector Ramesh Thakur from the United Nations University in Tokyo emphasised the role of the United Nations as the only international authority that can override national sovereignty.

