

A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF HOLDING AN
INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL ON VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN
(AN INTERNATIONAL HEARING)
IN 2005



CENTRE FOR GENDER EQUALITY



SECRETARIAT OF THE SHELTER MOVEMENT



ALTERNATIVE TO VIOLENCE

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FOREWORD

The Network on Violence Against Women, NVAW, - a co-operation initiative involving three different organisations, all working with the aim of preventing and eliminating violence against women - applied for funding from the Norwegian authorities in order to carry out a feasibility study as to whether a world tribunal on violence against women could be held in Norway. The idea of holding an International Tribunal on Violence Against Women along the lines of the one held in Brussels in 1976 has been afloat in Norway for a while.

The organisations constituting the Network are the Centre for Gender Equality, the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement and Alternative to Violence (ATV).

The NVAW has been meeting regularly to discuss current and relevant issues related to violence against women. Important here are measures for creating awareness in society on the enormous problem that violence against women is for society.

Funding to carry out this study was granted by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additional funding was granted by the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Children and Family Affairs, the Directorate of Social and Health Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Research.

The Network on Violence Against Women has also received great moral support from several persons and organisations, both far and near.

Prof. Liz Kelly, Dr. Purna Sen, Ms. Julie Bindel, Ms. Leslie Ann Foster and Ms. Nita Kapoor have served as Expert Advisers to this project and have given generously of their time and advice.

We thank you all!

Centre for Gender Equality
Secretariat of the Shelter Movement
Alternative to Violence

Oslo, 10 / 02 / 2003

A SUMMARY

This study considers the feasibility, and assesses the possibilities of conducting an International Tribunal on Violence Against Women in 2005, in Norway.

Background

The Network on Violence Against Women is a cooperation initiative consisting of the Centre for Gender Equality, the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement and Alternative to Violence. The aim is to bring attention to the violence women are exposed to and to develop methods that will put a stop to the violence.

It is 27 years since the first Tribunal on violence against women. This Tribunal was held in Brussels and it contributed greatly to bringing attention to the problem of violence against women. There were suggestions that a new Tribunal be held to both celebrate all that has been achieved since the first Tribunal, and to try to identify the barriers organisations working in the area face. It was also understood that such an event would have a positive and mobilising effect on international society in their efforts to combat violence against women.

Funding for carrying out an initial feasibility study on the possibility of holding a world tribunal on violence against women in 2005 in Norway was granted in October 2001.

Aims and intentions

The aims and intentions of the feasibility study are to explore and assess the interest around the world for holding such an international tribunal, and to consider the viability of the project. The study aims to chart out what could be achieved by holding such an international tribunal. Further, to propose a method for carrying out the tribunal in a manner that would engage both governments and NGOs. And finally to consider how funds may be raised for such a large project.

Method and the study

This has been an *explorative study* using long interviews and consultations with relevant key persons and groups in the world with expertise on violence against women, in order to hear their views on holding such a world event.

Meetings were held among others with, an expert advisory group, with researchers and policy makers in the Nordic region, at the Arab Women's Solidarity Association's conference in 2002 in Cairo, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against women, researchers, NGOs and experts from the Asia Pacific region, NGOs in Europe and with NGOs as well as the deputy ministers of Development and of Justice in South Africa. At all the meetings, interviews and consultations, participants were asked to express their views on whether there was use / need for such an event and what could be achieved by carrying it through. The information gained and the opinions expressed have been incorporated into the conclusions and proposals of this study.

Conclusions and proposals

The study concludes that the project to hold an international tribunal on violence against women in 2005 is a feasible one given that there is the political will and the necessary resources available to back it up. Great enthusiasm and interest for such a process were expressed at all the meetings that were held.

The study concludes that such a world process and event would be an excellent instrument for placing the work against violence against women *firmly on the global agenda*. It could be seen as a *follow-up to the International Tribunal on Crimes against Women*, held in Brussels in 1976. It would provide a forum and *platform for international co-operation* and for co-ordinating and consolidating efforts in combating VAW globally. Further, it would achieve a *global overview of the work* done both in the area of prevention as well as in the area of protection of victims and survivors of gendered violence. Included here would *be good models for working with perpetrators* and for holding men accountable. The process would *expose the links* between various forms of violence against women, the *forms of violence* women are exposed to in the different regions of the world, and the *implications* of this violence for world societies. And thus the process could look toward identifying good *integrated and collaborative models* for dealing with the problem. And provide a forum

where governments could present their policies and plans of action and the implementation of these. It would also provide a forum for the *presentation of the good practices* both at policy as well as at service levels in the area. It would very importantly, link *activism, research, service-provision and policy-making*.

The Process and the final event

The process leading up to the final event is as important as the final event. In order to ensure a good process, Regional Focal Points would have to be set up.

Regional Advisory Groups consisting of relevant government officials as well as key NGOs and other organisations would have to be set up. These groups would have to meet and organise Regional Preparatory conferences and / or consultations. Findings from these meetings would be documented and presented at the final event.

Finally, a document or short brief could be produced as an outcome of the whole process, which could serve as a documentation of the process, as well as the basis for further work and follow-up. The final event could also conclude with a declaration of commitment. What form this document takes ought to be discussed and decided upon by the Advisory bodies.

The work in connection with the preparation to the Tribunal / Hearing, and with the Tribunal / Hearing itself may be carried out in the following phases:

Phase 1

A Secretariat needs to be set up in Norway as soon as possible. This would carry on with the mobilisation process that has been started through this study; enlist regional governments and NGOs, call in meetings, set up a website and raise funds.

Phase 2

Regional Preparatory meetings will be held and regional reports be compiled. The final event will be planned.

Phase 3

Hold the final event – the Tribunal or Open Hearing. And formulate how this process may be followed up back in the regions.

INTRODUCTION

This study considers the feasibility, and assesses the possibilities of conducting an International Tribunal on Violence against Women in 2005 in Norway. It also, if such an International Tribunal should be held, shows the way forward, including a description of how such a Tribunal may be organised, structured and carried out.

The Network on Violence Against Women (NVAW), a co-operation initiative working against violence against women and involving the participation of 3 different organisations - the Centre for Gender Equality, the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement, and Alternative to Violence - has been responsible for carrying out the project.

The project has been coordinated from the Centre for Gender Equality (by Adviser Rachel Eapen Paul), with active participation and contributions from the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement (Director Tove Smaadahl) and Alternative to Violence (Assistant Director Marius Råkil). This report has been written by Rachel Eapen Paul, Adviser at the Centre for Gender Equality.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Norway has financed this feasibility and assessment study. The Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Children and Family Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Church and Education have granted additional financing.

Background information

Violence against women is a great global problem affecting the lives of millions of women around the world. The UN has recognised that violence against women is one of the greatest hindrances to the advancement of women and their equal participation in society.

Globalisation, and fundamental socio-political changes around the world have made new spaces for the exploitation of women and exposing them to violence. The feminisation of poverty has increased the vulnerability of women everywhere – especially in the developing world. Women make a large part of the refugees in the world, and large numbers of them are fleeing gender-based persecution in their home countries.

Domestic violence was brought to light in the Western world by the Women's Movement of the late sixties and early seventies. Groups of women getting together to improve their situation and that of their children often found themselves confronted with the reality that women all around them were facing domestic violence and systematic abuse in their families. It was brought to light that women were being subjected to various forms of violence and abuse due to the very fact that they are women - what is today referred to in various UN documents as *gendered violence*. Sociologists Dobash and Dobash wrote one of the first studies on domestic violence called "Violence Against Wives" in 1971. The first shelter for battered women, the shelter in Chiswick, was started in 1972 in England, starting the Shelter Movement of the West. (Paul in Shelters for battered women and the needs of immigrant women, 1998). The first shelter for battered women in the Nordic countries was started in Oslo, Norway in 1978 (Ahnfeldt in Kvinnemishandling: Fra privat problem til offentlig ansvar: En dagsordenbyggingssprosess, 1987).

A discussion on the title and form of the final event

Before going any further, it is necessary to bring up for consideration an issue that was raised at a number of the consultative meetings that were held during the course of the study. This was about the title of the event, and in reality about what form this event would or should take. On hearing the term 'tribunal', problems around holding a traditional tribunal in the form of a legal procedure were raised, especially by those who were not aware of the Tribunal in Brussels. Some also associated the term to military proceedings. It was then explained to them that the intention was not to hold a traditional tribunal. Instead, the proposed tribunal would be a symbolic one that would raise the issue of violence against women, place it before the international society, present good practices and barriers, ask for commitment and engagement from international society; a forum where NGOs, and other organisations could dialogue with governments on what needs to be done. But the argument was raised that world governments would go on the defensive and if the aim is to engage the interest and commitment of governments, one should take another approach - an inclusive approach and not a confrontational one. However, all agreed that the process that has been suggested, as well as a final concluding event incorporating the above-mentioned aims, was an excellent one. In addition, all agreed that the final event ought not to take the form of an ordinary conference. There have been and are still held a number of good conferences. It was

concluded that the form of the final event was an important issue and would need to be discussed and decided upon finally by the Advisory bodies. At this point the project workers thought it best to refer to the final event as an Open Hearing. So from here on the event will also be referred to as an International Hearing on Violence against Women.

