

annual report
2011

making
people's
voices
heard



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Vision

Communication for All

Mission

WACC is an international organization that promotes communication as a basic human right, essential to people's dignity and community. Rooted in Christian faith, WACC works with all those denied the right to communicate because of status, identity, or gender. It advocates full access to information and communication, and promotes open and diverse media. WACC strengthens networks of communicators to advance peace, understanding and justice.

WACC has long promoted a rights-based approach to communication and worked to expand recognition and acquisition of the right to communicate. WACC is committed to gender equality and the projects to which it gives support must include a gender perspective. Its work is particularly focused on communication rights for marginalised, excluded and disadvantaged groups, with which it works on questions of human development, social inclusion, and participatory citizenship.

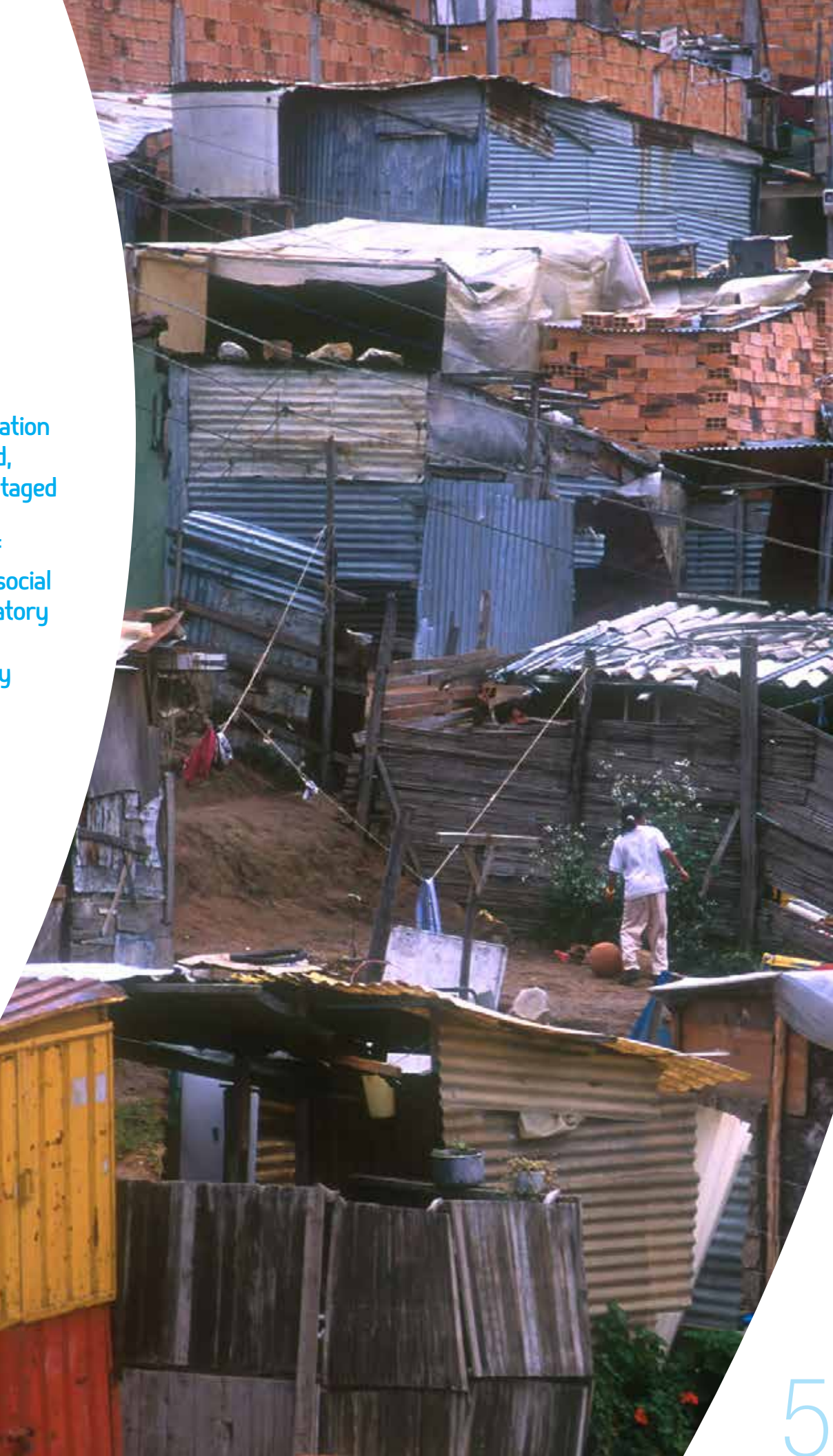
WACC offers professional guidance on communication policies, interprets developments in global communications and the consequences which such developments have for groups and communities everywhere, especially in the Global South.

WACC has a global membership network of over 1,570 corporate and personal members and affiliates in 103 countries consisting of faith-based and secular communication organizations, development and educational groups and alternative media networks, as well as media professionals and citizen activists.



WACC is "particularly focused on communication rights for marginalised, excluded and disadvantaged groups, with which it works on questions of human development, social inclusion, and participatory citizenship."

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Message from the General Secretary

In 2011, in addition to its multifaceted ongoing work, WACC addressed the complex challenge of reviewing its vision and mission, its programmes and procedures. This lengthy process culminated in a new Strategic Plan 2012–2016 which will place WACC at the forefront of the movement to recognize and implement communication rights for the many people worldwide who are denied them. Exciting times lie ahead!

The UNDP's Human Development Report 2011, "Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All", argues for the need to address the global challenges of sustainability and equity in a systematic and coherent way. It identifies policies on the national and global level that could lead to mutually reinforcing progress towards these interlinked goals. However, it also points out that bold action is needed on all fronts if genuine development for the world's poor majority is to be sustained – for the benefit of future generations as well as for those living today.

Most disadvantaged people lack political power and their voices are often ignored or absent in public debate and policy-making. Speaking of empowering people to bring about change, and enabling participation and accountability, the UNDP Report states:

"Civil society groups can organize and exert

real impact on the decisions of policy-makers, offsetting the often disproportionate influence of powerful economic interests and lobbies. The possibility of developing this 'countervailing power' depends on whether institutions in a society allow for open and free participation... Where civil society is active, it has been shown to bring about significant change."

Nevertheless, the UNDP Report is curiously silent on the key role that the mass media of communications, and increasingly digital technologies and social networking, can play in enabling people to express their opinions and concerns and to have a voice in matters that impact them.

In keeping with many organizations and individuals working to advance social justice,

and in the words of the NGO Panos London, which promotes the participation of poor and marginalised people in national and international development debates through media and communication projects, WACC believes that:

- Poor people must have their voices heard and be able to participate in the debates and decisions that affect their lives.
- Governments must be open, accountable and responsive to their citizens – there must be free flows of information so that civil society can monitor government performance.
- Countries need a healthy, vibrant civil society with networks of individuals, groups and organisations; change is much more likely where people are involved in discussions on issues that affect them.
- Economic development depends on accessible information and communication at all levels – governments should try to ensure that new information technologies are available to everyone.
- The media are central to development and to holding the powerful to account. This will only happen when the media are diverse, dynamic and free, and working in a supportive regulatory environment

In light of the above, WACC continues to promote communication rights that claim spaces and resources in the public

sphere for everyone to be able to engage in transparent, informed and democratic debate. These are rights that claim unfettered access to the information and knowledge essential to democracy, empowerment, responsible citizenship and mutual accountability. They claim political, social and cultural environments that encourage the free exchange of a diversity of creative ideas, knowledge and cultural products. Finally, communication rights insist on the need to ensure a diversity of cultural identities that together enhance and enrich the common good.

WACC is privileged to work with a worldwide network of members and partners who believe in the principles of fairness and justice for all. We gratefully acknowledge the support and dedication of all those who have enabled our work to continue and we look forward to new and renewed partnerships in the future.



The Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter,
General Secretary

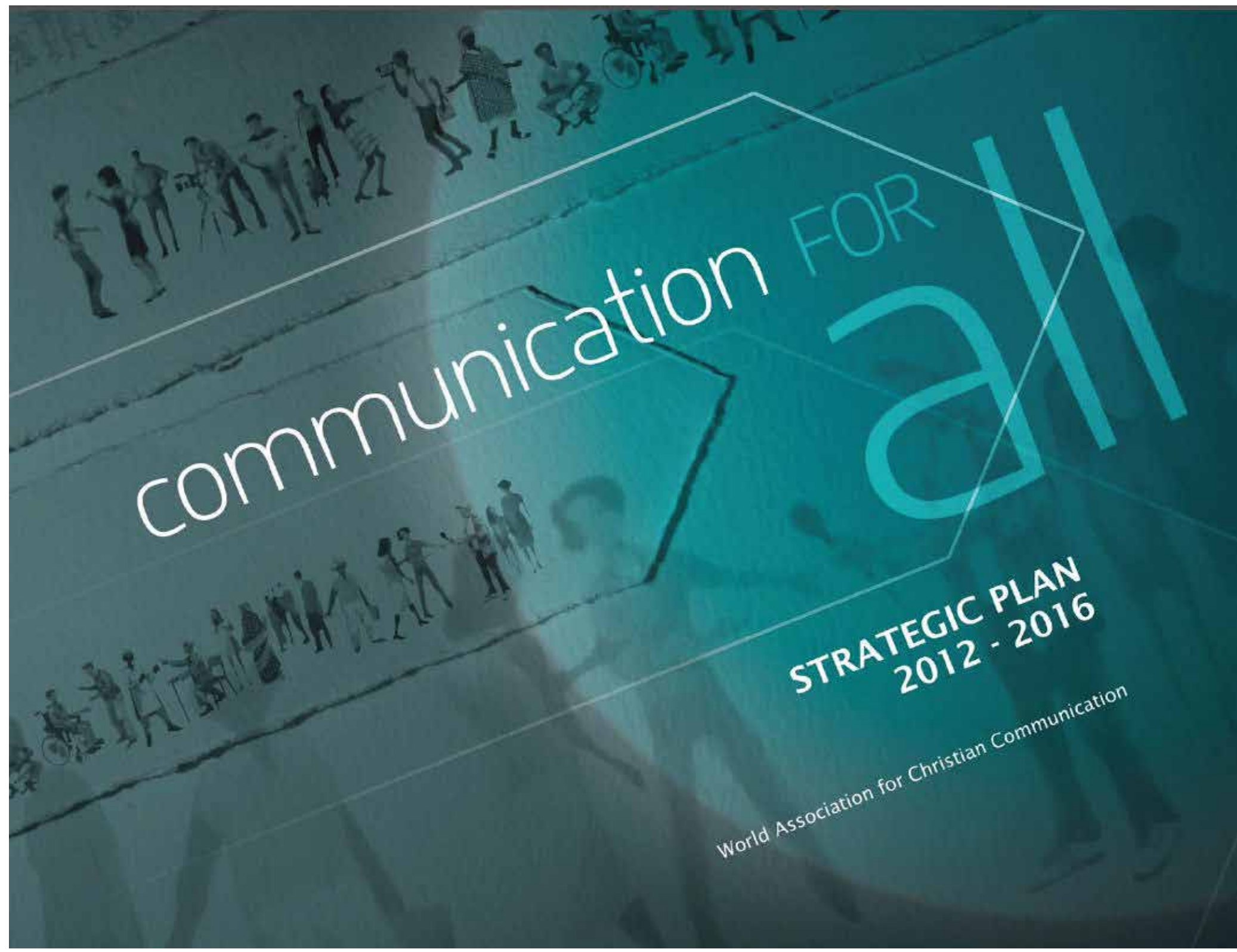


Strategic Plan 2012-2016

WACC developed and adopted a new five-year Strategic Plan following an extensive consultation process with members, partners, donors, communication experts and other stakeholders. The Plan builds on the significant achievements of WACC over its nearly 50 year history in promoting communication rights for all. It was approved by the Board of Directors during their triennial meeting in October 2011. On the following page, you'll find more about WACC's four key strategic directions.

 wacc.co/sps
 *Strategic Plan (Summary Version)*

 wacc.co/spf
 *Full Strategic Plan*



1

Strengthened voices engaged in the public sphere and participation of poor, marginalized, excluded and dispossessed people and communities in communication.

