

## **Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for November 2007 - January 2008**

**Dear Friends,**

**The Global Youth Solidarity Fund took another step forward when it was formally adopted this month as one of the main decisions of the first forum of the United Nations initiative for Alliance of Civilizations. The forum was held in Madrid, Spain the 15th and 16th of January.**

**A number of global youth organizations met prior to the Alliance forum and took part in it. As quoted in the CPNN article (see below), Christopher Derige Malano, delegate from the International Movement of Catholic Students, said "I was pleased to see the optimism of civil society, religious leaders and private sector representatives, as well as diplomats, and their commitment to build a culture of peace. I felt that our opinions as youth were heard with respect, even if our ideas were not always included in the agenda-setting of the forum. For example, in the future there could be more attention to the kinds of communication used by the majority of youth who are not involved with formal organizations or media, e.g. street art, internet groups and networks, etc. Ultimately, it is comforting to know that our collective contributions at the Forum were a step in the right direction."**

**Jo Lofgren, who worked with me and others on the original proposal for the Youth Solidarity Fund, is now working at the Alliance of Civilizations, and we expect to hear more about the Fund in the coming months. The original proposal, for those who have not yet read it, is available on the website of the Decade Culture of Peace Report: <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org>**

**Meanwhile, CPNN, the Culture of Peace News Network at <http://cpnn-world.org>, continues to publish initiatives for a culture of peace around the world. Here are the most recent articles listed by region.**

### **ARAB STATES**

**A letter from the Palestinian Nonviolence Resistance**

**... "throwing stones did not work and suicide bombs definitely did not work. In this new time period we must use the nonviolence method, but even that seems aggressive to the Israeli occupiers"**

**Breaking Them Down: Walls that Block People and Walls that Block Words**

**... "no power can stand up against a mass of people that has crossed the border of despair. That is the lesson of Gaza, January, 2008."**

### **AFRICA**

**Shalom Centre for Africa**

**.. "Principal activities we envisage are: educating for peace, doing researches for peace, and cultivating the culture of nonviolence."**

## **North-Kivu, Congo: Peace is needed to stop the use of child-soldiers in the clashes**

**... "ADECOP strongly recommends ... to the international community to ... to remind the Congolese government its commitments as regards the elimination of the use of children in military activities ..."**

## **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

### **Letter from India**

**... "I had given the inaugural Gandhi lecture at Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University, 'Gandhi and Global Nonviolence,' emphasizing his legacy to the world."**

### **Teaching and Learning for Peace Foundation**

**... "We consider the most powerful change agent to be a good story especially if it is illustrated well"**

### **Training Workshop on Educational Policy and Education for International Understanding**

**... "so that the trainees can have a comparative reflection on their local educational conditions and envision for better policy and system towards a Culture of Peace"**

## **EUROPE**

### **Important Peace Initiatives of Alliance of Civilizations**

**... "I was pleased to see the optimism of civil society, religious leaders and private sector representatives, as well as diplomats, and their commitment to build a culture of peace."**

## **NORTHERN AMERICA**

### **Campus Peace Centers: Building a Culture of Peace, One Campus at a Time**

**... "an innovative project to encourage university students working for the various aspects of a culture of peace to form local meeting centers"**

### **Activities of the Santa Barbara Association for UNESCO**

**... "a concert entitled "Many Voices, One Song: Thresholds to a Culture of Peace, featuring four diverse vocal music ensembles"**

### **October 27 Anti-War Marches in US**

**... "We are pleased that people from all of the regional actions felt so positive about their experience, and that in the process of organizing, stronger ties were forged among peace and justice groups in each region."**

### **Peace Ambassadors**

**... "At the center of the program are teenagers who serve as young ambassadors and ... pass on their convictions, understanding and reflections on peace to children in primary**

**schools."**

## **ALL REGIONS**

### **Gathering the Pieces of Peace**

**... "I thought the best way to reach people was using the internet so I created a site ... with the aim to connect the web sites to each other that support world peace."**

### **Everyone can be A Center for Global Nonkilling**

**.. "The participants called upon the UN General Assembly and educators to include the right not to be killed, and the responsibility not to kill others, as part of universal human rights education"**

### **Call for Submissions: Peacebuilding Approaches Catalogue**

**... "Global Peacebuilders is publishing a catalogue of worldwide approaches to peacebuilding, and we are looking for effective, fresh and innovative approaches from organisations working to create the conditions for a sustainable peace in their area."**