The Network on Violence Against Women NVAW

The Network on Violence Against Women NVAW, is a co-operation initiative involving three different organisations, all working in the area of violence against women from their different standpoints and working platforms. The organisations involved are the Centre for Gender Equality, the Secretariat of the Shelter Movement and Alternative to Violence (ATV). The network is a real attempt at addressing the issue of violence against women, VAW, from a holistic and multi-agency perspective. The Network represents a unique initiative that has its basis anchored in its primary aim to establish and maintain *co-operation, dialogue, exchange of knowledge and experience, and work* in the area of VAW, between NGO women's services, men's treatment services and policymakers. The aim of the Network is thus to maintain a good integrated approach in addressing the issue of combating VAW.

The Network has initiated and contributed to a number of activities both nationally and internationally, in addressing the issue of VAW. Among others, the Network organised the first national conference in Norway, *Vold mot Kvinner / Violence against Women*, in June 1999, that focused on dialogue and co-operation between women's organisations and men's organisations working in the area. The Network also worked on a proposal for a National Committee on Violence against Women. This Committee was implemented in Norway in the autumn of 2001 and the Network is represented in it.

The Network recognises the great importance of working internationally in this area. The Network has therefore contributed with their participation and expertise in various seminars and workshops on VAW internationally, especially in the Baltic countries and South Africa. In the process, experience and knowledge of methods in these countries have also been brought into Norway. Further, members of the Network have a very wide contact base and work in close association and co-operation with persons and organisations around the world. Members of the Network have also participated actively in the UN conferences in Beijing 1995 and later in the Beijing +5 meetings in New York 2000, also in the Preparatory Meetings before the final UN meetings.

The **Centre for Gender Equality** in Norway is a government office that functions as an independent body. It is part of the national machinery for achieving gender equality and plays an important role in monitoring all policies from a gender perspective. Violence against women is one of the prioritised areas of the Centre under the theme 'women and power in daily life'. The Centre works in close cooperation with NGOs and women's organisations.

Alternative to Violence (ATV) was established in 1987 as a pro-feminist professional research and treatment centre concerned with men who use violence against their partners. During the last 4-5 years it has been considered important and necessary also to work with the women, youth and children exposed to men's violence within the family. Today ATV employs 16 full time professionals. ATV is the oldest treatment programme of its kind in Europe.

The Secretariat of the Shelter Movement in Norway is the co-ordinating unit for 33 Shelters and telephones for battered women in Norway. The Secretariat is governed by a Steering Committee, with representation from the member shelters. The shelters in Norway are run by women's NGOs. The Secretariat of the Shelter Movement functions as a link between the shelters, governmental authorities, research institutions, other women's organisations and society in general. It is responsible for the documentation and dissemination of knowledge on violence against women.

The Shelter Movement in Norway has two aims:

- To run shelters and crisis telephones for battered women, providing a safe place for battered women and their children to seek refuge.
- To struggle in all possible ways against the socially determined oppression of women - seeing violence against women as an expression of the extreme imbalances in power between women and men in society.

The Secretariat also works internationally and has developed partnerships with crisis centres in Lithuania, Jamaica and South Africa.

PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL / HEARING IN NORWAY IN 2005

Background for the proposal

Given the understanding that violence against women is an extremely serious and pervasive problem in society, there have been suggestions to hold an international event that would address the issue of Violence Against Women, VAW. The first known international event in this area, the International Tribunal on Crimes Against Women that was held in Brussels in 1976, inspires this proposal.

The following is a short account of the objectives and achievements of the International Tribunal on Crimes against women that was held in Brussels in 1976.

The International Tribunal on Crimes against Women 1976

1975 was the UN's International Year for Women. In the wake of this, the first known international tribunal on violence against women was held at the Palais des Congres in Brussels, Belgium in 1976, from March 4 – 8, ending on International Women's Day. The aim of the 1976 Tribunal was to focus international society's attention on to the violence women all over the world were subjected to. It took the form of an open hearing where women came forward and witnessed to the different forms of violence they had been inflicted, thus bringing attention on to the crimes and acts of violence that women in large numbers all across the globe were victims of - acts of violence and crimes against women that in almost all countries at that time were not defined as crimes, as most of these acts of violence took place within intimate relationships, or in what was considered the private sphere, or that these acts were seen as practices of custom or tradition. The proceedings of this international tribunal are documented in the book: *Crimes Against Women, Russell and Van de Ven 1976*.

Over 2000 women from 40 countries participated. And the Tribunal was held over a period of 5 days. Simone de Beauvoir, the renowned French feminist thinker, although unable to be present in person, sent the opening statement in which she welcomed the tribunal as a 'great

historic event'. She said: "This widespread violence (that women all over the world are exposed to), is unanimously unrecognised and passed off in silence. Even against specific acts of violence - rape, assault and battery – there is in the vast majority of cases, no recourse in a court of law".

The idea of an international tribunal was born at a workshop of the international Feminist Conference held in Frankfurt in November 1974. The idea was further developed in early 1975 where an eight women co-ordinating committee was formed to organise the Tribunal.

Unlike a traditional tribunal, there was no panel of judges at the 1976 International Tribunal on Crimes against Women – the participants themselves were the judges. *Personal testimony* was emphasised and so was the increasing relevance of the *international context*. Women saw the tribunal as a forum that would *recognise their common interests* in combating the crimes they were subject to and enable them to *transcend differences* in nationality, as well as culture, class, race, sexual preference, age, religion and politics.

At the Tribunal, the various ways by which women were oppressed and subjected to violence in different countries were seen as crimes against women. That women were being subjected to different forms of violence was presented and documented at the Tribunal. Attention was also brought to the fact that in most countries women did not receive any protection from the violence, nor did they receive any form of social or legal redress as victims of these acts. (These acts were not seen as crimes, thus the women and children subjected to these acts were not then seen as victims, nor were those committing these crimes seen as perpetrators). Thus, issues around various forms of VAW in different countries were addressed and solutions, resolutions and proposals for change were presented on the fifth and final day.

The Tribunal of 1976 played a very crucial role in bringing attention to the problem of violence against women, and had tremendous impact and influence in bringing about actions and measures by which this problem could be confronted by the global community in a serious manner. It was instrumental in bringing world attention to the issue of women's rights and women's situation to a lesser or greater degree all over the world.

These processes of awareness-raising and establishing societal accountability for the violence that women were exposed to eventually led to the development of the Shelter Movement in the West and in other parts of the world. The movement spread and developed, providing shelter and support services for battered women. And thus in due course what is generally

referred to as domestic violence (DV) or wife abuse was 'named', recognised as a societal problem and placed on the socio-political agenda of many countries.

From Norway 18 women attended this Tribunal in Brussels. These women, on their return took up the issue of domestic violence for debate in Norwegian society and they received support in exposing the problem from women in research and women in politics. They took the initiative to start and run the first crisis telephone line for battered women in the Nordic countries in Oslo, Norway in 1977. This service was the forerunner to the 50 crisis centres (shelters for battered women) that offer refuge and support to battered women. This Shelter Movement, comprising of the shelters, has played a major role in exposing the problem of domestic violence in the country and bringing the question on to the socio-political agenda of the country. The question of domestic violence / wife abuse was taken up for debate in Parliament and recognised as no longer a private family matter, but as a societal problem, requiring public action. It was recognised as a societal problem requiring state action and the allocation of public funding in providing protection to the victims, in implementing measures that would prevent the violence, and for research in the area.

Other developments

In Norway: Many new and important developments have taken place in recent years in Norway. A government Plan of Action was initiated in order to address the issue from various angles and to co-ordinate the work that is being done in the area. This has again led to further positive developments, among others, reforms in the Law and in the Police. There has been established a Forum on Violence Against Women. And further, a National Commission on Violence Against Women has been established that shall look at violence against women in intimate relationships and propose measures that would prevent the violence as well as protect the victims.

Internationally: There have been a number of developments around the globe in implementing measures addressing VAW. Several countries have in the last decades taken serious steps in addressing the issue and have brought forth various measures in order to combat the problem and to provide protection for the victims of the violence. They have addressed the issue from various perspectives and levels and have decidedly placed it on their national agendas. Various methods have been developed and put into practice.

For example, Sweden's Kvinnofrid protects the integrity of women and addresses the issue of VAW in all areas of society, such as the law, welfare, health and equal opportunities.

The international community has ratified various UN conventions and many countries have committed themselves to Plans of Action addressing means of preventing and combating violence against women, in order to strengthen women's human rights and to bring about the empowerment of women.

Further, different international instruments that have been put in place to address the issue of VAW, such as the CEDAW, and other Human Rights instruments such as those requiring protection for victims of gender-based persecution and the Protocol on Trafficking in Human Beings in the Convention on Transnational Crime.

The World conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993, the various UN world conferences on women, including the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 and the Beijing Platform for Action of 1995 have contributed greatly to a global realisation of the immensity and seriousness of the problem. The 1995 Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) acknowledges that one of the major barriers for achieving gender equality is the violence that women are exposed to, and addresses Violence against Women as one of its 12 areas for concern.

The Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (1995) is also an instrument that addresses this issue. Also important are the Beijing + 5 follow up meetings on the Beijing Conference, in New York in 2000.

In addition, UN organisations such as UNIFEM, UNFPA and UNDP have provided documentation and information on gendered violence at a global level. Other large organisations such as WHO, OMCT and Amnesty International have made great contributions in documenting the problem and bringing it up for debate at the international level.

Thus in recent years there seems to be a global movement and a general consensus around the world to address the issue seriously. And it is clear that during these last 27 years since the Tribunal in Brussels, many great and important steps have been taken in dealing with the problem of violence against women in many areas of the world – also importantly at government levels. Further, perhaps also due to better possibilities for contact and

communication as a result of the enormous advances in communications technology, there seems to be a global awakening or a re-awakening for addressing the issue at the grass roots level. The UNIFEM supported End Violence network on the Internet has provided a forum for contact, communication and exchange of knowledge between NGOs, researchers and other interested organisations and persons at a global level.