WACC will:

- » take a rights-based approach to communication to increase the participation and access of marginalized people and communities to decision-making that impacts their lives.
- » underline the need for gender justice in media and communication.
- » utilize participatory media monitoring to promote the communication rights of marginalized groups.

2

Increase the capacity of WACC members and partners to change policies and influence decision-makers on issues related to communication rights.

WACC will focus some of its resources on building the capacity of its network to engage in effective advocacy related to communication rights. The ultimate goal is to create progressive social change towards equitable, diverse, and democratic societies.



Indigenous women making radio programmes (KUKOJ) "WACC will focus some of its resources on building the capacity of its network". Photo: KUKOJ/WACC



3

A nourished, vibrant, responsible and accountable WACC member and partner network, with new capacity to advocate for communication rights in their own communities, institutions, churches and other spheres of influence.

WACC will strengthen communication and networking possibilities between its members and partners in response to the membership's clear call for a stronger, more actively engaged member and partner network. The WACC family has many parts: corporate and individual members, affiliate members, the WACC Secretariat in Toronto and London, eight regional associations, regional executive committees, the WACC Global Board, funding partners, field partners, and other collaborative allies.

4

Strengthened Leadership and Governance of WACC.

The Board will assume full responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation of the 2012-2016 Strategic Plan and will be equipped with the training and capacity to fulfill this and other important governance roles.



Members at WACC-Latin America seminar and assembly held in San José, Costa Rica, 15-21 August 2011. Photo: WACC-Latin America





Partner Consultations and "Environmental Scan"

The strategic planning process included several consultations with key stakeholders who provided their input on the future directions and vision of WACC. About 15 meetings and consultation forums were held around the world with WACC Regional Association members, Regional Executive members, project partners, funding partners, and WACC staff. The consultations included a roundtable meeting for WACC funding and potential partners, officers and project partners held in Helsinki, Finland in April.

Two project partner consultations were also held in 2011. The first was held in conjunction with WACC-Asia regional assembly in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in April. Delegates came from Bangladesh, Hong

Kong, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. The second consultation took place in Costa Rica in August immediately before the WACC-Latin America regional assembly. It was attended by Partners from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru.

The meetings were augmented by internet surveys and blog posts where members used electronic tools to provide their views and opinions regarding the future of WACC. About 400 people had the opportunity to provide input. The internet survey of members alone resulted in over 200 responses. A second internet

WACC Officers and Partners at a roundtable meeting in Helsinki, Finland in April. Photo: ELCF/WACC



survey of Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) country coordinators brought in 62 responses—a nearly 60% response rate.

Part of the information gathering process also involved carrying out an "Environmental Scan" to explore the political, social, economic and cultural trends that affect the mandate of WACC.

The Strategic Planning process was led by Dale Hildebrand, a consultant who has worked in non-profit management for more than 20 years, mainly with faith-based organizations. It was overseen by a Strategic Planning Advisory Committee which represented the various WACC stakeholders.

Leadership Training

WACC is committed to provide its Board members with leadership and governance skills to fulfill their responsibilities. During the October meeting, the Board members undertook a Leadership Training programme designed to increase their governance skills. The training, conducted by Craighead Institute, Scotland, focused on accountability, finance, strategy, management and governance, and how to develop regional leadership among other topics.

Overall, the training was aimed at building a stronger sense of their role as part of the Global Board, and particularly use the

Strategic Plan to animate the regions and help them understand the resources that are available in the Secretariat for them to use. The training programme will be replicated in the regions.

Craighead Institute is an international centre of consultancy, training and research which

was founded in 1987 to promote social justice throughout the world. It is a not-for-profit organisation whose clients include nongovernmental agencies, voluntary organisations, religious congregations, churches, businesses, health, education and social services; and people from all faith communities.

Board members at the Leadership Training conducted by Joette Thomas, Trainer and Consultant from the Craighead Institute. Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

Directors from Pacific and Europe regions exchanging experiences during the training. Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



WACC Directors, Committees and Task Forces

The Board of Directors appointed new Committees and Task Forces to oversee implementation of the Strategic Plan. The Committees and Task Forces include:



Board of Directors
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Executive Committee
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

WACC announces new officers and committees

WACC Directors, Committees and Task Forces (continued)

Officers

L-R: Dennis Smith (President), Praxedis Bouwman (Vice President), Karin Achtelstetter (General Secretary), David Wanless (Treasurer) and Samuel Meshack (Secretary).
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Communication and Marketing Committee

L-R: Praxedis Bouwman (Chair), Daniel Benson, Paul de Silva, Stephen Brown and Lydia Ma.
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Constitution and Policy Committee

L-R: Dennis Smith (Chair), Embert Charles, Stephen Brown and Margrit Saroufim (front). Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



WACC Directors, Committees and Task Forces (continued)

Finance and Fundraising Committee

L-R: Daniel Benson, Sheila George, Najj Daoud and David Wanless (front).
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Mission and Vision Statement Task Force

L-R (front): Stephen Brown, Dennis Smith, Samuel Meshack, (back): Praxedis Bouwman, Sheila George, David Wanless and Lydia Ma.
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Continuing Education and Training Task Force

L-R: Vilma Peña, Samuel Meshack (Chair), Cándida González and Mathilde.
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Membership Task Force

L-R: Vilma Peña, Praxedis Bouwman (Chair), Akuila Yabaki and Jan Butter.
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



Strategic Plan Implementation Task Force

L-R: José Luis Aguirre, Samuel Meshack, Linda Tematua, Dennis Smith, Karin Achtelstetter and Sheila George.
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl





WACC Partner, SHF, produced and broadcast a 10-episode radio drama on climate change.
Photo: SHF/WACC



Participants at community radio for peace training conducted by WACC Partner ISIS International.
Photo: ISIS/WACC

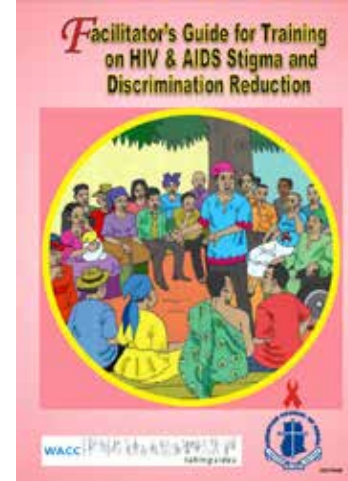


Programme Highlights

-  HIV and AIDS, Communication and Stigma
-  Media and Gender Justice
-  Communication for Peace
-  Communication and Poverty
-  Communication Rights
-  Communication for Ecumenism



Ghana: HIV & AIDS stigma and discrimination reduction



WEBLINK wacc.co/2746
Reducing HIV and AIDS-Related Stigma and Discrimination Among Vulnerable Groups

2011 marked the successful completion of an ambitious project in Accra, led by the Christian Council of Ghana in partnership with WACC, to address HIV-related stigma and discrimination by transforming local leaders in three districts into advocates for the rights and dignity of people living with HIV. Over 1700 religious, community, traditional, women and youth leaders, along with teachers, health workers and media practitioners, were trained and supported through the project, funding by the UK Department of International Development, to undertake rights-based advocacy and communication.

The project demonstrated the effectiveness of promoting and supporting local leadership and networking, developing education and campaign materials in local languages appropriate to the context, and including empowering people living with HIV.

The stories and testimonies of those involved demonstrate that reducing HIV-

related stigma allows space for people living with HIV to identify and advocate for changing practices and life-transforming changes. Support groups were formed, and together, people living with HIV were able to identify stigmatizing practices – from health clinics color-coding HIV patients' folders to landlords evicting tenants living with HIV – and successfully advocating change.

The approach of engaging local leaders and addressing local realities was key to the success. Supernatural beliefs about the origin of HIV and AIDS, for example, have led many in Ghana to seek cures from spiritual leaders, often leading them to neglect taking their anti-retroviral treatment (ART) regimens and making them vulnerable to gross exploitation because of their desperation to have their health restored. Spiritual leaders known as prophets and prophetesses operate "prayer camps" in which persons seeking help move into, sometimes temporarily but often times permanently. Their unpaid labour and any

worldly wealth is given freely to the leaders in exchange for prayer.

The WACC-CCG project reached out to 42 such prayer camps in Manya Krobo to increase understanding of HIV and AIDS and the rights of people living with HIV. One success story is Nyame Sum bo prayer camp whose leaders Prophet Isaac Mangotey and Prophetess Lydia Amui agreed to participate in the capacity building workshop for

religious leaders. They thereafter became part of the advocacy campaign leaders, educating residents of their camp and encouraging them to visit the St Martins Clinic for treatment.

Amui says "ignorance is bad and people have died avoidable deaths because treatment was available and we didn't know... I have just watched the transformation of four people living with HIV who had been put on the anti-retroviral treatment.

At a time when the global AIDS response is facing renewed calls to demonstrate effectiveness and strategic use of resources, WACC's projects experience shows the depth and transformative power of intentionally incorporating communication and rights-based advocacy into what might be seen as "development-only" projects.

WACC staff paid a field visit to the WACC-CCG project sites in Ghana.

Photo: CCG/WACC



Egypt: Changing public attitudes to HIV and AIDS stigmatization

Stigmatizing attitudes against people living with HIV and AIDS in the Middle East and North Africa region stem in part from an absence of education about HIV and AIDS. The project "On the Billboard" attempted to address gaps in knowledge by producing and broadcasting five-minute episodes of Telecine International's groundbreaking "Love Life" HIV awareness series that had until then only been aired on Arab satellite television channels. The episodes consist of animations and personal

testimonies of people living with HIV and AIDS from across the Arab region. Also produced in sign language, the episodes were broadcast on Cairo's underground metro stations' closed television circuits over a one-month period and repeated almost 20 times daily for the 4 million commuters. The episodes are hosted online at www.baebelhayat.com. The project has increased the awareness of Cairo's metro commuters about HIV and AIDS. As a result of implementing the project, Telecine International (TCI) became an active member in a regional civil society organisations' forum supporting people living with HIV and AIDS in the Arab region. The forum convenes meetings to build the capacity of member organisations in HIV and AIDS awareness. It has also instituted a process to publish a book on human interest stories by people living with HIV and AIDS.

WACC supported TV episodes on HIV and AIDS stigmatization awareness were aired on Arab satellite television channels.

Photo: TCI/WACC



Nicaragua: Churches confront HIV and AIDS stigma and discrimination



WACC Partner, CIEETS, a theological training institution, developed a project to encourage theological reflection on stigma reduction in churches.
Photo: CIEETS/WACC

Churches bear some responsibility for propagating stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and AIDS. In Nicaragua few theological education institutions offer a biblical foundation to address questions on

HIV, gender and sexuality. The Centro Intereclesial de Estudios Teológicos y Sociales (CIEETS), a theological training institution, developed a project to encourage theological reflection on stigma reduction in

churches. The skills provided are essential for the churches to create awareness on prevention, but also to provide care from a biblical perspective for people living with or affected by HIV. A forum of communicators was established who recognize

the importance of education in a context where open discourse on sexuality in church communities is taboo. Over 35 churches of different denominations are now implementing a social communication plan of action to combat

stigma in all community spaces in which churches have authority. The project produced training modules for pastors and church youth, including materials for community mobilisation. An unexpected outcome of the project is the symbolic

lifting of prohibitions on discourse about sexuality in church community spaces, with project beneficiaries requesting additional biblically-based training on topics related to sexuality.



Participants at a workshop organised by the Burundi Association for Women Journalists. Photo: AFJO/WACC

Burundi: Advocacy to integrate gender concerns in the media

“Burundi is often cited as a good-practice example of a country in which gender considerations have been effectively incorporated into decision-making posts and political office. Such awareness should flow through all development sectors, including the communications industry.” These comments made by Gérard Mfuranzima, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Information and Communication were addressed to chief editors and media house directors attending a workshop organised by the Burundi Association for Women Journalists (AFJO). The workshop was part of a larger project by

the Association to lobby for the integration of gender in Burundi media, an initiative conceptualized to respond to the relative lack of women journalists in positions of responsibility in media houses, the underrepresentation of women journalists in Burundi media and the demonstrated lack of gender sensitivity in media output. The WACC-funded project enabled AFJO create and maintain a directory of women journalists and increase media professionals’ knowledge on ways in which they could incorporate a gender perspective into their work. The advocacy aims were to increase the number of decision-making positions held by women journalists and to improve the portrayal of women in the media. AFJO launched media awards to recognize excellence in print, television and radio productions from a gender perspective.