**\*\*\*\*\***

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

**Here are some of the topics that have been discussed since the previous Bulletin. They may be found under the Forum indicated on the CPNN DiscussionBoard (<http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/ib3/ikonboard.cgi>).**

### **SCHOOLS AND PEACE EDUCATION**

**Peace-building stories, literacy development with peace-building**

**What is the best way to teach peace to children?**

### **GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE**

**Can you add to this analysis of the Democratic Republic of the Congo?**

### **MAKING AN EFFECTIVE PEACE MOVEMENT**

**How can we be sure to get news about peace demonstrations?**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**For details on how the CPNN website works, please see the bulletin for April/May, 2007, which was sent to you by email and which is available online at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/bulletin/may2007english.html>**

To repeat from previous bulletins, "Please go to the <http://cpnn-world.org> and write your own news report about events or media that promote a culture of peace. It may be something that you and your organization have done, or something that your read or saw in the media that promotes one or more aspects of a culture of peace (human rights, democratic participation, understanding, tolerance and solidarity, sustainable development, free flow of information, equality of women, peace education or disarmament).

Also add your comments to the DiscussionBoard which already hundreds of questions that have already been raised. Your comments may be on your own story or to any story previously submitted.

Peace,

David Adams

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<http://www.decade-culture-of-peace.org>

## **Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for September/October 2007**

**Dear Friends,**

**Youth initiatives continue to top the list of activities for the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace. They will be considered here by continent followed by the relevant articles in the Culture of Peace News Network, <http://cpnn-world.org>.**

### **ARAB STATES**

**In Egypt, 1200 participants, mostly youth, took part in the International Youth Forum in Sharm El Sheikh. The Arab version of the Youth Report on the Culture of Peace was distributed and very well received, and hopefully we will be hearing much more from the youth of this region in the future. The Arab version of the report is now available on the Decade website, <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org>.**

#### **International Youth Forum in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt**

**... "One Thousand and twelve hundred participants attended the forum which promoted interaction between youth and decision-makers, the private sector, government and civil society organizations"**

### **AFRICA**

**In the Great Lakes region of Africa, hundreds of community mediators aged between fifteen and twenty-five are being trained by the program Amahoro Amani in how to take action in their communities to prevent, mediate, and resolve conflicts peacefully.**

**In Uganda, the Fourth African Conference of International Institute of Peace through Tourism was preceded by a Student/Youth Leadership Forum and the awarding of prizes for the best paper on "Building a Culture of Peace through Tourism."**

#### **Amahoro Amani: Lasting peace promotion in the Great Lakes**

**... "By the end of 2007, 420 community mediators aged between fifteen and twenty-five will have been trained in how to take action in their communities to prevent, mediate, and resolve conflicts peacefully."**

#### **Fourth African Conference of International Institute of Peace through Tourism**

**... "More than 400 delegates from 33 countries participated in the conference sharing their experiences, ideas, wisdom and commitments."**

### **LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN**

**As we have come to expect in recent years, the people of South America continue to take leadership in the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace.**

**The initiative of the World Social Forum movement continues to come from Brazil, as described in their most recent meeting and mobilization schedule. And Sao Paulo continues to take the lead, with over 60,000 citizens participating in the fifth annual City Games under**

**the banner of the culture of peace.**

**World Social Forum 2008 and 2009: Meeting defines mobilisation schedule for process and working groups**

**... "The meeting had two main agendas: the preparation for the week and day of mobilisation and global action (January 26 2008) and discussions on the first initiatives towards 2009 event organisation"**

**No need of great things to gain a lot!**

**... "I started teaching in a new school with 18 years old teens. So I told them to start working on things such as: peace, human rights, discrimination, etc."**

**Sports for Peace in Sao Paulo**

**... "Over 60,000 citizens of Sao Paulo are participating in the fifth annual City Games under the banner of the culture of peace"**

**EUROPE**

**Along with Cecile Barbeito of the School of the Culture of Peace in Barcelona, I participated in an international conference on the role of local governments in peace-building. We discussed with them the possibility of a project for culture of peace in cities, and we hope to have more news about this project in the near future.**

**City Diplomacy in Action**

**... "The Mayor called for local authorities to address the sensitive issues underlying violent conflicts and to "contribute to the creation of a culture of peace by developing and sustaining relations and effective communication at the level of the community""**