It is thus about 30 years since violence against women VAW or gendered violence has been discussed in the public debate in the world. And as mentioned earlier, many and important measures and practices have been implemented - in the provision of shelter and protection for victims of VAW, for legal redress, in health care for victims. And in recent years many countries have developed programmes for the treatment and / or counselling of perpetrators. Yet, paradoxically, despite all the measures nationally in so many countries, as well as at the level of the international community, violence against women remains a stark reality in very many women's lives all over the globe. And the challenges facing the international community in prevention, policy-making and implementation are still very great. In addition, recent socio-political and economic transformations in the world have not made women's everyday lives any easier to cope with.

There is therefore a need for more knowledge, for further analyses, for developing new methods and strategies. The time now has come to survey the situation globally, for adopting a holistic approach in combating the problem. The time has come for a global mobilisation around this question. The proposed Tribunal / Hearing would provide a forum for doing this.

Aims and Objectives of the proposed International Tribunal in 2005

As can be seen from all the information and documentation that has so far been presented and documented by the many organisations mentioned earlier, VAW is a *global issue* with *global implications* for women, men and children. Global co-operation and globally co-ordinated efforts (measures and practices) are urgently needed. This is especially true when it comes to addressing the problem from an awareness-raising, global mobilisation and prevention perspective. A global overview and documentation of good practices that have been implemented is needed. The commitment of world governments and the global community is crucial. Some great steps need to be taken in order to achieve this. Another international tribunal / hearing involving as many nations of the world as possible would be such a great

step – a tribunal / hearing where women as well as NGOs could witness to their experiences and knowledge and where governments could present plans of action and their implementation.

The proposed Tribunal to be held in 2005 would **aim** to:

- Re-affirm violence against women on the *international agenda* and raise awareness globally.
- Provide a *forum and platform for international co-operation* and a *co-ordinated effort* in combating VAW globally - a tool for transcending differences of class, wealth, religion etc. It is not only “some “ countries that need to deal with this problem.
- Achieve a *global overview* of work done both in the area of prevention as well as in the area of protection of victims and survivors of gendered violence. And thus bring about a *global appraisal of the developments* so far in combating VAW.
- Expose the *links* between various forms of violence against women and the links between the forms of violence women are exposed to in the different regions of the world. And the implications of this violence for world societies. Therefore look toward integrated and collaborative models for dealing with the problem.
- Contribute to engaging the attention and commitment of the global community, importantly *linking activism, research, service-provision and policy-making*. It would provide a basis for *building alliances* between governments and NGOs.
- Provide a *forum where governments could present their policies and plans of action* and the implementation of these. Many countries have produced such plans of action against violence against women. But there are still many countries that have not. Those governments that do not have plans of action may be encouraged to produce and implement them.
- Provide a *forum for presentation and documentation of the good practices* that have been implemented around the world. The proposed International Tribunal would provide such a forum for actors in the area across the globe to present their policies, practices, as well as key research findings in combating VAW. The Tribunal would provide the forum for a presentation of good practices at many levels:

- At government level
- At NGO level
- At the social and health services level
- At the level of legal measures and practices
- At the level of research

Policies and good practices that have had positive results in the prevention of violence, in the protection of victims, in the provision of support services for the victims that would strengthen them and thus prevent their re-victimisation; in dealing with perpetrators, including methods for stopping the perpetrators from assaulting their partners, could be presented and recorded.

- Provide a forum where some of these *organisations could “witness”* to their experiences, positive as well as negative. This would provide States with an excellent opportunity to identify what needs to be done in their respective countries.

The **objectives** of the proposed Tribunal / Hearing are to:

- To reawaken the collective *attention* of governments, NGOs, and the international community on to the problem of violence against women.
- Provide a *platform for the consolidation of efforts* in the area globally
- Provide a *forum where international efforts may be presented, studied and followed up.*
- Involve as many nations of the world as possible and draw them together in a *co-ordinated, integrated and collaborative effort* to deal with the problem.
- Gain *commitment* from the global community and from *world governments* in engaging themselves in combating VAW
- *Follow-up on the Tribunal of 1976.*

- Provide a forum for the *celebration* of the work that has been done internationally following the Tribunal of 1976.

- The 1976 Tribunal needed to focus on *exposing* the problem. This was done through the personal testimonies of individual women who had been victims of various forms of

gendered violence. As has been mentioned earlier, in the years after the first Tribunal, several organisations and institutions as well as States around the globe have addressed the issue and implemented measures for dealing with problem. Exposing the problem is no longer of primary concern. An issue that emerges as important at this point is the *exposing of hindrances and barriers* in the work against violence against women. What needs to be heard are the “testimonies” of organisations as to the hindrances they meet with in doing their work. What is needed is a presentation and documentation of the work being done, identifying not only the good practices but also *identifying the hindrances and barriers* that these organisations face in their work.

- Produce *final document or brief*. This could be a declaration of commitment on the part of governments and NGOs, or it could function as a guideline to further follow up and work in the area. Exactly what form and function this document should take ought to be decided upon in consultation with the Advisory bodies.

A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON HOLDING AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL / HEARING ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Background for the feasibility study

As has been presented earlier, the idea of holding a Tribunal along the lines of the 1976 International Tribunal had been afloat in Norway for a while. Taking into serious consideration that violence against women is still a grave problem all over the world, the Network took up the idea and realised that such an international project could have a positive and mobilising effect on international society in their efforts to combat VAW. It would be just *the* global project that will bring the nations of the world together in a common and determined effort.

Such an International Tribunal / Hearing will have to cover the situation for women exposed to gendered violence around the world. It would require the committed involvement of NGOs, practitioners, researchers and above all, governments (at local and national levels). It could result in a document that the various member states of the international community would commit themselves to use as a working document. Or, it could result in a Declaration to address the issue of violence against women in a serious manner.

With these ideas in the background and realising the enormity of such an international event the Network on VAW proposed that a Feasibility study be carried out in order look at the possibilities and realities of carrying out such a project.

The Study

The study has consisted of drawing ideas and conclusions from the consultative meetings that were held with various persons and groups, as to whether there is interest for such a world event and whether it would be possible to carry out. The study also tries to draw some conclusions as to what form the final event should take, what the processes leading up to it shall be and how they may be organised. Further to reach some estimate as to how much the

whole process would cost. The meetings have also laid the grounds for further consultations and mobilisation in the different regions if needed.

In the project description submitted to the Ministries, the Tribunal was proposed held in 2004. However as we are already in 2003, we propose that the final event be held in 2005.

Aims and Objectives of the Feasibility study

The aims and intentions of the feasibility study are:

- to explore and assess the interest around the world for holding such an international tribunal
- to consider the viability of the project
- to chart out what could be achieved by holding such an international tribunal (the aims of the Tribunal)
- to propose a method for carrying out the tribunal / hearing in a manner that would engage both governments as well as NGOs. It aims to propose the processes and structures that would have to be put into place in order to lead up to the successful achievement of such a world event.

The study will also consider how funds may be raised for such a large project.

And finally, consider how the final event may be followed up.

The intention is also that this report of the study could provide a basic initial framework for implementation, should the Tribunal take place.

Method

As mentioned earlier, this study was proposed, as the project of holding such an international tribunal will be an extremely large, extensive, encompassing and ambitious one. This has therefore been an *exploratory* study, using consultative meetings as a method for gaining information and viewpoints.

Consultative meetings have been held with relevant key persons and groups in the world with expertise on violence against women. Meetings were held with various central institutions, organisations and persons in different regions of the world. A number of consultations were also held over the telephone.

Importance has been given to meet with persons and groups in different geographic regions of the world. However as resources (time and money) were limited, the project had to use the opportunities as they opened up. This meant that the project workers tried to attend international events and conferences that were being attended by relevant persons and experts, and held meetings with them. Therefore not all regions of the world have been met and consulted with.

At all the meetings, interviews and consultations, participants were asked to express their views on whether there was use and / or need for such an event and what could be achieved by carrying it through.

The information gained and the opinions expressed have been incorporated into the conclusions and proposals of this study.

Relatively early in the project, contact was made the Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women. The Office has been very helpful in providing information and contacts.

Meetings and Consultations

A number of meetings and consultations were held. Due to the limitations of time and resources, these meetings were held in connection with international or regional events and conferences taking place on the issue in different regions of the world. This also gave the opportunity to meet with and present the idea to a wide group of persons.

Two daylong consultative meetings were held with an expert advisory group, in December 2001 and in January 2002. These are included in the list below.

The following meetings and consultations have been carried out with (listed in chronological order):

1. The Deputy Minister Anne Lise Ryel of the Ministry of Justice and Deputy Minister Solveig Solbakken, Ministry of Children and Family Affairs in August 2001. (In a pre-study phase)
2. Researchers from the Department of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, October 2001. (List of participants is enclosed in annex). Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. The Department of Criminology has done a large amount of work around questions of domestic violence and sexual violence since the late seventies. The department supported the establishment of the first Crisis telephone line for battered women in Oslo in 1977 and has been closely linked with the starting of the Shelter Movement in Norway.
3. Participants at the Nordic Research Conference, *Køn og Våld i Norden / Gender and Violence in the Nordic Countries*, 23 – 24 November 2001 in Køge, Danmark. A consultative meeting was held with a number of the participants during this conference and this was facilitated by Doctoral researcher Maria Eriksson from the Department of Sociology, Uppsala University, Sweden. About 15 representatives from various research institutions and NGOs in the Nordic countries attended this meeting. Rachel Eapen Paul and Marius Råkil represented the project.