Argentina: Documentary series focusing on gender and journalism

Women in Argentina have made extraordinary gains in politics: they now occupy 39% of seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 36% in the Senate. The election of Cristina Fernandez as President in 2007 heightened public discourse in the mass media on various questions related to women and femininity. Analysis of the media messages revealed significant sexism and stereotyping of women in power and in this context the Asociación Civil Artemisa Comunicación (ACAC) undertook a media campaign on the portrayal of women in political office. ACAC produced a documentary *Políticas en los medios* analysing the portrayal of female politicians in press, audio-visual, radio and digital media. The documentary was screened at public debates with communicators from national media across Argentina. Proposals emerging from the debates included the imperative for journalists to seek the opinion of women experts for stories on political-economic issues, to address sexist language and to professionalise in-house codes of practice from a gender perspective. Further publicity for the documentary was assured through a telephone campaign to journalists, direct mailing to media houses and information posted on online social networking platforms including YouTube,

Facebook and Twitter. The documentary was distributed to media professional networks within Argentina, across Latin America and other Spanish-speaking countries.

“El poder político requiere ser comunicado. Estas producciones nos sirven para repensar las estrategias de comunicación. El desafío es darle contenidos genuinos desde la perspectiva de género”.

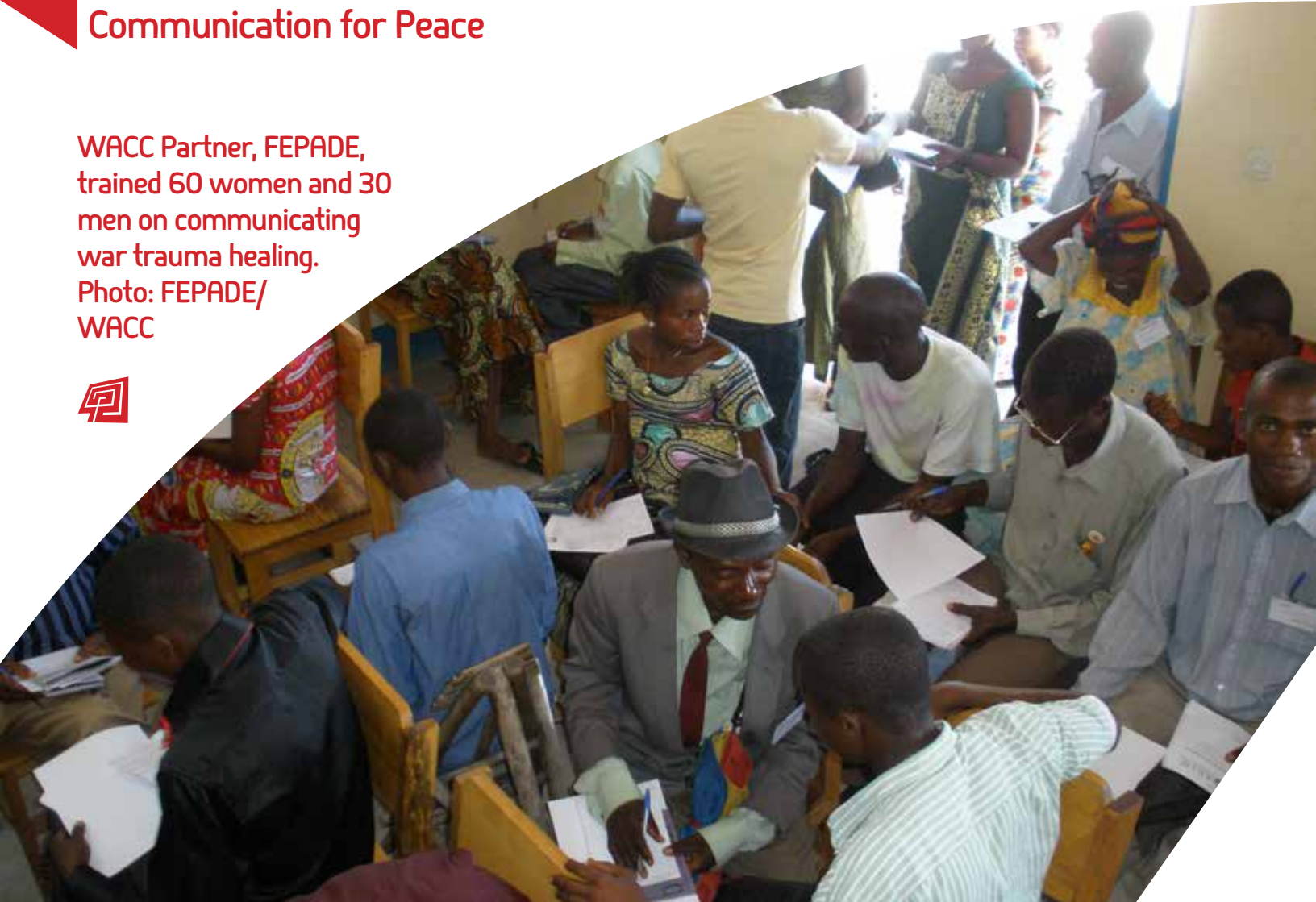
“Political power must be communicated. These productions allow us to re-think communication strategies. The challenge is to give them content that is genuinely based in a gender perspective.”

-Participant at a public screening of the documentary



Documentary: *Políticas en los medios*

WACC Partner, FEPADE, trained 60 women and 30 men on communicating war trauma healing. Photo: FEPADE/WACC



Philippines: Women in South and Central Asia promoting peace via community radio

ISIS International works with media and information and communications technologies to advance women's human rights and to facilitate networking and information sharing by women's movements in the global South. ISIS ran Women Making Airwaves for Peace (WMAF), a six-day seminar attended by 28 women community radio broadcasters mainly from Central and South Asia. Focusing on the themes

of engendered peace building, disaster mitigation, and climate justice, the seminar took place in Mysore, Karnataka, India, in collaboration with Isis' local partner organisation, IT for Change. Women community radio broadcasters from eight countries (Afghanistan, Fiji, India, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and USA) participated to share their skills sharing and knowledge about radio production. The schedule of the seminar preceded the 2nd Regional Conference of the World

Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) Asia Pacific, in Bangalore, India, to ensure that WMAF participants would also have the chance to participate in the AMARC conference. 27 participants took part and presented a workshop, served as rapporteurs in plenary sessions, and performed on-site documentation by recording the plenary sessions, taking pictures and writing summaries of speeches.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Communicating war trauma healing

The Fédération de Femmes pour la Paix et le Développement (FEPADE) – Federation of Women for Peace and Development works to advance gender justice in strife-torn regions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Responding to the need for a trauma recovery programme suited to countries experiencing violent turmoil and human rights violations and where society's infrastructure has broken down, FEPADE trained 60 women and 30 men as psychosocial assistants

reaching out to some 100,000 students at schools and universities as well as teachers and community members. Short courses offered intensive practical training and awareness about crisis intervention and outreach, trauma resolution, and support skills to local professionals, paraprofessionals, and relief workers working directly with victims of trauma, violence, and war. Ongoing training, meetings and consultations were an integral part of the project with support

from FEPADE staff, partner organizations, local authorities, health centres and other professional training organizations. The project demonstrated that the primary focus of any intervention should be on communicating and supporting natural and mental healing processes by restoring stability as quickly as possible and rebuilding the whole community affected by conflict trauma.



Participants at community radio for peace training conducted by WACC Partner ISIS International. Photo: ISIS/WACC



Nigeria: Using radio to improve responses to climate change and food security

The Smallholder Foundation (SHF) tackled the impact of climate change on agricultural production and rural development in Imo State, where radio is widely available, affordable and not constrained by illiteracy. SHF produced and broadcast a 10-episode radio drama together with broadcast scripts featuring indigenous climate change adaptation strategies. The productions were produced locally in the local language and broadcast weekly on SHF Rural Radio, which reaches 50,000 smallholder farmers. As a result 30 women farmers are better prepared on how to develop and use radio communication to increase their audiences' awareness and

knowledge of mitigation and adaptation strategies to cope with climate change in the communities in areas considered to be the food basket of Imo State. The response capacity of small farmers to deal with the effects of climate change has increased and the quality and quantity of women's participation in decision-making at the local level regarding climate change work has been

strengthened. One unexpected result was drawing the attention of local government authorities to the fact that women are more vulnerable to poverty than men and, therefore, that gender-specific policies related to climate change must be developed and implemented.

WACC Partner, SHF, produced and broadcast a 10-episode radio drama on climate change. Photo: SHF/WACC



Participants at a workshop conducted by WACC Partner, The Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR), India. Photo: CFAR/WACC



India: Monitoring the media to enhance delivery of basic services

CFAR is committed to enhancing the representation of gender and development issues in the mass media. It has been working on strategic communication, media research and media advocacy in India since 1994. CFAR organized a media monitoring project centred on the pre-existing women's collectives spread across six intervention areas where there was a need to train women to engage in evidence-based media advocacy. The primary aim was to enable representatives of the urban poor community to use media advocacy as

a means to improve the quantity and quality of media coverage of the plight of urban poor settlements and the unfair treatment meted out to them by the civic administration. Mahananda Bongane, one of the women in the project described the impact of the project on her life: "I never used to read newspapers earlier, but now I read "Loksatta" regularly. I have realized that most newspapers give prominent coverage to political news and there is very little on issues we can relate to. There was a news item about the kerosene quota available

at ration shops. When our shopkeeper said he could not give us kerosene because he had not received the supply, we showed him the newspaper clippings and he had no alternative but to give kerosene to all of us." The project enhanced the capacity of women to influence the delivery of basic services and the many safety-net and welfare programmes which exist in India.

Bangladesh: Community broadcasting by indigenous and disadvantaged groups



The Centre for Communication and Development (CCD) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation working in the northern region of Bangladesh. Since it started, CCD has been creating mass awareness and public opinion on different issues through communication campaigns and media advocacy. In 2009 with

support from WACC, CCD provided capacity and skills training for a group of 30 Indigenous young women and men. Two years later, and thanks to newly approved community radio legislation in Bangladesh, CCD installed Radio Padma 99.2 FM, one of Bangladesh's first community radio stations. Beneficiaries of the first project now play

a most effective role in the broadcasting and operating of the station. Disadvantaged sectors have been made aware of their entitlements and rights in relation to welfare and human rights. There has also been increased participation by Indigenous and marginalised people in community matters and disadvantaged sectors have been empowered to articulate in public their own development agendas.

Haiti: Building public awareness about the rights of disabled people



 WACC supported a network of institutions and organisations working with disabled people in Haiti. Photo: RANIPH/WACC

Created in 2001, the Réseau Associatif National pour l'Intégration des Personnes Handicapées (RANIPH) is a network of institutions and organisations made up of and working with disabled people. RANIPH carried out advocacy on behalf of disabled people on their human rights, including disabled people's communication rights, and empowered them to demand participation in the development of their communities. Educational broadcasts, advocacy

training, disabled people's communication rights, disabled people's duties, community sensitisation and awareness regarding disabilities, celebrating the International Day of Disabled Peoples, and awareness-raising among parents of disabled children were all part of the programme. As a result disabled people in Haiti are better equipped to advocate on their own behalf while attitudes have been changed among people who benefitted from the sensitisation and awareness-

raising. RANIPH was actively involved in the preparation of a new law which seeks to ensure the total inclusion of disabled people in society. The Haitian Senate voted in favour of this law in March 2012.

India: Equipping theological students in new media literacy techniques



WACC supported 30 young theologians training in new media literacy techniques.
Photo: CISRS/WACC

The Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (CISRS) is an ecumenical organization deeply committed to the social witness of the church in India. Through research and publications on contemporary issues and concerns, CISRS has been working to provide new visions and perspectives in order to establish a meaningful presence in contemporary society. CISRS coordinated a series of workshops for theological students on new media literacy and alternative media production. In this context, a group of 30 young theologians consisting of educators, research scholars, and ecumenical and social activists from all over India consulted on Christian theologizing and social thinking. They formed a Fellowship of Contextually Engaged Indian Christian Theologians to discern the signs of the times and to engage in public witness in solidarity with today's

social movements. This responsibility involves critical engagement with different trajectories of theology, Christian thinking and public witness, in order to evolve social thinking that transcends personal, individual, communal, and religious interests. Participants believe that such thinking must also be objective enough to persuade the Indian government to enact policies that overcome discrimination, exploitation, and oppression on the basis of birth, caste, or religion. The project, therefore, comes full circle in tackling key social issues from a justice perspective.