**ALL REGIONS**

**On a global level, the International Day of Prayer for Peace involved a newly organized Peace Youth Network as well as the network of the World Council of Churches.**

**International Day for Prayer for Peace and Youth Network**

**... "The World Council of Churches joined this initiative to encourage churches to be in Spirit of prayer with those who face Violence in their daily life."**

**Yoga for Peace Holds World Event on 9/11 Anniversary**

**... "speakers explained the yoga philosophy of non-violence and the recognition of the sacred within all human beings and nature"**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**DISCUSSION TOPICS**

**Here are some of the topics that have been discussed since the previous Bulletin. They may**

be found under the Forum indicated on the CPNN DiscussionBoard (<http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/ib3/ikonboard.cgi> ).

## GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE

Global meetings, conferences, assemblies: What is the best way for delegates to interact afterwards?

## MAKING AN EFFECTIVE PEACE MOVEMENT

How are you celebrating peace day?

## OTHER THEMES

The understanding of indigenous peoples: Can it help us cultivate a culture of peace?

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Peace,

David Adams

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<http://decade-culture-of-peace.org>

## Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for July-August 2007

Dear Friends,

It is the youth, the next generation, that is now taking the lead in the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace.

I've had the privilege of participating in several youth-led initiatives which have been described in recent CPNN articles.

One is the United Nations advocacy group of recent graduates of the University of Peace (see <http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/read/articlepage.cgi?ViewArticle=352> ). The initiative was conceived and managed by Nick Martin, one of the young people who took part in last year's culture of peace advocacy group at the United Nations. Learning from that previous experience, he and his fellow UPEACE graduates improved upon the methods that had been used last year.

Another is the recent Global Youth Assembly that was held in Edmonton, Canada, under the auspices of the John Humphrey Center for Peace and Human Rights. It is described by Aliaa El zeiny, one of the Assembly delegates, in the recent CPNN article at <http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/read/articlepage.cgi?ViewArticle=361> . The Assembly was organized by a group of young people at the Center, including Renee Vaugeois and Kiran Choudhry.

As pointed out in the article by Aliaa, and as stressed during the training session of the UPEACE group, one of the important challenges is to maintain the momentum achieved during these mobilizations so that participants can remain active and connected with each other and with the Global Movement as a whole. This will be tested again at the upcoming International Youth Forum, "Youth Speak - We Listen! Voices for Peace", sponsored by the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, where Aliaa and I will meet again as well as a number of other youth who have already been working for an Arab Youth Network for the Culture of Peace. Thanks to the generous support of Federico Mayor and his Fundacion Cultura de Paz, the Youth Report on the Culture of Peace will be translated into Arabic and published and disseminated to the youth delegates in Sharm El Sheikh. Once it is available the Arabic version will also be uploaded onto the Decade website.

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Here are the recent reports and discussions that have been put on CPNN since the last bulletin:

ALL REGIONS

The gift of Change: The Global Youth Assembly 2007

... "a project to keep the momentum of the assembly going on; so this assembly would not have a dead end like most of the other youth "Things"."

New class of Rotary World Peace Fellows announced

... "Launched in 2002, this innovative approach to world peace is a master s level



**program aimed at equipping the next generation ... with skills needed to reduce the threat of war and violence."**

### **A Smile Goes a Long Way**

**... "When we smile to someone new, we create an opportunity to say 'hello' and this 'hello' allows us to create a friendship."**

### **Book Review of The Real Wealth of Nations**

**... "Eisler contributes by promoting a "new economics" and by recognizing the recent efforts by a number of economists to include measures of household work as an important part of a nation's economic output."**

### **Advocating for UPEACE at the UN**

**... "The UPEACE alumni advocacy team met with 30 UN missions, 10 UN agencies, and 7 NGOs. The project was highlighted by two events, each with over 100 individuals in attendance."**

### **The Thread Project**

**... "The World Cloths are a repository of human experience and goodwill; each thread is spun with the story of the individual who sent it."**

## **AFRICA**

### **Somali Youth Organization for Development and Reforming**

**... "SOYODER has opened two centers for literacy development and vocational training for the illiterate people and militia groups, using our motto : "put down the gun and take up the pen"."**

### **To desire freedom is an instinct**

**... "one of my literary projects that are committed to building understanding, tolerance, and Peace initiative in Nigeria"**