All but two of all the persons at this meeting were very positive to the idea. The 2 who were skeptical were somewhat in doubt as to whether such an international event was needed today. They suggested that enough is being done in the area of combating violence against women and that violence against women was not such a critical and urgent issue any longer. There was also slight skepticism expressed as to whether such an extensive event was possible to realise. However the majority of those present would like to see that such an event be organised and wished to participate actively. They expressed their desire to be kept notified if it should take place.

4. Child and Women Abuse Unit CWASU, University of North London. Daylong consultative meetings were held with Prof. Liz Kelly, Dr. Julie Bindel and Dr. Purna Sen on 30th December 2001. Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. This meeting constituted an expert group meeting.

Prof. Liz Kelly has been closely involved with the international conference “Violence, Abuse and Women’s Citizenship” that was held in Brighton, UK, 10 – 15 November 1996. She has carried out a significant amount of work for the Council of Europe and for the British Council. She was awarded a CBE in 2000 for services combating violence against women and children. Dr. Julie Bindel was one of those responsible for arranging the above conference in Brighton. During that time she was attached to the Violence, Abuse and Gender Relations Research Unit at the University of Bradford who were one of the conference organisers. Dr. Purna Sen works at present at the London School of Economics, and has much experience working internationally on violence against women. She works on several development projects involving training on domestic violence for the British Council. She too was present at the Brighton conference.

These three persons have served as an expert advisory group for this feasibility study, and have also agreed to participate in future advisory capacities in the work on holding an international event.

The structure of the possible final event was discussed as well as the process. Some of the aims of the Tribunal/ Hearing were discussed, among others the re-kindling of links between feminist research, service provision, activism and policy arenas. The accountability of men was also discussed. Names of those who could be resource persons or members of Advisory bodies were proposed and noted.

5. Participants at the International Conference in Cairo of the Arab Women’s Solidarity Association (AWSA) 3 – 5 January 2002. AWSA is led by the well-known doctor and activist, Dr. Nawal el Saadawi. There were more than one hundred participants from different parts of the Arab world. It was also attended by a relatively large Norwegian delegation, including Professor Berit Ås and earlier Deputy Minister Solveig Solbakken. Director general Ingunn Yssen of the Centre for Gender Equality, represented the project at the conference and presented the concept of holding an international tribunal / hearing on violence against women in Norway. She presented the idea that at this hearing women’s organisations from around the world ought to present the work they do in combating violence against women - in order to identify those practices that work and those that do not. The idea was warmly welcomed by all. There was unanimous agreement among the participants for the need for such an international event that would mobilise governments and NGOs. It became clear at this conference that there were

differences of opinion between women from the North and women from the Middle East and from the South. However, violence against women and finding means and methods for combating it seemed to bring with it an unifying effect and the desire to go beyond regional differences. It became clear that such a world event is a project around which all the groups could gather and mobilise.

6. CWASU, University of North London, 23rd January 2002. This is the second meeting with Prof. Liz Kelly, Dr. Julie Bindel and Dr. Purna Sen. Rachel Eapen Paul and Tove Smaadahl represented the project.

Structural possibilities were discussed. All acknowledged the tremendous influence and impact these global arrangements have on influencing the development of policies and ways for addressing VAW. All acknowledged also the impact and importance of the 1976 Tribunal in Brussels. The impact of the 1976 Tribunal was very significant in Norway – it was the start of the Shelter Movement for the whole of Scandinavia. There were good links between women researchers, politicians, and activists at the time. Also discussed were if and how to link up with the UN. Ideological issues were debated.

Also taken up was the importance of a Tribunal as a follow up of 1976 as well as allowing for tying up with claims of justice.

7. The Camden Council seminar on domestic violence in December 2001, arranged by the Camden Multi-Agency Domestic Violence Forum and the Equalities Unit, in London, UK. The Tribunal / Hearing project was presented by Rachel Eapen Paul (who was invited to speak). This was held during the international 16 days of activism against violence women. Other speakers included the Leader of Camden Council, the Head of the Camden Equalities Unit, the Refugee Women's Resource Project, and Amnesty International.
8. NGOs and others in South Africa, 2nd – 8th February 2002. Marius Råkil represented the project. 2 meetings were held where the tribunal / Hearing concept were presented to local NGOs and other key persons. These meetings were facilitated by Masimanyane Women's Support Centre, a support service for battered women based in East London, South Africa.

At the first meeting which was with local NGOs, discussions were held around the need / interest for such an event, as well as the possibilities for a Regional Preparatory Meeting, in preparation to the final event. (List of participants enclosed in annex).

The second meeting was a consultative and planning meeting with Ms. Leslie Ann Foster, Director of Masimanyane Women's Support Centre. The organisation was interested in co-ordinating the Regional Preparatory conference for Africa. Ms. Leslie Ann Foster also suggested that the project have a meeting with Deputy Minister of Provincial and Local Government, Ntombazana Botha at a later date. She said that she would take the responsibility for arranging that meeting.

9. Several consultations over the telephone with Ms. Christina Saunders, the office of the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women in Geneva.
10. The UN Special Rapporteur on VAW Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, in her office in the Centre for Ethnic Studies in Sri Lanka, in February 2002. Ingunn Yssen and Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. The Special Rapporteur found the concept of holding a world event a good one. But as her term as Special Rapporteur was ending in 2003, she could not see how the Tribunal could be directly linked to her office. However, she did see a possibility for her and her office to present some of their findings and conclusions at the Tribunal / Hearing. She also believed that such a Tribunal could be a good forum for presenting good practices in combating VAW around the world. She invited the Norwegian Network on Violence against women to attend the meeting of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva in April 2003, where she would be delivering her final report. She discussed the term - Tribunal - and expressed strong reservations as to the use of the term. She said that it had very strong negative connotations, especially in these times, and that it would only make governments defensive. That the event would be associated with a legal courtroom and legal / criminal proceedings. Instead, she recommended that the arrangement be called an Open Hearing. Another suggestion from her was that if the term Tribunal was still to be used, that one or two days be set aside during the event as an Open Hearing where good practices could be presented.
11. At the conference on violence against women: *Expanding Our Horizons*, 18 –22 February 2002, in Sydney, Australia. Rachel Eapen Paul and Tove Smaadahl represented the project. Dr. Liz Kelly and Dr. Julie Stubbs facilitated this meeting. There were more than

20 participants at the meeting from different parts of the world, largely from Asia and the Pacific. (A list of names of some of the participants is enclosed in the annex. The list is however not complete, as more and more people started joining the group).

Also here, some of the participants (especially from Australia) were skeptical to the use of the term Tribunal. They too associated the term with formal legal proceedings, and felt that governments especially in the developing world would feel confronted and defensive. On the other hand, a number of representatives of NGOs from the developing countries believed that a Tribunal would be good term. That they themselves welcomed an opportunity and forum to “dialogue “ with their governments and that some of their governments would also welcome the opportunity to present to international society the work they have done in the area.

12. Dr. Nishi Mitra, in her office at the Unit for Women’s Studies, Tata Institute of Social Studies, Mumbai, India, in March 2002. Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. Nishi Mitra has conducted an India-wide review on the responses to domestic violence. The work is documented in the report: *Domestic Violence as a public Issue 2000*.
13. Ms. Colette deTroy, Project Coordinator, the European Women’s Lobby, EWL, in Helsinki during STAKES’ concluding conference of their violence against women programme in autumn 2002. The EWL brings together over 3000 women’s organisations in Europe and has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN and with the Council of Europe. The EWL consider the tribunal / hearing proposal to be very exciting and would like to be actively involved if it should take place. Also considered was the possibility of seeing the Tribunal / Hearing as an alternative event to the Beijing +10 that is being debated by many NGOs in Europe and elsewhere. They would like to present this concept as an alternative to a Beijing +10, at their workshop during the CSW in New York in March 2003.
14. Deputy Minister of Provincial and Local Government Ntombazana Botha, in South Africa. The meeting was facilitated by Ms. Leslie Ann Foster, Director of Masimanyane Women’s Resource Centre, and was held in the offices of Masimanyane in East London, and at the premises of the seminar on Masimanyane’s Men’s Programme in East London. Marius Râkil and Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. The meeting with Ms. Ntombaza Botha went on for about 3 hours. She expressed great interest for a Tribunal /

Hearing on violence against women and wished to engage the interest of her colleagues in government. She said that it was essential that we meet with the deputy Minister of Justice and invited us to Johannesburg. This meeting opened channels for Masimanyane with the South African Ministry of Justice, facilitating dialogue between NGOs and the authorities.