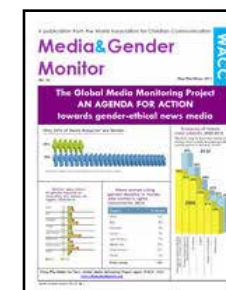
Communications and Marketing

WEBLINK  wacc.co/md
Media Development

WEBLINK  wacc.co/nng
No-Nonsense Guides

WEBLINK  wacc.co/ma
Media Action

WEBLINK  wacc.co/mgm
Media and Gender Monitor



Publications

WACC's international quarterly journal **Media Development** bridges the gap between communication practitioners and theorists. In the course of 2011 it tackled the current hot topic of digital media platforms and their potential contribution to political and social justice in "Social Media Challenge Communication" (1/2011). Revisiting the role of mass media in building and strengthening peaceful communities was the topic of "Peace Journalism: Giving Power to the People" (2/2011). The ongoing conversation between communicators and theologian focused on seeking common ground in "Dialogue on Communication and Theology" (3/2011). Finally, WACC's programmatic work featured in an issue dedicated to "Tackling HIV and AIDS stigmatization and discrimination" (4/2011).

WACC continued publishing its series of six-page **No-Nonsense guides to...** different aspects of contemporary communications. Two issues appeared in 2010 on "The Right to Information" (published in English,

French, and Spanish) and "Communicating Women and Peace and Security".

Media Action is a free monthly electronic newsletter sent to about 10,000 people. Produced in English and Spanish, the newsletter keeps readers informed of WACC's activities around the world, latest developments within WACC and in-depth articles related to communication rights.

Media and Gender Monitor is a bi-annual publication from the WACC Media and Gender Justice Programme distributed to more than 3,000 individuals and organisations worldwide. It aims to articulate the concerns of the Programme from global, regional and local perspectives and address a wide range of gender and communication issues.

Marketing

After much planning and research in 2011 a long process of fundraising on a number of different fronts was started in order to supplement our funding. While many of the initial efforts have been cautious

and based on testing a variety of media and creative approaches, a number of different initiatives are well underway.

In mid-2011 WACC developed a new creative

direct mail package that was mailed to a rented list of potential donors. At the same time, preparations to participate in an established online fundraising platform – GlobalGiving – started. The process for acceptance

by this organization was challenging and time-consuming, however after a lengthy due diligence, Radio Shalom, a peace radio project in Sierra Leone, was approved and turned out to be quite successful.

New initiatives and plans for the coming year will continue the momentum of building the solid foundations of a successful fundraising programme for the future.



Still from Nader and Simin, A Separation (Iran) awarded the Ecumenical Jury Prize and the Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival 2011.



Still from Vol spécial (Switzerland) awarded the Ecumenical Jury Prize at the Locarno Film Festival 2011.



Film

WACC maintained its close relationship and long-standing cooperation with the Protestant film organization INTERFILM and with SIGNIS (World Catholic Association for Communication) in support of the work of the Ecumenical Juries at the film festivals in Berlin, Cannes,

Locarno, and Montreal. The prize of the Ecumenical Jury at Berlin 2011 went to Jodaeiye Nader Az Simin (Nader and Simin, A Separation) directed by Asghar Farhadi (Iran, 2011) – a powerfully dramatised account of conflicts associated with family life and living in

Iran. The film also won the Festival's top prize, the Golden Bear. At Cannes 2011 the Ecumenical Jury chose the film This must be the place, directed by Paolo Sorrentino (Italy, France, Ireland 2011), described as "A classic drama of great richness and elaborate aesthetics."

In Locarno the Ecumenical Jury awarded its prize to the film Vol spécial, directed by Fernand Melgar (Switzerland, 2011), a documentary set in a "detention centre where "Guards as well as detainees act humanly under inhuman conditions, so the spectator is enabled to see them all

as individuals with a family, religion and their own dignity, lacking only justice." And at Montreal 2011 the prize went to David directed by Joel Fendelman (USA) about a Muslim child living in Brooklyn, New York, who finds himself attending a Jewish School.

Networking and Partnerships

Participants at the Summer School, held at the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey in Geneva, Switzerland. Photo: WCC/WACC

L to R: SIGNIS General Secretary Alvito de Souza, CAMECO Executive Director Dr Daniela Frank and WACC General Secretary Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter. Photo: SIGNIS/WACC

WEBLINK wacc.co/2669

IFJ and WACC to Develop Learning Resource Kit for Gender-Ethical Journalism



WEBLINK wacc.co/2691

Fireworks at Summer School on "Communication and Religion"

1. IFJ and WACC to develop learning resource kit for gender-ethical journalism

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) entered a joint collaboration with WACC to develop a Learning Resource Kit for Gender-Ethical Journalism and Media House Policy. The resource kit aims to respond to the findings of the 2010 Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) on the perpetuation of gender-imbalanced news coverage, gender stereotyping and women's significant underrepresentation in the world news media. The 2010 GMMP in 108 countries found that women comprise only 24% of the people seen, heard or read about on television, radio and in print news despite the fact over half of the world's population is female. The resource is intended to encourage and support the adoption and implementation of comprehensive media house policies and practices from a gender equality perspective in news content.

2. Summer school on "Communication and Religion"

WACC together with the Institute of Christian Communication of the Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany and the Ecumenical Institute Bossey of the World Council of Churches (WCC) organized a Summer School on "Communication and Religion". The Summer School held at the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey in Geneva, Switzerland, August 1-14 was attended by 17 students from Armenia, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Nevis, Sri Lanka and Ukraine. The aim of the Summer School was to broaden students' understanding and appreciation of the globalization of media and culture, with a particular emphasis on the role of religion and religious communication.

3. WACC and SIGNIS agree to work more closely

WACC and SIGNIS (The World Catholic Association for Communication) agreed to build further collaboration and a regular mutual exchange of information at a meeting between WACC's General Secretary Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter and SIGNIS General Secretary Alvito de Souza which took place in Aachen (Germany) on 19 August 2011. The meeting was facilitated by Dr Daniela Frank, Executive Director of the Catholic Media Council (CAMECO).

WEBLINK wacc.co/2759

Bossey summer school students share their experiences

WEBLINK wacc.co/2800

WACC and SIGNIS agree to work more closely

New membership with the UK Consortium on AIDS and International Development

4. WACC became a member of the UK Consortium on AIDS

WACC became a member of the UK Consortium on AIDS and International Development, a group of UK-based organisations which work together to understand and develop effective approaches to the problems created by the HIV epidemic in developing countries. The Consortium enables each agency to bring its own experience to be shared and used to help members improve their responses to the epidemic through information exchange, networking, advocacy and campaigning. As a member of the Consortium, WACC is automatically a member of the Stop AIDS Campaign.



UK Consortium on AIDS and International Development

Professor Dr. Christoph Stückelberger, Executive Director and Founder of Globethics.net
Photo: Globethics



WACC members and partners to benefit from global library

5. WACC signed partnership agreement with Globethics.net

WACC signed a partnership agreement with Globethics.net, a global network that promotes the exchange of insights and research on ethics and values. The partnership agreement aimed at creating synergies in responding to global ethical challenges will run for four years in the first instance.

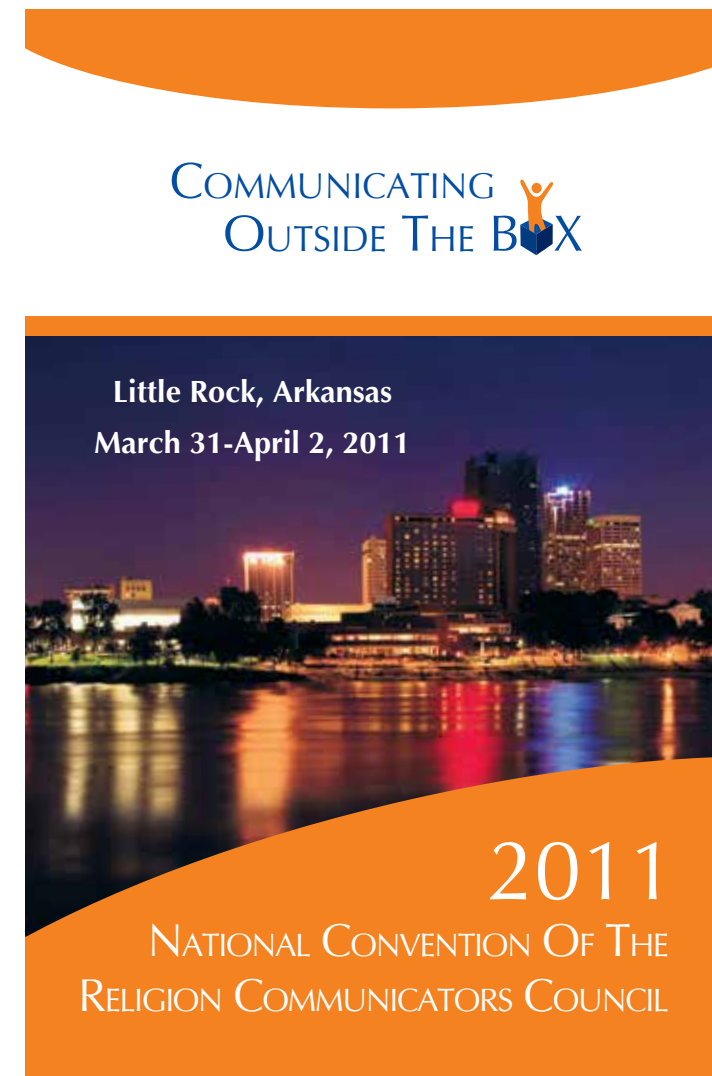
Globethics.net offers the leading global digital library on ethics, making available more than 700,000 full text articles free of charge. Through the partnership agreement, a WACC collection of publications and documents will be established in the library. They will include a series of articles from WACC's journal, Media Development, regional and national reports of the Gender Media Monitoring Project (GMMP), selected articles from its Centre for Communication Rights (CCR) and a wide range of publications and resource documents from WACC members and partners worldwide.



Thinking and communicating outside the box

6. WACC participated in national convention of the Religion Communicators Council (RCC)

WACC participated at the National Convention of the Religion Communicators Council in Little Rock, Arkansas, USA, 31 March to 2 April 2011 on the theme "Communicating Outside the Box". At the convention, WACC Global and WACC North America screened The Garden at the End of the World, a documentary by Australian film-maker Gary Caganoff and winner of the WACC-SIGNIS Human Rights Award 2010. WACC also gave a presentation on Gender and the News Media: A New Approach to Building Lasting Peace?" at the opening plenary of the convention.



Faith communities can play a key role in tackling questions of social justice and peace

7. 5th Commission meeting of the Interfaith Action for Peace (IFAPA)

The General Secretary represented WACC at the 5th Commission meeting of the Interfaith Action for Peace (IFAPA), a group that brings together Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Baha'i and the African Traditional Religion (ATR). IFAPA aims at fostering cooperation and unity among different faiths to promote peace. 75 participants attended the meeting convened from 11-14 March 2011 in Mombasa, Kenya.



WACC General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter speaking at the 5th Commission meeting of the Interfaith Action for Peace (IFAPA) in Mombasa, Kenya. Photo: WACC Correspondent

Regional Highlights

WACC-Africa calls for more reporting on peace and justice stories from a gender perspective

Africa

<http://africa.waccglobal.org/>

Asia

<http://asia.waccglobal.org/>

Caribbean

<http://caribbean.waccglobal.org/>

Europe

<http://europe.waccglobal.org/>

Latin America

<http://latin-america.waccglobal.org/>

Middle East

<http://middle-east.waccglobal.org/>

North America

<http://north-america.waccglobal.org/>

Pacific

<http://pacific.waccglobal.org/>



Africa

"Sadly some members have allowed their membership to lapse, but we have been encouraged by the number of new members joining and taking part in our online fora." Rev. David M Wanless, President WACC-Africa. Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

The most significant event of the year was the triennial assembly of the Africa Region held in Kigali, Rwanda, May 12–13 which was preceded by a seminar on the theme: "Media, Gender Justice and Peacemaking in Africa."

Speakers shared personal stories on how they are making a difference through their commitment to uncover the truth, often at great personal cost.

New Officers for the next

three years were elected at the Assembly. They are: Rev Dave Wanless of South Africa (President); Dr Tharcisse Gatwa of Rwanda (Vice President); Mathilde Kpalla of Togo (Secretary) and Andrew Chisamba of Malawi (Treasurer).

One newly introduced activity which has been favourably received by members of the Region has been a regular

letter from the President to keeping them informed of activities and plans.

The region has made ambitious plans for a full programme in 2012.

Participants at the WACC-Africa triennial assembly in Kigali, Rwanda. Photo: WACC-Africa



Asia

"I thank all the members who support our mission in the WACC-Asia Region for their constant encouragement and participation."

Rev. Dr Samuel Meshack, President WACC-Asia.

Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



The major event of the year was the triennial assembly and a seminar on "Communicating Climate Justice" held at Yogyakarta, Indonesia in May. WACC President, Dr. Dennis Smith, gave the keynote address General Secretary, Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter also attended.

A new Executive Committee was elected: Rev. Dr Samuel Meshack as the Chairperson,

Ramon Beltron as the Vice-Chairperson, Lydia Ma as the Secretary, Dr Hla and Carla June as members. Judy Chan is the proxy treasurer.

The region also observed the third Asia Communication Sunday July 3 on the theme: "Communicating Climate Justice." A worship resource booklet, like previous years, containing a collection of prayers, articles, pictures, experiences of people

affected by climate changes and meditations was produced. Over 500 copies of the resource booklet, a poster and a litany for the observance of peace and the work of WACC were distributed in the region and world-wide.

Online Skype meetings: In order to make our work more cost effective and efficient, several online Skype meetings of the Executive committee were conducted.

Small projects to carry out the Yogyakarta declaration: The Executive Committee encouraged members to conduct small workshops or seminars to promote Yogyakarta declaration related to the theme, "Communicating Climate Justice". We agreed to support two to three such small projects a year during this triennium with a grant of US \$1000 to 1500 which the applying Corporate Member will match.



Participants at the WACC-Asia triennial assembly in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Photo: WACC-Asia

Caribbean

"Mindful of the challenges which the engagement with Haiti continued to have on programme delivery, WACC-Caribbean endeavored to keep the critical communications rights issues on respective agendas in the Caribbean and also maintained contact with the WACC Global family."

Embert Charles, Vice-President, WACC-Caribbean.

Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



The region kept its focus on rebuilding communication in Haiti as some of the programmes were being completed this year.

The Regional Executive Committee (REC) met in Puerto Rico in January and had the opportunity to review lessons learnt through the post-earthquake rebuilding programmes, the role of the REC and continued support from WACC global. While the REC was not able to complete the programmes earmarked for the year, the WACC members in their individual capacities were engaged in other key global initiatives of WACC.

The REC facilitated the participation of two young women at the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation (IEPC) convened by the World Council of Churches, May 17-25 in Kingston, Jamaica. At the convocation, WACC organized a workshop on media and gender justice led by Jéruscha Vasti Michel, a young Haitian woman who studied social

communication at the University of Haiti and who works with Sosyete Animasyon Kominikasyon Sosyal (SAKS), a WACC partner. SAKS uses popular communication to assist the Haitian people - both rural and urban - to participate as actors in their own development.

The workshop focused on the unbalanced representation of women in the media and how it relates to women's absence from decision-making on ways to resolve conflict and strengthen peace. Participants discussed the findings of WACC's Global Media Monitoring Project 2010 (GMMP) in the context of applying United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325.

The year ended with the election of a new Regional Executive Committee in October comprising: Cándida González-López- President, Embert Charles Vice-President, Seferina de la Cruz - Secretary, Sandra Clenem - Treasurer, Jeruscha Vasti

Michel and José Luis Soto as Members at large.

The new team committed to the promotion of the fundamental principles of WACC and to utilize new communications technologies in the management of the activities of the region.

Participants at the Ecumenical Peace Convocation in Kingston, Jamaica. Photo: WCC



WACC Europe's new officers focus on regional profile

Europe

"WACC-Europe is reaffirming its purpose and opportunities for networking and action in the context of communications based on Christian values." Praxedis Bouwman, President WACC-Europe.

Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



In April 2011, the region hosted a seminar in Frankfurt, Germany, on "Communication and reconfiguration in faith, media, society and economy". Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter (WACC General Secretary), Jolyon Mitchell (University of Edinburgh), and Ingmar Lindqvist (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland) reflected on how communications are changing - and should change - with rapid developments in technology, culture and religious plurality.

The seminar was held in conjunction with the WACC-Europe Assembly, which elected a new regional

steering committee to serve until 2014. They include; Praxedis Bouwman (Netherlands) - chairperson, Stephen Brown (France/UK) - vice-chairperson, Sara Speicher (UK) - secretary, Juha Kinanen (Finland) - treasurer.

Communicators and their position in European churches was the subject of a research study that was carried out in mid-2011 in cooperation with WACC-Europe. A survey was distributed and communicators and a representation of church leaders were interviewed. Sheila George, currently President of WACC-North America, carried

out the research in the framework of her MBA thesis in Public Relations and Communications Management at Royal Roads University, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Questions covered the understanding of communication in church organisations, the position of communication and the position of communicators themselves within the church organisations.

WACC-Europe also supports the Ecumenical Jury at the Cannes Film Festival, organized by INTERFILM. The 2011 winner was This Must be the Place by Paolo Sorrentino (Italy, France, Ireland 2011).



Participants at the WACC Europe Assembly held in Frankfurt, Germany. Photo: WACC-Europe

Reseña Fotográfica de la Consulta, Seminario y Asamblea WACC AL 2011

Latin America

"The renewal of the WACC movement in Latin America is marked by a sign of hope. Hope for greater justice, inclusion and social participation, and a clear commitment to the dissemination and creation of spaces for the practice of communication and information rights." José Luis Aguirre Alvis, President WACC-Latin America. Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl



WACC-Latin America along with other civil society organizations advocated for the passing of the Communication Act (Law of Communication) in Ecuador. The law advocates for the democratization of communication and inclusive processes in the country.

Training in communication rights among indigenous people and people with disabilities in Bolivia was another key activity in the region. The project is supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Training Service in Radio and Television for Development (SECRAD) of the Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo", and the NGO of indigenous communication CECOPI. It aims to develop local capacities for the use and production of media.

In August, a Regional Assembly and a seminar were held in San José,

Costa Rica where more than 50 people participated. WACC President Dr Dennis Smith delivered the keynote speech and called for the recognition and respect of communication rights. A new Regional Executive Committee was elected during the assembly comprising José Luis Aguirre Alvis - President, Dr. Vilma Peña - Vice President; Marcela Gabioud - Secretary, Eloy Teckemeier - Treasurer and Carlos Leon - Member at large. Claudia Berzaín, a Bolivian communicator, also joined us as Technical Secretary.

In November, the region was represented at a Seminar on Communication, Ethics and Citizenship organized by UNISINOS, Brazil. 22 media professionals attended.

The region was also part of a team of communicators

who organized a photo competition around the day of nonviolence against women and girls, in November 2011.

The region was also represented in the Latin American and Caribbean Communication Agency (ALC) Strategic Planning meetings. WACC-Latin America assumed the Secretarial role of ALC during the meetings. It was also represented in the Second Conference on Journalism and Gender "Women in the Media" organized by the Association of Women Judges in Argentina. It convened in various activities related to women in the media from the results of the Global Media Monitoring Project.



Participants at a WACC-Latin America seminar in San José, Costa Rica. Photo: WACC-Latin America



WACC Middle-East region supports mass movements



Middle East

"WACC- Middle East Regional Association is encouraging local and global media that so closely observe the region to focus not only on acts of violence but also on the non-violent movements pursuing justice, reconciliation and hope." Margrit Saroufim, President WACC- Middle East
Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

The recent revolution in Egypt and uprisings in other Middle East countries carry major challenges, while at the same time opening up historic opportunities for democratic change towards a just and inclusive society. The uprisings demonstrate that millions of Arab citizens

are ready for social change, and that they are also ready to take part in shaping the future of their countries.

In response to the uprisings, the Regional Executive Committee (REC) issued a statement expressing solidarity and support for

democracy and the right to communicate. At their meeting held in Amman, Jordan, the committee hailed the courage of the youth and its vital role and sacrifices that led to the uprising for democracy in their countries. However the committee also condemned acts of violence that accompanied the uprisings.

Meanwhile the REC conducted its general assembly on-line meetings to discuss the current situation, our needs and challenges related to our work in the region.

Another key activity planned during the year is the development of an E-WACC Book to gather and support regional partners, develop and implement training programmes for religious leaders, Media and Civil Society representatives. Through the E-book, we plan to conduct studies and gather documents that capture freedom of expression in the region.



The Middle- East Executive Committee members.
Photo: WACC-Middle East



WACC Pacific members call for enhanced communication on climate change



Pacific

"We strongly believe that the future of WACC in the Pacific will depend on our ability to work together with other organizations. This will minimize wastages associated with overlapping and duplication of activities. It will also maximize the usage of limited resources. With the huge Christian population and the power and influence of Churches in the region, the opportunities for close cooperation are immense." Rev. Akuila Yabaki, President of WACC-Pacific. Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

Climate and ecological justice was high on the Pacific Regional agenda following devastating challenges related to climate change over the recent years.

In July 2011, the region conducted a workshop on the theme "Integrating information resources for climate change adaptation and awareness" during their general assembly held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga. In a Declaration issued at the end of the assembly, the members

called for climate justice issues to be incorporated in general education curriculum and theological formation. They emphasized that church leaders should interpret and properly understand Christian doctrine in the light of evolving knowledge on ecology and environment.

The members further appealed for concerted action and joint response to climate injustices by faith groups including

production of awareness and communication materials in local languages such as posters, books and brochures. "We aim to promote green theology and uphold Christian values of 'taking care' of the Earth," declared the members.

Participants at the WACC-Pacific general assembly held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga.
Photo: WACC-Pacific



"Who makes the news in the newsroom?"
GMMP Roundtable



North America

"We are laying the groundwork for a new, energized WACC-North America to promote to former, current, and potential new members. We will be developing our next Three Year Plan in the Fall of 2012 to resonate with the newly released WACC Global Strategic Plan." Sheila George, President WACC-North America.

Photo: WACC/K.Koelbl

WACC-North America is laying the groundwork to promote to former, current, and potential new members. The region is developing a three year plan in the fall of 2012, to resonate with the new WACC Global Strategic Plan.

Connecting With Other Regions: At the REC meeting held in Little Rock, Ark. in March, the Executive Committee held a video call with the WACC-Europe Assembly in Frankfurt, Germany and with then WACC Global Secretary Amany Latif Ebied for an update on the situation in Egypt from her home in Cairo. These meetings made tangible the international network that is WACC, and

provided opportunities to exchange similar concerns.

RCC: WACC was given a high profile at the annual Religion Communicators Council (RCC) conference in April 2011. WACC-North America President Sheila George, WACC Programme Manager, Sarah Macharia, and WACC Deputy Director of Programmes, Philip Lee, presented the GMMP findings to the conference, led a workshop on advocacy with GMMP findings; and held pre-conference screening of the WACC-SIGNIS Award winning documentary, "The Garden At The End Of The World." At the same event, the 2011 NABS-WACC Scholarship for Young Communicators winner was

announced: new Executive Committee member Ali Symons of the Anglican Church of Canada.

GMMP Roundtable: The region conducted the 2nd annual GMMP roundtable in March at Columbia College in Chicago.

WACC-North America Blog: New perspectives on communications are featured on the regional blog at <http://waccna.wordpress.com>. The blog drives traffic to the WACC Global website and automatically generates tweets on the Twitter feed on the regional website, <http://north-america.waccglobal.org>.

Multimedia: A screening

GMMP roundtable at
Columbia College in Chicago.
Photo: WACC



of Executive Committee member Burton Buller's documentary at the October National Council of Church's Communications Committee meeting in New York City was held.