15. Deputy Minister of Justice Ms. Cheryl Gillwald and Deputy Minister Ntombazana Botha .

Deputy Minister Ntombazana Botha facilitated this one-hour meeting, which was held at the Atrium Restaurant, Sandton Towers, Johannesburg. Marius Råkil and Rachel Eapen Paul represented the project. Ms. Leslie Ann Foster, from Masimanyane Women's Resource Centre was also present. Ms. Ntombazana Botha stressed the need to link violence against women to development – that violence against women hampers development. This she believed was a crucial link to make also in South Africa's spearheading of NEPAD – New Partnership for Africa's Development. She believed that South Africa could also take on the work of coordinating the Regional meetings for Africa. Important also to engage the Joint Monitoring Committee on the Quality of Life and the Status of Women. Gender Equality is placed in the Ministry of Justice; there is also an office in the President's office. Both Deputy Ministers said they were very excited to hear of this proposal for a Tribunal / Hearing. Also discussed was the role of men in working against violence against women – that men need to work alongside women. And that men need to be held accountable. Again the need to see violence against women from the perspective of development was stressed. "Development starts in our homes" they said. Violence against women hampers and obstructs women from performing at work and in public life. Women molested at work are not able to perform well at work. It also has to do with justice and equal opportunities. What is needed is an integrated development plan that has a gender perspective. Violence against women is one of the points to be discussed at the government's national conference in February 2003. Both Ministers wished to take up the Tribunal / Hearing concept there. Also discussed was the issue of keeping the two processes – the NGO and the government – separate but well connected. They suggested that South Africa could take the responsibility for drawing forward the Regional Meeting, and in this connection it might be important to hold a regional consultative conference in South Africa. The Deputy Ministers discussed ways by which this concept could be presented in Parliament – perhaps through the Presidency. Both agreed that such a process and final event would have a great mobilising effect, just what world societies needed today. Good practices could be documented and

accountability established – the need to hold certain structures accountable. Also discussed was the fact that there were two processes to be worked at here. The process leading up to the Tribunal and the Tribunal / Hearing itself. Both Ministers expressed their desire to invite the Norwegian authorities to South Africa to further discuss the process ahead. All in all this was an excellent meeting and a source of inspiration also for the project workers.

In addition to the above, several informal meetings and consultations were held with key persons in the field in Norway and abroad. Among those in Norway who have given important and useful feedback to the project are the Deputy Minister of Justice Rita Sletner; the Co-ordinator of the National Plan for Action on violence against women Line Nærnes; the Leader of the National Committee on violence against women Nita Kapoor; FOKUS and representatives of several women's organisations such as the Women's Front.

At all the meetings the concept and proposal for holding an International Tribunal was presented. The aims and objectives of such a tribunal were also presented. After which participants were asked to give their opinions and feedback as to whether they thought such a project – an international tribunal on VAW – was a concept that ought to be followed up, whether it would have positive results, whether such a tribunal could achieve its intended objectives and whether it would contribute to the long term goal of combating and preventing violence against women. They were also asked if the concept would be practically and financially viable.

The general answer to most of these questions was a resounding yes. All agreed that such an international tribunal could be an excellent tool to rally NGOs across borders towards a common goal. Above all, all agreed that such an international process and event would be an excellent tool to gather governments together around a common, collaborative effort and commitment to put a stop to violence against women. And that it would be an excellent tool for building alliances between governments and NGOs, as well as alliances between the regions of the world, at government as well as NGO level.

In addition to the above-mentioned meetings, the network NVAW has had several meetings, held at regular intervals, on the progress of the project.

CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSALS

The general sentiments expressed at all the meetings in response to the presentation of the concept were extremely positive. All agreed that there was a great need for such an arrangement. Although all agreed that it could be an extremely large and tremendous project, there was general consensus that it would be quite possible to carry through, and that it would have very positive results in the work against violence against women. All affirmed that the Tribunal could also re-ignite and re-affirm the links between activists, researchers and politicians.

Based on the information gathered at the various consultations and meetings that were held around the world, the study has reached some conclusions and presents a few proposals.

Conclusions

The feasibility study concludes that holding an International Tribunal in 2005 is a feasible project and can be realised.

What is needed is political will, good international co-operation and economic resources. The process forward – the mobilising process and the co-operative work prior to the conference - is a means by which international co-operation may be achieved.

It is important to stress that the processes leading up to the final Tribunal are equally important as the final Tribunal itself. For the success of the Tribunal and of the process, they need to be anchored in the regions. Transnational as well as transregional co-operation will be essential. Regional Preparatory Meetings and consultations will have to be held in preparation of the final event. Through the course of the whole process and the final event, presentations and documentation of the work being done by services and organisations around the world would be carried out. Good practices would be identified, as well as the hindrances and barriers. Also important after the Final Tribunal would be the follow up processes that would again have to be carried through regionally.

In order that all these processes are carried through, the commitment and engagement from governments are necessary.

Very importantly, the Tribunal / Hearing could lead to *commitment from world governments*, without which no real progress can be achieved. Many governments, also in the developing world have produced plans for action and developed policies that play a very important role in addressing VAW. The Tribunal would give these governments the opportunity to present these plans and policies. However, there are still many countries that have not yet developed such plans for action, and the Tribunal could be instrumental in encouraging those countries that are lagging behind.

Also, it would provide the much-needed tool that would enable *NGO - government dialogue* and exchange of information on a regular basis.

The issue, violence against women is of *current international concern* and needs urgent *international focus* if good and real results are to be achieved in preventing the violence. The proposed Tribunal would open up the space for such international focus. As has been pointed out earlier VAW is a serious concern, relevant for all countries of the world, the poor as well as the rich, developing as well as developed, the South as well as the North. This transnational concern provides a basis for good international co-operation. Working internationally on this matter could provide the sorely needed possibilities as well as room for international co-operation especially in these days of conflicting politics and ideologies. This seems to be an area where there is more or less international concern as well as interest for action. These issues became especially visible at the Arab Women's Solidarity Association's conference, referred to in Chapter 4. At this meeting in Cairo it became clear that there were a number of differences of opinion between the interests of organisations in the West and the East. Yet the importance of combating violence against women was an issue that there was general consensus about – it seemed to be about the only issue all the participants were able to agree on.

VAW is not an issue that only 'some' countries need to concern themselves with; it is clearly a concern for all. International co-operation therefore is critical for dealing effectively with the problem. And such a Tribunal would open up the spaces for international dialogue and co-operation.

Re-kindling international attention on the issue of violence against women is also extremely important from a development perspective. This was especially relevant for the developing world and was stressed by the Deputy Ministers in South Africa. There can be no real

progress or development in society if women are hindered from being active participants of society – and very many women are unable to carry on with their work at home and outside due to the fact that they have been beaten in their homes. It might be important for also “developed” countries to look at violence against women from a development perspective – can societies consider themselves developed when so many women are exposed to violence?

Further, the time is right for *a global appraisal* of the developments so far in combating VAW. At this point the need for a forum where international efforts may be presented, studied and followed is sorely needed. It becomes important to take a look at the *best practices* that have been implemented around the globe. The proposed International Tribunal would provide such a forum for actors in the area across the globe to present their policies, practices as well as key research findings in combating VAW.

Suggested models for anchoring the process

The following models can form the bases - either separately or in combination - for the proposed Tribunal / Hearing:

1. The Tribunal /Hearing could link up to the Beijing Platform for Action. The thematic concern, Violence Against Women, in the Beijing Platform for Action could form the basis of the Tribunal / Hearing. In that sense, the Tribunal may be seen as an international follow up of the Beijing Platform in the area of violence against women. Further, the Tribunal / Hearing process could link violence against women to the other 11 areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action.
2. The Tribunal / hearing could link up to the UN system that has developed various instruments calling for the eradication of violence against women. Instruments such as the CEDAW, and other Human Rights instruments such as those requiring protection for victims of gender-based persecution, the Protocol on Trafficking in Human Beings in the Convention on Transnational Crime (2001), the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of VAW (1995) etc.
3. The Tribunal / Hearing could also link up to the work of the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted in 2002 a number of innovative measures to combat violence against women, urging its 44 member states to tighten laws and to act to change attitudes. The recommendation here covers every potential area of

gender-based violence, covering domestic violence, rape and sexual abuse, genital mutilation, human rights abuses by the state, violence during wartime and honour killings. It also looks at ways in which these crimes should be dealt with by the courts. Proposals include measures that would allow victims of domestic violence to stay in their homes, making the violent partners leave, and thus shifting the current trend for victimised women to have to go into women's shelters. There is also a strong emphasis on assistance and protection for victims, through police and court action.

The above documents and instruments could form the framework for the Tribunal.

4. The Tribunal / Hearing could also link up to the work of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. The Special Rapporteur suggested that the Tribunal / Hearing provide for a presentation of best practices and that her findings and conclusions could be presented at the Hearing. She indicated further, that a direct link between the Tribunal / Hearing and her work would not be possible as her term ends in 2003. However a Preparatory Meeting in 2003 where conclusions from her work could be presented is a possibility that may be considered.
5. The proposed Tribunal / Hearing may also be seen as *a follow-up of the Tribunal of 1976*. All the forms of violence that the Tribunal in Brussels dealt with are still real problems threatening the lives, peace and development of millions of women around the world. The 1976 Tribunal focused on the personal testimony of *individual women* who had been victims of various forms of gendered violence. But as has been mentioned earlier, in the years after the first Tribunal, several organisations and institutions around the globe have addressed the issue and implemented measures for combating the violence. The proposed Tribunal in 2005 will provide a forum where some of these *organisations* could witness to their experiences, positive and negative. Thus identifying best practices as well as the barriers and mechanisms of resistance they meet with in their work.

The study concludes that such a world process and event would be an excellent instrument for *placing the work against violence against women firmly on the global agenda*. It would provide a forum and *platform for international co-operation* and for the co-ordination and consolidation of efforts in combating VAW globally.

Further, it would achieve a *global overview of the work* done both in the area of prevention as well as in the area of protection of victims and survivors of gendered violence. Included here would be good models for working with perpetrators and for holding men accountable.

The process would *expose the links between various forms of violence against women*; the forms of violence women are exposed to *in the different regions of the world*, and the implications of this violence for world societies. And thus the process could look toward identifying integrated and collaborative models for dealing with the problem. And provide a forum where governments could present their policies and plans of action and their implementation. It would also provide a *forum for the presentation of the good practices* both at policy as well as service levels in the area. It would very importantly, link activism, research, service-provision and policy-making.