Webinars: The region led thought-provoking webinars on "Bridging the Gap: Can a Theology of Communication and Journalism Transform Communications in the Churches?" with WACC-Asia President Rev. Dr Sam Meshack and WACC-North America Executive Committee member, the Rev. Erik Alsgaard, and "Net Neutrality: What You Need To Know," featuring Cheryl Leanza, Policy Advisory at OC Inc., and Reilly Yeo, Managing Director of

OpenMedia.ca.

Web/Online Presence: The regional website (<http://north-america.waccglobal.org/>) was updated moving news and a Twitter feed onto the home page. Links to all regional social media presence (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Blog) are now available on the home page.

Social Media: WACC-North America's Facebook presence is kept current with topical posts regarding trends in communications and technology -- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/WACC-North-America/163424570345106>. New this year, <http://list.ly/list/Lu-social-media->

[faith-and-justice](#), is a social list of resources that inspire deeper reflection about social media, whether in the direction of faith or justice or both! Blogs, websites, and other richer resources are included.

Strategic Planning Input: WACC-North America Executive members took part in a discussion regarding strategic directions for WACC Global, part of the larger stakeholder consultation with Regional Associations.

We look forward to ways to continue to support and be part of the WACC family, coming to know our regions better and supporting WACC Global and its Toronto staff.

Membership in WACC

Overview

At the end of 2011, WACC had 369 Personal Members and 265 Corporate Members in 103 countries. It is these Members who determine what WACC is and what it does.

Each Member is automatically a member of one of WACC's eight Regional Associations: The one that serves the part of the world in which he or she lives, if a Personal Member, or in which the Corporate Member is based. The Associations elect over three quarters of the members of each of WACC's Board of Directors, and only Personal Members and the Representatives or Alternates of Corporate Members which may be elected to serve as

Directors. This ensures that the organisation is controlled by its Members.

Besides providing the opportunity to become involved in activities organised by Regional Associations, Membership offers a number of benefits, including a subscription to the international journal Media Development, access to a members-only section of the WACC website, the opportunity to comment on articles which appear on the website, an automatic subscription to WACC's electronic publications and discounts when purchasing selected hardcopy publications.

To join WACC using the on-line application form, or to obtain full details of the benefits of membership, click on Join on the WACC website (www.waccglobal.org).

Membership subscription rates are deliberately kept low to encourage those interested in WACC's work to join. For current rates, see the table below.

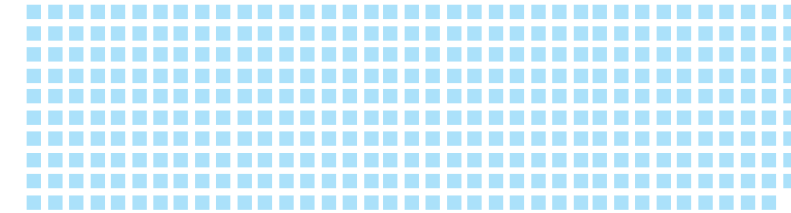
WACC also has over 900 Affiliates, both Personal and Corporate. These are non-paying supporters of WACC who are not entitled to vote or hold office in the organization.

Current Rates

	Personal	Corporate
North America	40.00 USD	120.00 USD
Elsewhere	30.00 USD	100.00 USD
Students	10.00 USD	n/a

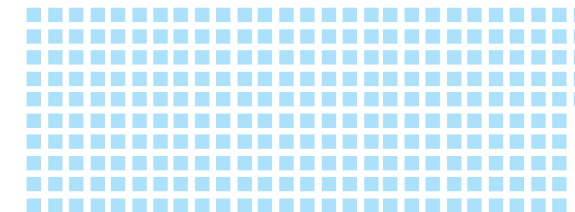
WACC Membership in 2011

369



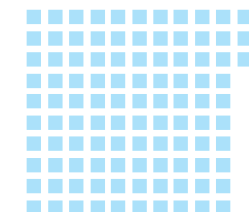
personal members

265



corporate members

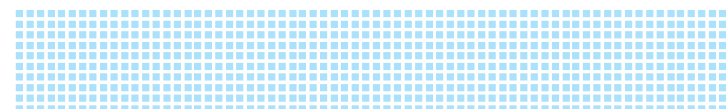
103



countries

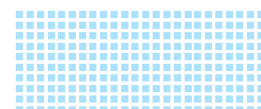
WACC Affiliates

690



personal affiliates

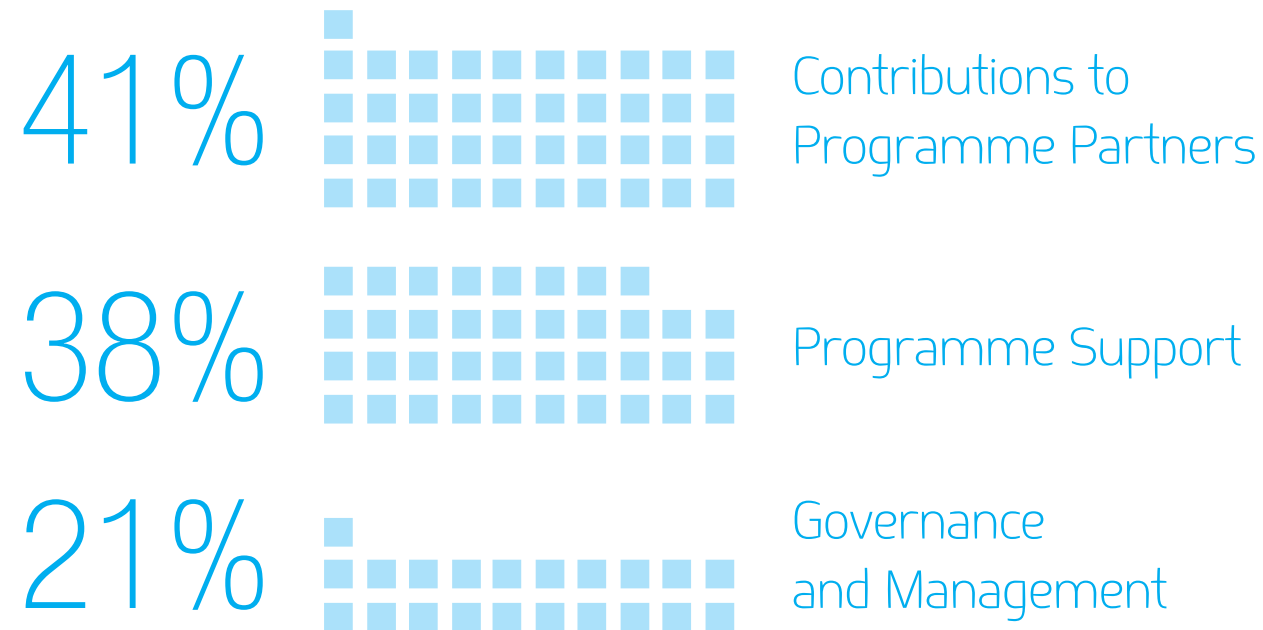
246



corporate affiliates

WACC Finances

WACC-Canada and WACC-UK 2011 expenditures



	CAN	UK	Total	%
Contributions to Programme Partners	\$846,902	\$282,625	\$1,129,527	41%
Programme Support	\$1,021,021	\$20,299	\$1,041,320	38%
Governance and Management	\$540,645	\$41,413	\$582,058	21%
	\$2,408,568	\$344,337	\$2,752,905	

Financial highlights 2011

In 2011 WACC successfully managed financial challenges arising from the global economic situation, including foreign currency exchange losses, and its Board of Directors is grateful for the solidarity and continued support shown by long-standing partners, who faced similar constraints.

In 2011 WACC received a three-year project grant from UK AID (Department for International Development - DFID) to work in partnership with Hope for AIDS, Nigeria, on a project aimed at reducing stigmatisation and discrimination against people living with HIV. WACC also received funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for a two-year project in Bolivia working to strengthen the communication rights of people with disabilities and Indigenous communities. Fundraising efforts in Canada contributed to this project, including a grant from the United Church of Canada.

WACC's traditional funding partners such as EED (Germany), ICCO (The Netherlands), Bread for All (Switzerland), Stichting Rotterdam (Netherlands) as well as the Women's World Day of Prayer, German Committee (Germany) continued to support WACC's efforts to advance communication rights in different parts of the world. WACC initiated talks with potential new funding partners and explored ways of broadening its income base at the level of its regional associations.

Financial sustainability remains a key priority for WACC. With its new Strategic Plan 2012-2016 in place and ongoing efforts to mobilise additional resources, WACC is positioning itself as a leader in the field and remains open to new partnerships that will help achieve its vision of communication for all.

Funding Partners

Funding Partners and donations that supported WACC's programme in 2011

In alphabetical order the current and most recent Funding Partners are:

- » Brot für Alle, Switzerland ¹
<http://www.brotfueralle.ch>
- » Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Canada ²
<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>
- » UKaid from the Department for International Development (DFID), UK ³
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/>
- » Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (Church Development Service) EED, Germany ⁴
<http://www.eed.de>
- » Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland ⁵
<http://evl.fi>
- » Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Germany ⁶
<http://www.fesdc.org/>
- » Interkerkelijke Organisatie voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking (The Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation) – ICCO, The Netherlands ⁷
<http://www.icco.nl>
- » mission 21, Switzerland ⁸
<http://www.mission-21.org/>
- » Stichting Rotterdam, The Netherlands ⁹
<http://stichtingrotterdam.nl/>
- » United Church of Canada ¹⁰
<http://www.united-church.ca/>
- » United Methodist Church, USA ¹¹
<http://www.umc.org>
- » Weltgebetstag der Frauen – Deutsches Komitee eV (Womens World Day of Prayer – German Committee), Germany ¹²
<http://www.weltgebetstag.de>
- » Anonymous ¹³

"We would like to express our gratitude to all our Funding Partners and supporters."
- The Rev. Dr Karin Achtelstetter,
WACC General Secretary

Canada



Canadian International Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement international ²



³



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¹

SUOMEN EV. LUT. KIRKKO ⁵

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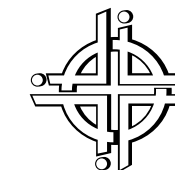
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¹⁰



¹¹



¹²

Anonymous ¹³

Structure of WACC Global Board of Directors

WACC Global is governed by a Board of Directors of which the majority are elected by its Regional Associations. WACC has eight Regional Associations: WACC–Africa, WACC–Asia, WACC–Caribbean, WACC–Europe, WACC–Latin America, WACC–Middle East, WACC–North America and WACC–Pacific.

WACC’s Directors include the President, Treasurer, Vice–President, Secretary and General Secretary. The President and those Directors elected by Regional Associations may serve a maximum of two consecutive three–year terms. The Treasurer may serve a maximum of three consecutive three–year terms.



Photo: WACC

Dr Dennis Alan Smith – Argentina – President

Dr Smith is a lay mission worker with the Presbyterian Church (USA). After 33 years working in communication training in Guatemala, he moved to Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2011 to become the Church’s World Mission’s Regional Liaison for Brazil and the Southern Cone. His various publications have focused on ecumenism and interfaith dialogue, new religious movements, and the conversation between media, religion and culture in Latin America. He has been active in WACC since 1979 and is a former President of WACC–Latin America.

Africa

Rev. David M Wanless – South Africa – Treasurer

Rev. Wanless is a minister of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa, and although now retired, continues to serve as Acting Minister of the Llandudno Congregational Church in Cape Town. Prior to that, he had served full time in four parishes in South Africa. He worked professionally as a broadcaster for four years, and for nearly 15 years presented devotional radio programmes on South African radio and television. He served as Director of Communications for the South African Council of Churches, during which time he also edited “The Christian Leader” the official newspaper of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches. From 1998–2007, he worked as Mission and Communication Enabler for the

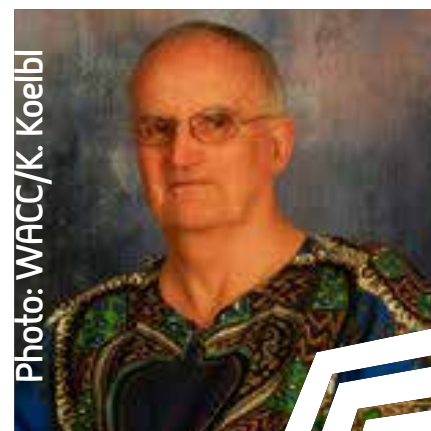


Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Africa Region of the Council for World Mission and was Media Officer for the Congregational Church. He served as Treasurer of WACC–Africa from 2000–2010, and is currently President of the Region.