The International Tribunal would thus:

- assess what we know about violence against women globally and what works (best practices), for whom and where - in addressing and preventing VAW
- link the voices and perspectives of survivors of violence, NGOs and state actors
- encourage dialogue and exchange on the importance and potential of community responses to violence against women
- establish the accountability of men for their acts of violence
- re-kindle links between feminist research , service provision, activism and policy arenas

Proposals

The study recommends that although the proposed Tribunal / Hearing is an extremely large project needing to go over 2 to 3 years, the proposal be realised and that an International Tribunal / Open Hearing on violence against women be held in Norway during the course of 2005.

If the Tribunal / Hearing should be held, the project proposes the following:

1. That the Norwegian government take the initiative to forward the proposal to hold an International Tribunal / Hearing on violence against women in 2005, on to the international arena.

Norway could be the right country that such an initiative comes from. In recent years Norway has gained recognition and respect in the international arena for her role in international negotiations and dialogue. Norway has made great advancements, in a global context, in the work in achieving gender equality. And on the questions of gender equality and VAW, Norway has been one of the pioneers in recognising the links between the two - that no real equality between men and women is possible without preventing and stopping the violence that women are subjected to.

2. If an international Tribunal / Hearing should be held it ought to be anchored in regional consultations and meetings, both at governmental as well as NGO levels.
3. A short brief or document or declaration for worldwide action against violence against women could be worked upon through the regional meetings and finalised at the final Tribunal /Hearing. This document could also provide the basis for further work - a working document for follow up - for combating and preventing violence against women around the globe. It could be linked for example, to following up on the Beijing Platform for Action. Such a global process would necessarily place violence against women firmly on the international agenda.
4. Suggested process leading to the Tribunal:

Should a Tribunal / Hearing be held, it ought to be anchored in the regions of the world - regional mobilisation needs to be ensured. It is suggested that the world be considered in terms of the following regions: North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, South East Asia, Australia and the Pacific.

It is proposed that the process leading up to the final event be seen as happening in 3 phases, yet that they also run parallelly. And that the following structures be put in place.

Phase 1

During this phase it is suggested that the following be established:

- A secretariat
- 3 central committees: A local Steering and Implementation Committee, A policy and Programme Committee, and an International Advisory Committee
- Regional Focal Points

It is proposed that the **Secretariat** be set up in Norway as soon as possible. This ought to consist of a coordinator, an administrator, one person working on funding and a press officer responsible for publicity and media. The secretariat would need more staff as the work draws closer to the final event.

The secretariat shall be responsible for:

- Fund raising,
- Calling meetings of Policy and Programme Committee and Local Steering Committee
- Links to UN organisations
- Maintaining a web site
- Enlisting regional governments and NGOs, conferring with the committees
- Formulating the process - the Regional Preparatory meetings, themes and regional relevances, conferring with the committees
- Could have placements for periods from the various regions

It is proposed that the following 3 **Central Committees** be established:

1. *Local Steering and Implementation Committee (LIC)* – to include;

Suggestion: The Norwegian Foreign Ministry and other government representatives (Ministries of Justice, Ministry of Children and Family Affairs etc.), and a representative from the Network on Violence against Women – if appointed by the government.

2. *Policy and Programme Committee (PPC)*: consisting of approximately 9 / 10 members. The following have been consulted with and have agreed to come on board if they are asked:

Prof. Liz Kelly and Julie Bindel from CWASU (Child and Women Abuse Study Unit, University of North London); Dr. Purna Sen, London School of Economics; Gudrun Jonsdottir, Stigamot, Iceland; Leslie Ann Foster, Masimanyane, South Africa; Nishi Mitra, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India;

This Committee ought to also have representation from Norway and perhaps also include the Network on Violence Against Women.

3. *International Advisory Committee (IAC)*: consisting of perhaps 30 / 40 members covering:

- the different regions
- the UN system (UNIFEM; UNESCO; WHO etc.), as well as large NGOs, such as Amnesty International
- themes
- all forms of violence

This group could meet primarily on the Internet.

(A list has been drawn up of possible key persons for this group: Robyn Holder (Australia), Rada Gungaloo (Mauritius), Lepa (Belgrade), Duska (Zenica) Monica O'Connor (Ireland), Futhi (South Africa), Tahira Khan (Pakistan), Pinnar (Turkey), Bridget Schmidt (USA)).

During this phase the following activities and work needs to be carried out:

- Local Steering and Implementation Committee and Policy and Programme Committee be established and meetings in these committees conducted.
- In collaboration with the committees, produce a Plan of Action, with specific, time-bound, costed targets. A position / strategy paper with a conceptual framework covering prevention, protection, punishment etc. be drawn up.

- Work out a budget, for the process leading up to the Tribunal as well as for the final Tribunal
- Approach funders (large foundations) and organise funding. (The costs of the Brighton conference were about £300K with about 4000 participants). IT is important to get funders on board early in the process.
- International Advisory Committee to be contacted and plans for working together be drawn up. Hold a meeting and bring publicity.
- Lists of relevant persons and organisations in different regions of the world as well as in the UN system have been written up. These need to be contacted, some met with, and links for working together made.
- Approach governments and get them to sign up to working toward the Tribunal, both through Regional representatives in International Advisory Committee, as well as through the Foreign Ministry's channels.

Get Nordic countries, EU to sign up in advance.

Get key countries in the different regions on board.

Further, Germany, Ireland, South Africa.

In South Africa contact has already been established with central politicians and parliamentarians who have expressed great interest in the project and have agreed to come on board.

Further, Spain, UK, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Pakistan.

The EU, the Council of Europe and the British Council.

In all the countries and institutions mentioned above, members of the Program and Policy Committee have contact with key persons.

- Link up with other campaigns and international conferences for example, Amnesty's campaign in 2003 on violence against women, and the Global Action Committee for the

Elimination of Family Violence organising the Family violence conference in Prague in 2003.

Phase 2

During this phase regional mobilisation needs to be ensured. Regions need to be enlisted, regional preparations are made and regional consultative meetings and / or conferences need to be held. This involves that:

- Regional representatives be enlisted and Regional Committees established.
- Regional consultations be held and regional information gathered
- Regional Preparatory meetings / conferences be held
- Reports be written

Phase 3

This phase concerns the arrangement of the final event and involves:

- Planning the final event
- Conducting the final event
- Completing the document from the final event.
- Formulating the follow up of the whole process

Administrative structure of the Tribunal / Hearing

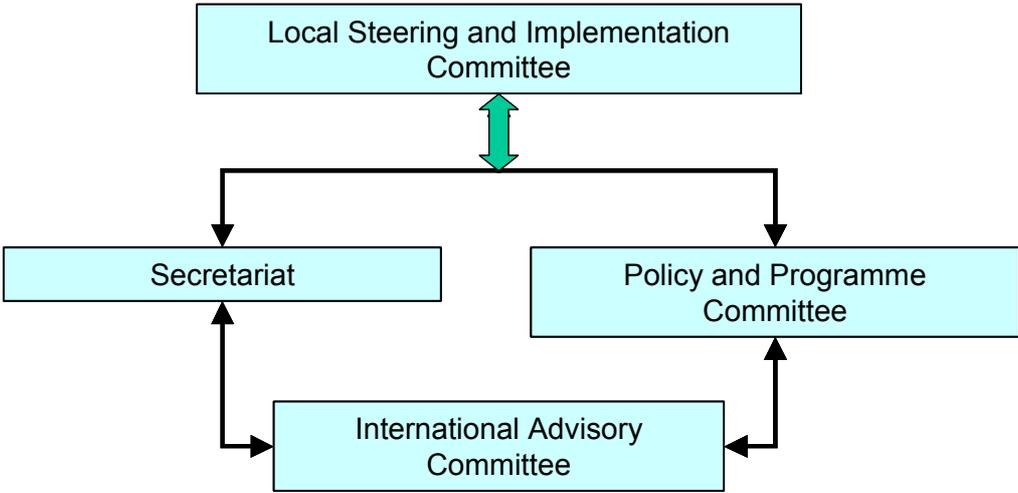


Figure 1. Showing the suggested administrative structure of the Tribunal / Hearing

Suggested organisation of the Tribunal / Hearing

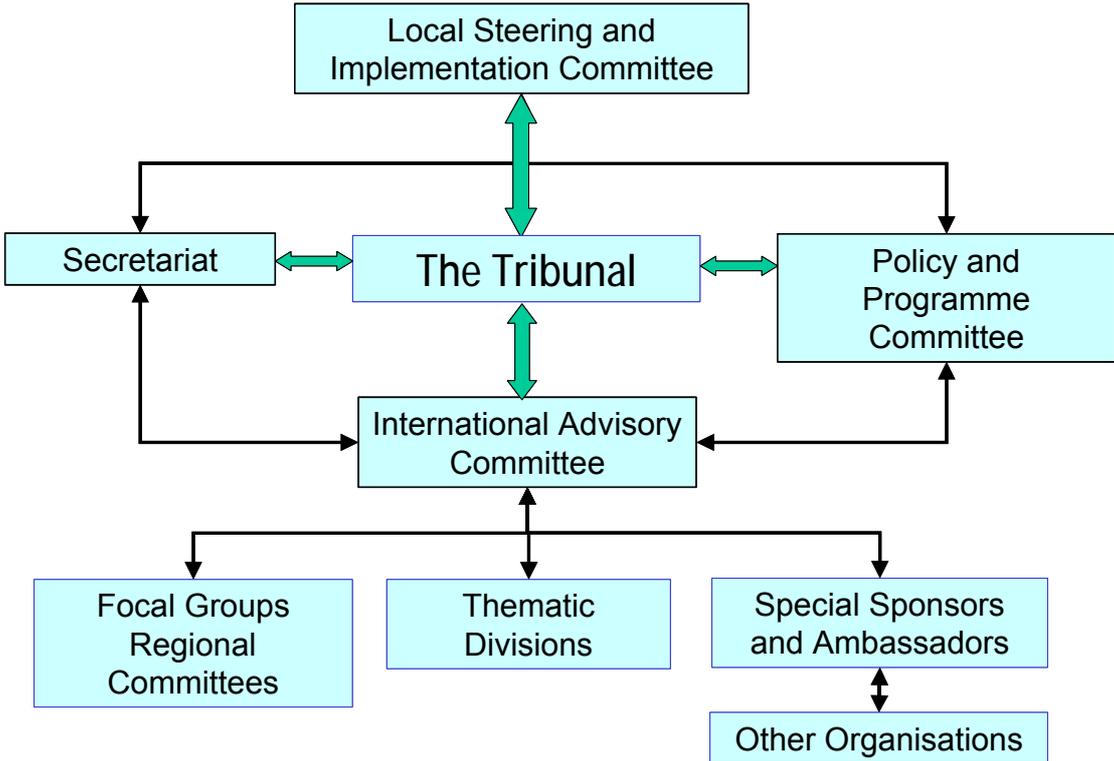


Figure 2. Process organised toward the Tribunal / Hearing.

Suggested plan of administration and links

The figure below shows a plan for the administrative structure of the Tribunal.

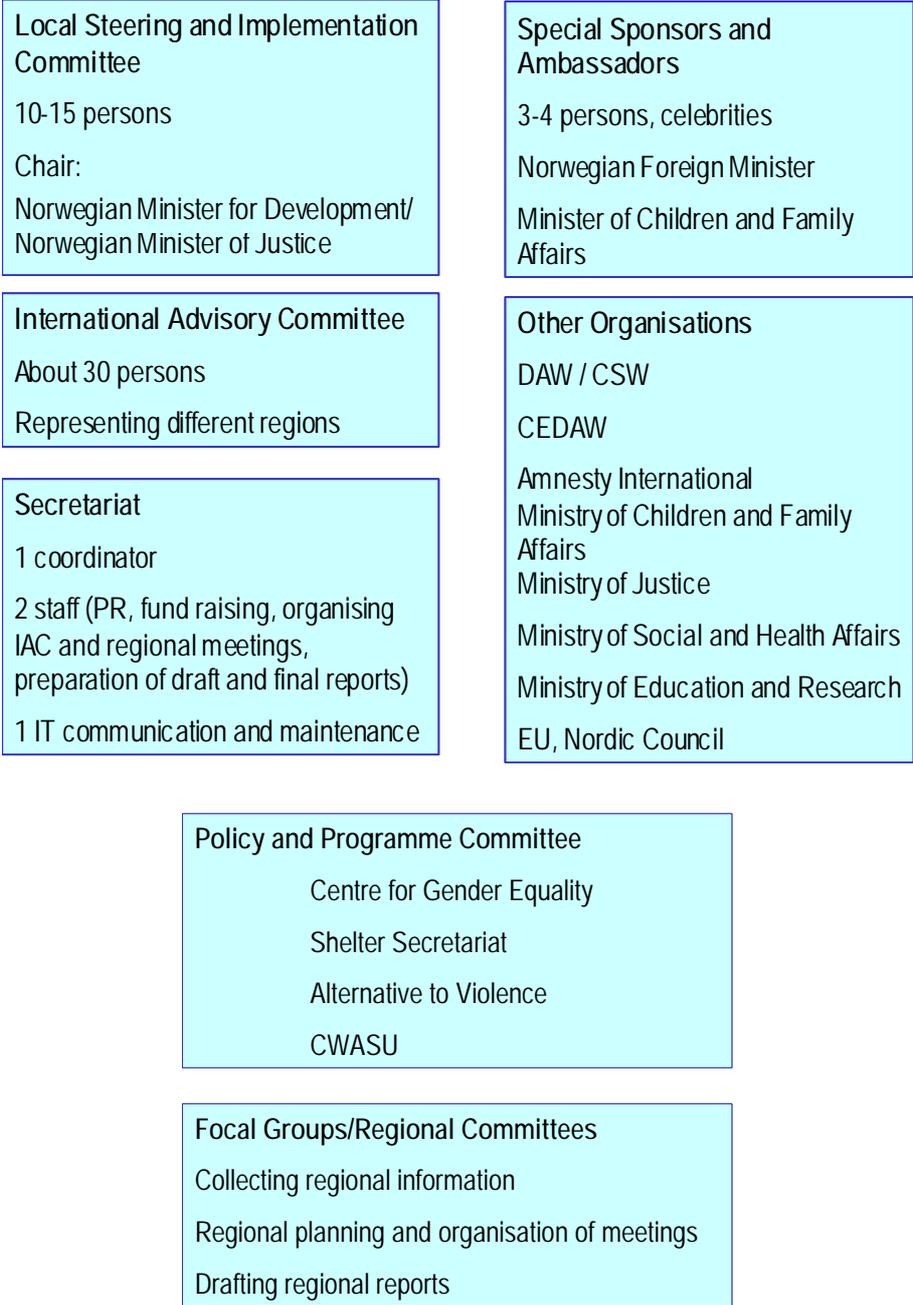


Figure 3. Administrative structure of the Tribunal.

Budget proposal for the Secretariat

	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
Project coordinator and Admin Officers			
Salary	695000	1015000	1015000
Travel expenses (PC)	67500	67500	33750
Travel expenses (Admin)	22500	22500	22500
Fundraising Officer			
Salary	80000	120000	80000
Travel expenses	57000	57000	28500
Public Relations/Media Officer			
Salary	157500	157500	315000
Web and electronic comm.			
Salary	85000	85000	85000
Office expenses			
Hardware	140000	35000	35000
Materials	50000	50000	50000
Printing Info	50000	50000	50000
International Adv. Comm.			
Meetings	217500	217500	108750
Policy and Programme Comm.			
Meetings	166500	166500	166500
Contingency	268275	306525	298500
Annual Costs NOK:	2056775	2350025	2288500
Total Project NOK:			6695300

The table above gives suggestion covering only the administrative and some office expenses. Please note that taxes and benefits are not included.

ANNEX

Sydney meeting Feb 02 – list of participants

List of names of participants in the consultative meeting held in Sydney during the International conference in Sydney, Australia

There were over 20 persons present at this meeting. The following are the names of some of them who wrote themselves on a list that was sent around. As women kept coming in as the discussions were going on, a number of them did not have the time to write themselves down.

Robyn Holder, Victims of Crime Co-ordinator. Canberra, ACT, Australia

www.act.gov.au

robyn.holder@act.gov.au

She is one of the organisers of the conference.

Julie Stubbs, Institute of Criminology, University of Sydney

jules@law.usyd.edu.au

She is one of the organisers of the conference

Sally Merry, USA

smerry@wellesley.edu

Meng Liu, China.

liumeng99@yahoo.com

She is Associate professor in the Department of Social Work, Chinese Women's College in Beijing, China. She has studied community-based intervention in the prevention of domestic violence, and a conducted a national survey on violence against women in China.

Marianne Hester, UK

marianne.hester@sunderland.ac.uk

Phally Hor, Director, Project Against Domestic Violence, Phnom-Penh, PO Box 2459,
Cambodia

PADV@bigpond.com.kh

She is working with the Ministry of Women Veteran Affairs to produce a domestic violence
draft law

Chanthol Oung, Executive Director of Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre

42 F, ST. 488, Psar Deum Tkev, PO Box 2421, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Tel: + 855 239 82 158; + 855 128 0507

cwccct@forum.org.kh

Pamela Foster, New South Wales Women's Refuge Movement, Australia

Cyndia Henty-Roberts, Policy Officer, Social Justice Unit, Human Rights and Equal
Opportunity Commission, Sydney, Australia

Tel. + 61 2 9284 9852

cyndiahenty-roberts@humanrights.gov.au

Aurora Javate-de Dios, Professor in International Studies, Philippines. She was a member of
the Philippine delegation to the Beijing conference in 1995

Ruth Lewis, University of Newcastle, UK

Ruthlewis66@hotmail.com

Researchers from the Department of Criminology, UIO

List of researchers from the department of Criminology attending the consultative meeting on
holding an International Tribunal / Hearing in Norway:

Ragnhild Hennum, Dr. Philos

Elisiv Bakketeig, Dr. Philos

Jane Dullum, Doctoral researcher

Lill Scherdin, Doctoral candidate

Meeting with NGOs and others in South Africa Feb 02



World Tribunal on Violence Against Women 2005

Rapport fra informasjonsarbeid og samarbeidsetablering med organisasjoner i Sør-Afrika 2.-8. februar 2002.

I tilknytning til min reise til East London, Sør-Afrika (finansiert av BFD og ATV) i forbindelse med samarbeidet mellom Alternativ til Vold (ATV), Krisesentersekretariatet og Masimanyane Woman Support Centre, ble det avholdt 2 møter der lokale organisasjoner ble informert om tribunal-prosjektet og der lokale organisasjoner ble forespurt om deres interesse for å delta i organiseringen av en afrikansk regional forkonferanse til selve tribunalet.