Mathilde M. Kpalla – Togo

Kpalla is the Director of Programmes for Radio Ephphata, the voice of the Presbyterian Church in Togo, and a consultant to WNEP–TOGO. She has a Baccalauréat de l’enseignement du troisième Degré option Techniques Administratives and a Diplôme d’Etude des Sciences et Techniques de l’Information et de la Communication from l’Ecole Supérieur of Yaoundé, CAMEROON. She has been a member of the Regional Executive Committee of WACC–Africa since 2008.



Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Asia



WACC/K. Koelbl

Rev. Dr Samuel Wilson Meshack – India – Secretary

Rev. Dr Meshack served as a Professor of Communication and Principal of Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute for nearly thirty years. Here he introduced Communication studies at the Bachelor, Master and Doctoral levels and guided research scholars of both theological and secular university towards their Ph.D. He also taught at Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN and Harold Washington College, Chicago in the United States and has served as a pastor in India as well as United States. He travelled widely both nationally and internationally with particular emphasis on introducing communication studies in theological education. This was undertaken with the support of the Lutheran World Federation,

for which he served on the committee to draft the organisation’s Communication Policy. He holds bachelor’s degrees in science, education and theology, a master’s degree in theology and a Doctoral degree in communication. He has been a member of WACC for over 22 years, and is currently serving his second term as President of WACC–Asia.

Lydia Ma – Taiwan

Ma is English Editor and English Secretary of the Taiwan Church Press, a position she has held since 2008. Her responsibilities include providing English translations and summaries of Chinese articles, translating special features from English into Chinese, managing the organisation's English website, hosting foreign guests, securing copyright permissions, and liaison with foreign news sources. She has a master's degree in public policy and administration from California State University Sacramento and a BSc(Hon) from McGill University in Canada. She is the Secretary of WACC-Asia.



Caribbean

Cándida González-López – Puerto Rico

González is a translator and a language, linguistics and translation instructor at the University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras (UPR-RP). She holds a Master's degree in translation and is presently a doctoral candidate in Literature and Linguistics of the Caribbean offered by the Faculty of Humanities of the UPR-RP. She has also worked in the area of communications as a journalist and editor in the Ecumenical Movement of Puerto Rico, and has been a member of WACC for the past 20 years, and was a member of the Central Committee, the predecessor to the Board of Directors. She has served in several leadership positions in WACC in the Caribbean region.



Embert Charles – St Lucia

Charles served for 10 years as senior audio-visual producer and Executive Director of the Folk Research Centre, which is a grassroots NGO based in Saint Lucia, working on issues of language and culture. Other experiences include communications and media training and media production with various agencies in the Caribbean region, and a six-year stint as communications consultant with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). In the last decade he has been involved in communications regulation and at present is the Managing Director of the only multi-state telecommunications regulator in the world, the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL). He was the founding President of the Saint Lucia Media Workers

Association, is a member of the International Institute of Communications (IIC), and a fellow of Telecommunications Institute of Canada (TEMIC). He has received professional and academic training from the University of the West Indies, the University of Sussex and the University of Florida. He has been a Member of WACC since 1984 and is currently the Vice-President of the Caribbean Region.

Europe



Praxedis Bouwman – Netherlands – Vice-President

Bouwman operates her own consultancy and also serves as the Communications Officer for the Lutheran Church in the Netherlands. She has been a member of the Regional Executive Committee for WACC-Europe since 2008 and is currently President of the Region.



Dr Stephen Brown – France

Dr Brown studied international development at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, and theology at the University of Cambridge and the Humboldt University, Berlin. He received a PhD in 2008 from the University of Reading, UK, for a thesis on "Disaffection into Dissent: The Role of the Conciliar Process for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation in the German Democratic Republic". He is currently working as a Communications Consultant and at Globethics.net, Geneva, where he is responsible for the Global Digital Library on Theology and Ecumenism. He is a former Managing Editor of Ecumenical News International, Geneva, where he worked from 1994 to 2010. In this capacity he covered significant international ecumenical events, including those of the World

Council of Churches, the Conference of European Churches and the World Social Forum. He was a Lecturer at the Summer School on Communication and Religion", August 2012, jointly organized by the Institute of Christian Communication of the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, the Ecumenical institute Bossey of the World Council of Churches, and WACC. He has been a member of WACC's Regional Executive Committee for Europe since 2008 and is currently the Regional Vice-President.

Latin America

José Luis Aguirre Alvis - Bolivia

Aguirre is the Director of Servicio de Capacitación en Radio y Televisión para el Desarrollo of the Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo" and is associated with Servicio de Capacitación en Radio y Televisión para el Desarrollo (SECRAD). He was the key contact for two WACC-funded projects, in 2007 and 2009, in which SECRAD was the project partner. He is currently the President of WACC-Latin America.



Dr Vilma Peña Vargas - Costa Rica

Dr Peña is a Researcher and Professor in Communication for Social Change at Universidad Estatal a Distancia, the distance learning university in Costa Rica. Her responsibilities include supervising students completing their master's degree studies in communications. She is currently Secretary and Vice President of WACC-Latin America.



Middle East



Margrit Saroufim Mina - Egypt

Saroufim is the Projects and Agreements Manager in the Development Sector of the Coptic Evangelical Organisation for Social Service based in Cairo. She has more than 20 years of experience in the field of comprehensive development at national and international levels, with special focus on rights based development, institutional capacity building, education, health, gender equality, community-based rehabilitation for disabled persons, community participation, strategic planning, good governance, vocational training, and development of curriculum, policies, procedures and operational manuals. She has a degree in Agricultural Science and certificates from the Social Research Center of the American University in Cairo, USAID, and Sussex and Reading Universities. She is currently President of WACC-Middle-East.



Naji Daoud - Lebanon

Saadeh-Daoud is the Executive Director of SAT-7, Lebanon Office. SAT-7 is the Christian Arabic Satellite TV broadcasting in the Middle-East, North Africa, Europe and Australia. He has a master's degree in financial management from North Central University, Arizona, USA. He is Chairman of the Board of the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Beirut, an active Board member of "Fondation le Grain de Blé", a Lebanese-Swiss Christian Institution based in Lebanon whose aim is to support Children, and a part time faculty member with Haggai International Leadership Training Institute. He is currently the treasurer of WACC-Middle-East.

North America



Sheila George - USA

George is Principal and co-owner of Illumicom Communications LLC, a public relations and communications consultancy working exclusively with denominational administration, religious congregations and faith-based agencies in North America and Europe. She has been a public relations practitioner for 32 years, and holds diplomas in Public Relations from Humber College, Toronto, CREC-AVEX, Lyon, France, and Gregorian University, Rome and an MBA in Public Relations and Communications Management from Royal Roads University, Victoria. She has served on a number of boards, including the Religion Communicators Council - Washington, DC Chapter. She has been a member of the Executive Committee of WACC-North America since 2005, and is currently Regional President.

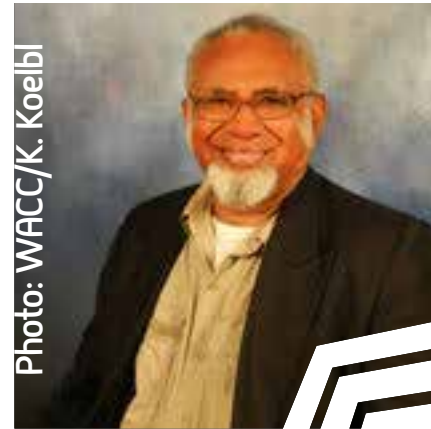
Paul de Silva - Canada

De Silva is the Co-Director of the International Diaspora Film Festival based in Toronto, Canada. He was Project Director for Canada One TV, an application to the CRTC for Diversity focused TV/Internet channel and was Vice President of Programming for Vision TV /One, The Body Mind and Spirit Channel. In the six years he was at Vision he was responsible for commissioning documentary, drama, and music programmes both in Canada and internationally, including the Gemini nominated comedy series Lord Have Mercy! and the Music/Documentary series "Soul Music". He was formerly Vision TV's Director of Independent Production. He is a former Human Rights officer with the Ontario Human Rights Commission and Communications officer with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) based in Nairobi, Kenya. He is currently a member of the Regional Executive Committee of WACC-North America.



Rev. Akuila Yabaki – Fiji

Rev. Yabaki has been, since 1999, the Chief Executive Officer of the Citizens' Constitutional Forum, a respected NGO in Fiji which advocates the rule of law, constitutional democracy and respect for human rights, especially for those who are weak and vulnerable. He is also a key figure for activism on human rights & democracy in the region, having served as Secretary of Communication of the Methodist Church in Fiji, a member of the Dialogue Fiji Committee, the Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education & Advocacy, and other civil society organisations in Fiji. He is currently the President of WACC-Pacific, a member of the organisation since 1986.



Linda Maea Tematua – Tahiti

Tematua was a deacon in the Maohi Protestant Church for 15 years. She manages visitations to the sick in hospitals and homes, and since 2004 has chaired the group responsible for radio broadcasts. She also directs several committees and boards responsible for administration, finance and the establishment of schools. Previously she has been chair of the provident fund office, a supervising judge in the Commercial Court, and chief of staff for the Health Minister responsible for social protection in local government. She assists in drafting genealogies which help to release land ownership – a major problem in Tahiti. She is a member of the Regional Executive Committee of WACC-Pacific.



Special appointment

Jan Butter – UK (WACC-UK Board only)

Butter is the Director for Communication for the global Anglican Communion tasked with supporting Anglican/Episcopal Churches to communicate their news and information with one another and the world. He is also Editor of the Anglican Communion News Service, the Anglican Communion official e-news service. He began his career as a journalist on local and regional newspapers, and before taking up his current position he spent more than eight years with the leading relief, development and advocacy organisation World Vision working in the UK, Sri Lanka and New York. Latterly, in his role as Head of Global Advocacy Communications for World Vision International, he oversaw the communication efforts around the launch of the organisation's first ever global campaign on child health. He is a member of the WACC-Europe Steering Committee.



Daniel Benson – Canada (WACC-Canada Board only)

Benson is the Executive Minister of Communications for the United Church of Canada. With a background in sales, marketing, and publishing, he develops implements, and co-ordinates strategic communications for Canada's largest protestant denomination. He is responsible for a wide range of communications services for the church, including traditional book publishing, e-books, webinars, online services, audio-visual productions, editorial, graphic design, public and media relations, statistics, customer service and fulfillment services. He has degrees in theology and comparative religion, and has worked in the church and non-profit sectors for more than 25 years.



WACC Staff



Rev. Dr Karin Waltraut Ahtelstetter, General Secretary and Director

KA@waccglobal.org

Karin has been the General Secretary of WACC since November 2010. Prior to this, she served as Director and Editor-in-Chief of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Geneva, Switzerland from 2002–2010. During

her time at the LWF, she also served as the organization's deputy General Secretary from 2004–2006. She previously worked as the co-coordinator of the Public Information Team & Media Relations Officer of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Geneva. She holds a Masters in Theology from the Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, Germany; a Masters in

Women's Studies from the University of Kent at Canterbury, England; and a diploma in International leadership, with a focus on organizational development, from the Craighead Institute, Glasgow and The Grubb Institute, London. In January 2010, she was ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, Germany. In November 2011,

she was conferred Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa) by the Academy of Ecumenical Indian Theology and Church Administration in Chennai, India. Karin is fluent in German, English, French and Spanish and several other modern and classical languages.

She is also the Staff Liaison for WACC Asia Region.



Lavinia Mohr, Deputy General Secretary and Director of Programmes

LM@waccglobal.org

Lavinia, Canadian, joined WACC in 2003. She holds a Masters Degree in Communication and has worked in international

cooperation for many years, much of it in the field of communication including community radio and audiovisual communication for democratic development.

She is also the Staff Liaison for WACC–Middle–East.

She speaks English, French and Spanish.