Det ene møtet ble avholdt i forbindelse med arrangementen av et kurs i lederskap for lokale NGO-ledere. Kurset ble arrangert av Masimanyane i samarbeid med Rhodes University i East London. Kurset samlet 34 deltagere fra 24 ulike organisasjoner med gjestedeltagere fra ATV i Oslo og Womankind Worldwide i London (deltagerliste vedlagt).

Det andre møtet var et planleggingsmøte mellom lederen av Masimanyane, Ms Lesley Ann Foster og undertegnede. Det er relativt klart at Masimanyane vil ta ansvaret for å koordinere og gjennomføre den afrikanske forkonferansen til tribunalet. De ønsker også å delta i organiseringen av selve tribunalet dersom man kommer så langt. Foster vil også legge saken frem for Deputy Minister Ntombazana Botha i Ministry of Provincial and Local Government, Pretoria med tanke på både nasjonal støtte til tribunalet og finansiell støtte til tribunalets regionale forkonferanse.

Samarbeidsrelasjoner med lokal(e) sør-afrikanske organisasjoner i forbindelse med tribunalet ansees nå å være etablert på bakgrunn av tidligere kontakt og de beskrevne møtene. En avklaring på organisasjonenes (spesielt Masimanyane) forpliktende engasjement i det videre arbeidet ventes bekreftet før tidspunktet for dette forprosjektets utløp.

20.02.2002

Marius Råkil

Nestleder ATV

Vedlegg



RHODES UNIVERSITY

East London Campus

JOHNSON & JOHNSON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
MASIMANYANE WOMEN'S SUPPORT CENTRE
LEADERSHIP COURSE : 4 - 8 FEBRUARY 2002

	NAME	ORGANISATION	ID NUMBER
1	Isabella Beukes	DPSA	6207070187088
2	Lynette Casoojee	Arts and Crafts	4905170075085
3	Celesta Cloete	Agape Copeland Train	7709170155088
4	Esther Cossie	Ikhwezi Women's Support Centre	4012030254081
5	Alistair Fray	Provincial & Local Government	6001025083082
6	Jasmin Johnson	REACH	6105040098080
7	Sarah Johnstone	Womenkind Worldwide	
8	Rafiek Jorry	Muslin Community	580430519202 ?
9	Lunga Kweletyeni	Volunteer – DPSA	7002040047089
10	Nombulelo Vana	Ikhwezi Women's Support Centre	7404030514084
11	Alice Letiane	N.C. Network on Violence Against Women	7805190393087
12	Patrick Lottering	Buffalo Flats Sports Council	5912045081081
13	Nokufika Mahamba	Duncan Village Community Development Trust	6605180666083
14	Sefiso Mhlabane	Masivusane Project Management	6509105288082
15	Mthetheleli Mana	Fort Beaufort Advice Office	5307195650084
16	Anthony Masha	EL & Border Refugee Forum	436219 (passport)
17	Roeshda Maizema	Dept. of Health	6703080161089
18	Nozibele Mbophane	Masonwabisane Women's Support Centre	7901260355088
19	Nozipho Mbuli	Women Against Women Abuse (WAWA)	7108190287080
20	Thoko Mhlanga		65112060387089 ?
21	Pumla Mncayi	Gender Advocacy Programme, CT	5508160765084
22	Tarbita Ndeleleni	Peddle Women's Support Centre	7711100466080
23	Mveliso Ngomane	Khetshe Consulting Group/Flagstaff Dev Trust	5104245640086
24	Nozizwe Ngubeni	Women Against Women Abuse (WAWA)	5105090237084
25	Happy Nkato	Kulani Commercial High School	5709150945088
26	Zukiswa Nkonjwa	Idutywa HIV/AIDS Care & Information Centre	6712200410086
27	Luleka Nkwatani	Sinethemba Senior Secondary School	5207310543083
28	Nokulunga Cynthia Nqeto	Vuka Uzithethe	5801030855080
29	Mandisa Ntlabati	Land O' Lakes International	6001210822088
30	Marius Raakil	Alternative to Violence, Oslo, Norway	K0399978/1 (passport)
31	Leon Scheepers	Khanya Youth and Development	6211285134083
32	Miriam Sifile	Ceres Advice Office	5406050863087
33	Saartjie van Wyk	E.L. Child and Family Welfare	6708030049086
34	Anne Mariekvale	Aksept Contact Center	96-K0197792/1 (passport)

Meeting in East London, South Africa with NGOs Dec. 02

ATTENDANCE LIST		WORLD TRIBUNAL MEETING	DATE: 05 DECEMBER 2002								
VENUE: ZANEMPILO HEALTH CENTRE			TIME: 14:00 - 16:00								
NAME & SURNAME	ORGANISATION	Address	TELEPHONE	FAX	CELL	HOME	E-MAIL				
1 Gabrielle Le Roux	Artist & Gender Consultant	12 Clevedon Rd, Muizenberg, 7945	021 788 8787				gabrielroux@hotmail.com				
2 Ushma Patel	Independent Complaints Directorate		043 642 1667	043 643 3615							
3 Khaya Tshabalala	Masimanyane Women's Support Centre		043 743 9241	043 743 9282							
4 Maryanne Kirkbride	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Codman Square Health Centre, 77 Mass Avenue, 23-209 Cambridge, MA 02139-4307	617 253 5240				Kirk@med.mit.edu				
5 Michelle Rue	Codman Square Health Centre	Dorchester Massachusetts, USA	+617 822 8369	+617 822 8350			michelle.rue@codman.org				
6 Lisa Vetten	CSVr		011 403 5650	011 339 6785							
7 Laura J. Kganyago	Women's National Coalition	187 Bree Street, Johannesburg	011 833 8400/1	011 833 8402	082 719 5968						
8 Cheryl Ayogu	Western Cape Network on Violence Against Women	P. O. Box 5, Athlone, 7760	021 633 5287	021 637 0785	083 316 2616		cheryl@womenscentre.co.za				
9 Jean Benjamin	Parliament of South Africa, 44 De Wet Street, Bellville South, 7530		021 951 8710	021 951 8501/403	083 297 3736	021 951 2527					
10 Vani Moodley	Yuka Uzithathe	P. O. Box 47265, Greyville, 4023	031 307 3842	031 307 5876	082 444 1338		wukainst@iafrica.com				
11 Hombakazi Yini	Masonwabisane Women's Support Centre		047 491 2050	047 491 3359							
12 Zamindela Maphekula	Pecdie Women's Support Centre		040 673 3934	040 673 3934	083 492 6198						
13 Nonhlanhla Mbonani	Women's Net	Civicus House, 24 Pim Corner Quinn Street, Newtown, 2001	011 833 5959	011 833 7997			bonni@women'snet.org.za				
14 Anu Pillay	Ashoka- Innovators for the Public		011 403 3917	011 403 3956	083 407 7674	011 728 4600					
15 Sheila Mentjies	Commission on Gender Equality	Braamfontein Centre, 23 Jonissen Street, Braamfontein	011 403 7182	011 403 7188	082 829 9208		sheila@cge.org.za				
16 Bernadette Muthien	Positive Sexualities Project	P. O. Box 12992, Mowbray, 7705	021 448 2112	021 448 2252	083 345 0552		brnuthien@icon.co.za				
17 Kagenda Murungi	International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission	c/o Human Rights Watch, 350 Fifth Avenue, 34th Floor, New York, NY USA	+212-216-1278	+1-212-216-1876	072 212 8616						
18 Rachel E. Paul	Centre for Gender Equality	637 Washington Street, Dorchester MA0212, USA	+47222 425 74	+617 822 8172	+47 900 34969		rachel.paul@likestilling.no				
19 Cynthia Johnson-Smith	Codman Square Health Centre						cynthia.johnsonsmith@codman.org				
20 Lesley Ann Foster	Masimanyane Women's Support Centre	35 St. Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201	27 43 743 9169	+27 43 743 9176	083 325 2497		maswsc@iafrica.com				
21 Christopher Harper	Masimanyane Women's Support Centre	35 St. Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201	27 43 743 9169	+27 43 743 9176			maswsc@iafrica.com				
22 Euclid Doans	Masimanyane Women's Support Centre	35 St. Marks Road, Southernwood, East London, 5201	27 43 743 9169	+27 43 743 9176	082 749 2399		maswsc@iafrica.com				

List of key persons from human rights work

Indai Sajor, Women's Caucus for Gender Justice

33-53 Vernon Blvd, Suite 1

Long Island City, NY 11106

T: 718-626-2681

F: 718-626-3528

www.iccwomen.org

indai@mnl.cyberspace.com.ph

Ariane Brunet, International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development

abrunet@ichrdd.ca

Charlotte Bunch, Centre for Women's Global Leadership

cwgl@igc.apc.org mdutt@igc.apc.org

Rhonda Copelon, International Women's Human Rights Law Clinic, New York Law School

iwhr@maclaw.law.cuny.edu

Jane Connors, Women's Rights unit, UN Division for the Advancement of Women

connorsj@un.org

Roxanna Carrillo, UNIFEM

roxanna.carrillo@undp.org

LaShawn Jefferson, Women's Rights Project, HRW

jefferl@hrw.org

Betty Murungi,

kaari@iconnect.co.ke

Noeleen Heyzer

Executive Director, UNIFEM

Other key contact persons and organisations

Maj Britt Theorin, Chair of EU committee on equality between women and men

Olaf Olafsdottir, Head of Gender Equality Council of Europe

Global Action Committee for the Elimination of Family Violence

Mary Pyrgos, Coordinator, Family violence conference in Cyprus in 2000

Next in 2003 in Prague

www.familyviolence.org.cy