Philip Lee, Deputy Director of Programmes and Editor of Media Development

PL@waccglobal.org

Philip, a British national, joined WACC in 1975 and is currently Deputy Director of Programmes. He is also the Editor of the international journal Media Development and is responsible for the programmes Communication for Peace and Communication for Ecumenism. Recent publications include Requiem: Here's Another Fine Mass You've Gotten Me Into (2001); Many Voices, One Vision: The Right to Communicate in

Practice (ed.) (2004); and Communicating Peace: Entertaining Angels Unawares (ed.) (2008).

Philip is also the Staff Liaison for WACC–North America Region.

He speaks English, French and Spanish.



María Teresa Aveggio (Tita), Programme Manager for Recognising and Building Communication Rights as well as Communication and Poverty

TA@waccglobal.org

María Teresa's interest in communication goes back to her secondary school days when she actively contributed to the publication of her school magazine, both in her native city of Valparaíso, Chile and in Pomona, California, where she lived and studied for a year. Maria Teresa first studied journalism at the Journalism School of the University of Chile in Valparaíso. After moving to

the UK she graduated with honours from the School of Communications at the University of Westminster in London. Before joining WACC 'Tita' worked for the research departments of two large British Trade Unions. She also worked in community development for the London Borough of Hounslow and The Deptford Fund in Lewisham. She joined WACC as a Project Assistant for the Latin America and Caribbean regions.

She speaks English, Spanish and Italian.



Sarah Macharia, Programme Manager for Media and Gender Justice as well as HIV and AIDS, Communication and Stigma

SM@waccglobal.org

Sarah joined WACC in April 2007. Of Kenyan origin, she is a feminist political economist, with a Ph.D. in Political Science from York University, Toronto, Canada. She has extensive work experience in the field of gender and human development having worked with various African civil society and international development organisations. She is also currently a contributing researcher at the International Secretariat for Human Development housed at the York University.

Sarah is also the Staff Liaison for WACC–Africa region.

In addition to two East African languages, she speaks English and French.



Jitu Somani, Finance Manager

JS@waccglobal.org

Originally from Uganda, Jitu moved to Canada in 1975. He joined WACC in September 2006.

He is an experienced accountant, with a long history of serving the faith-based community both as an employee and a volunteer. He worked for the United Church of Canada (UCC) as Director of Retail and Distribution for 22 years. He also started his own Accounting and Consulting Services Company in 1999.



Gisèle Langendries, Administrator for Programmes and Funding

GL@waccglobal.org

Gisèle is a graduate of Latin American Studies from the University of Essex in the UK. Born in Belgium, she joined WACC in 1999.

Gisèle is also the Staff Liaison for WACC–Caribbean Region.

She speaks French, English and Spanish.



Tiziana Conti: Administration and Fundraising Coordinator (WACC-UK)

Tiziana joined WACC–UK in May 2011. She has worked in international cooperation for several years, including ecumenical organizations and one United Nations agency.

After obtaining a Master of Arts in Cinema, English and American Literature and Psychology from the University of Lausanne, Tiziana joined the microfinance foundation ECLOF International, then the World Council of Churches (WCC) and later the World Health Organization, all based in Geneva, Switzerland. While gaining experience in the fields of communications, media relations and fundraising, she completed her curriculum with a Postgraduate Certificate in Human Rights and a Certificate in Marketing and Communications delivered by the Swiss Public Relations Institute.

Born in Lugano, Switzerland, Tiziana speaks Italian, French, German, English and Spanish.



Tim Meadley, Manager of Operations WACC-UK

TM@waccglobal.org

Besides being responsible for the operations of WACC–UK, Tim continues to act as WACC’s Manager of Administration, the post which he held until the end of 2011. He is, therefore, responsible for a broad range of activities which support the work of the Association, including: facilities management, purchasing, IT, human resources, insurance, and project management. Although born in England, he spent much of his life in Canada and has both UK and Canadian citizenship. Prior to joining WACC in 2004, he held a number of senior positions both in industry and working with charities. He has an MSc in nuclear physics, is a Life Member of the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering, and is an Officer of the Order of St John.



WACC Full Time and Part Time Staff



**Teresa Mutuku (Terry),
Communication Officer
and Web Manager**

MT@waccglobal.org

Terry, from Kenya, joined WACC in July 2007. Previously, she worked as a Communication & Networking Programme Officer for EASSI, a regional women rights network based in Kampala, Uganda. She also worked as a Communication and Public Relations Officer for various organizations in Nairobi, Kenya including the National Secretariat of the Catholic Bishops of Kenya and Nairobi Hospice. In addition, she was an Assistant Information Officer with the Government of Kenya – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She has Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Social Sciences from University of Gregorian, Rome, Italy where she specialized in Social Communications.

She is the Staff Liaison for WACC– Pacific Region.

She speaks English, Italian, some French and various African languages.



**Edgar Bernal-Martinez,
Administrative
Assistant**

EB@waccglobal.org

Edgar joined WACC in 2007 as the Administrative Assistant. He is responsible for many of the day-to-day administration procedures, such as maintaining membership records and subscriptions into the WACC database, providing support for the General Secretary, the Manager of Administration and the Finance Manager as well as coordinating flow of information and resources as they relate to staff and visitors, among other duties.

Edgar, originally from Colombia, is a Canadian citizen.

He speaks English and Spanish.

Consultants, Interns, Volunteers



**Sara Speicher,
Consultant - HIV and
Aids, Communication
and Stigma programme**

Sara is originally from the United States, and joined the World Council of Churches in 1997 as a programme assistant in the WCC Programme to Overcome Violence. In 1999, she became a WCC communication officer and then coordinator of WCC Public Information. At the end of 2003 she married and moved to the UK where she set up an independent media and communications consultancy, working with organizations such as the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, World AIDS Campaign, Cordaid and World YWCA.



**Dale Hildebrand,
Consultant - Strategic
Planning**

Dale is a Canadian based in Toronto who has twenty years of experience in NGO programme design and evaluation, much of it with faith-based organisations. He was the Manager, Human Rights, for KAIROS Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives from 2001 to 2009 where among other responsibilities, he worked on initiatives related to peace-building in several Middle Eastern countries. He has also served as the Executive Director of Inter-Church Action Toronto; Executive

Director of the Ontario Council for International Cooperation; and Country Director in the Philippines for the Mennonite Central Committee. He has recently completed an evaluation of a four-year project on building capacity for Iraqi NGOs in peace building carried out in a partnership between the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace and the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue (a WACC member) in Lebanon.



Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Joette Thomas , Consultant - Leadership Training

Joette is a trainer and consultant, working internationally in the not-for-profit and faith based sectors since 1990. Her area of speciality is leadership development. Joette is working with WACC on behalf of The Craighead Institute in Glasgow, Scotland. The Craighead Institute is an international centre of consultancy, training and research working with individuals, groups, organisations and congregations to promote social justice throughout the world. She will be delivering leadership training to increase the skills and strengthen the confidence of trustees to offer leadership for WACC internationally, and in their regions. It also will seek to clarify the role, and importance, of the governance of WACC in taking forward the new Strategic Plan, and other key responsibilities of the Board. Joette has an MA in Psychology and Women's Studies, a Diploma in Organisational Consultancy and Facilitation, and is a Certified Coach.

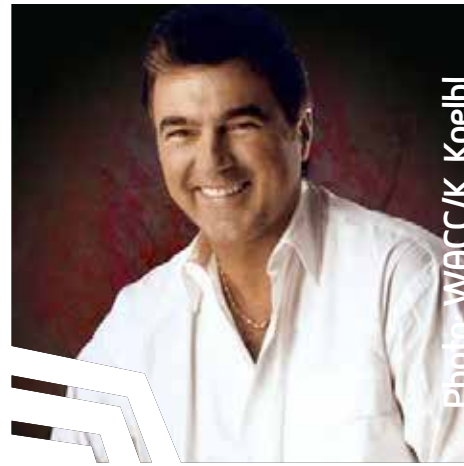


Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Pete Tarpay , Consultant - Marketing

Pete is a senior Advertising & Marketing Executive with extensive experience in developing and executing a variety of communication services to specifically targeted markets.

With over 30 years in the business, Pete has honed a unique combination of skills including strategic & brand development, product management, creative, sales promotion, event management, sales team leadership and channel management. As co-founder and President of TAYLOR-TARPAY Direct Advertising and Exec. VP of Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising, he has

worked in virtually every category and has won numerous awards, including Direct Marketer of the Year, as voted by his peers in the industry.

Pete's current company WISEGUYS Marketing Consultancy focuses largely on the not-for-profit sector with assignments from clients such as The United Way, Heart and Stroke, the rebranding and launch of camh , March of Dimes, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, The Toronto Humane Society, The Oshawa General Hospital and WACC.



Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Patty Eddu, Intern

Patty, a Communications student from Carleton, University in Ottawa, Canada, joined WACC in June 2011 as a Research, Assistant working under the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP). During her, interning term, she worked on the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) – WACC project that aims to bring together innovative approaches to gender-ethical journalism from different parts of the world.

Patty speaks English and some French.



Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Kristin Koelbl, Intern

Kristin, from Regensburg, Germany, joined WACC as an intern in August. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Protestant Theology and Political Sciences. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in political science, religious education and German language at the University of Regensburg, Germany.

At WACC, Kristin worked on the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) – WACC project under the Media and Gender Justice Programme as well as Communication for Peace Programme. Her internship was part of her Masters programme. Kristin was also one of the students sponsored by WACC to attend the Bossey Summer School reported on page 45.



Photo: WACC/K. Koelbl

Robert Gray, Volunteer

Robert from L'arche Toronto community assists in various administrative tasks. He has been with WACC since 2010.

Pacific



Latin America



Asia



Caribbean



WACC makes
 people's voices heard
 working together
 with individuals and
 organizations in 103
 countries worldwide.

 **WACC Members**

North America



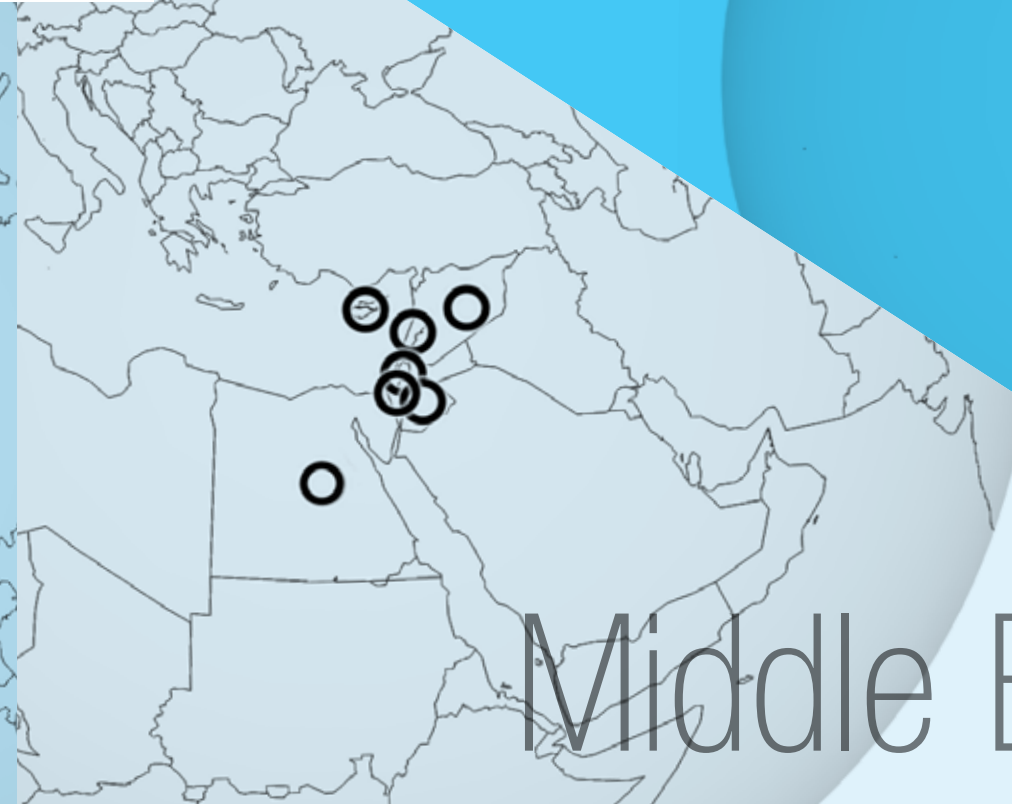
Africa



Europe



Middle East



WACC



communication FOR
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