## **ARAB STATES**

### **"Colors from Palestine" Calendars and Cards**

**... "In a simple and forceful way, Naji cuts through all lies and disguises and brings the truth to the people."**

## **EUROPE**

### **House of Erasmus of Rotterdam at the Nelson Mandela Festival**

**... "One of the highlights was the performance by our musical group the 'BLOX' who presented themselves with the slogan 'Peace and understanding'"**

## **Development of Peace Thinking and Peace Education by NGOs in Russia**

... "results of a survey I recently made concerning peace activities by NGOs in Russia"

## **LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN**

### **In the City of Santos, Young People from Nine Countries Talk about Peace**

... "Each country will have a moment to hold a folk audio-visual presentation and to offer their typical food with tasting by selected audience. "

### **Peace Sculptures by Women in Mexico**

... "The sculptures were among 20 presented by the artist and FEMU member Glenda Hecksher to a cycle of round tables entitled, War and Peace"

## **NORTHERN AMERICA**

### **UFPJ Assembly a Great Success, Next Steps Decided**

... "UFPJ, as the nation's largest grassroots antiwar coalition, will have as our primary work a Campaign to End the War"

### **Report on U.S. Social Forum**

... "More than 10,000 people attended the USSF and each day three workshop sessions were held at various venues around the downtown area. "

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## **GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE**

Can you add to this analysis of the Democratic Republic of the Congo?

## **ECOLOGY**

If we can connect up the planet through Internet, can't we agree to preserve the planet?

## **MIDEAST PEACE**

How can a culture of peace be established in the Middle East?

## **MAKING AN EFFECTIVE PEACE MOVEMENT**

**The U.S. Social Forum 2007, Can you add to this evaluation?**

**CULTURE OF PEACE IN EVERYDAY LIFE**

**When is it most difficult to smile? Why?**

**SCHOOLS AND PEACE EDUCATION**

**Can children be involved in the peace process through literacy?**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE OF PEACE**

**How can we assist and connect with other mediators/peacemakers?**

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**Peace,**

**David Adams**

**[mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org](mailto:mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org)**

## **Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for June 2007**

**Dear Friends,**

**Thank you for making a success of the new website, Culture of Peace News Network, [CPNN-WORLD.ORG](http://CPNN-WORLD.ORG). The articles you have contributed during the first two months have come from every region and address many interesting topics, as listed below.**

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### **AFRICA**

**Moving towards the culture of peace and non-violence in Democratic Republic of Congo**

**... "For the very first time in the history of the Democratic Republic of Congo, we held free and democratic elections in 2006"**

**Campus Peace Educators' Training Program**

**..."May 7 - 12, 2007 ... Venue: The Peace Embassy, Abuja and TWB-Nigeria Training Center,"**

### **ARAB STATES**

**Four Opportunities to Visit the Holy Land**

**... "Work hand in hand with Palestinians, Israelis and Internationals for justice."**

### **ASIA-PACIFIC**

**"Let's build the Bridge of Peace."**

**... "Some thousand members of the Marma community including men, women, and children attended the colourful event."**

**The Mindanao Week of Peace**

**..."working and advocating and mainstreaming the CULTURE OF PEACE in the Southern Philippines"**

**Running for Peace**

**..."a symbolic running relay between Hiroshima and Nagasaki"**

**Peace Song from Hiroshima to the World**

**... "I began to promote this song through the Internet"**

**The Nobel Peace Prize to Mohamed Yunus and the people of Bangladesh**

**... "a new dream for today's youth, inviting them to become a new kind of entrepreneur that 'can change the character of capitalism radically.'"**

## **EUROPE**

**Sport and peace : another way to practice football - 7-A-side Football**

**... "Developed with more than 1200 teams across France"**

**EU Sets Example for Slowing Climate Change**

**... "to ensure that by 2020 at least 20 percent of their energy comes from renewable sources like wind and solar power."**

## **LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN**

**Culture of Peace for Public Policies - 1st Cycle of Conferences in São Paulo**

**... "support for the creation of public policies based on culture of peace principles and values"**

**Colombian Network Football for Development and Peace**

**... "This landmark meeting will take place on May 17th and 18th 2007 in Bogotá"**

**Eco-Citizen Programme : Urban Agriculture for Vulnerable Youth**

**... "planting of vegetable gardens and medicinal herbs ... awakens new interests and perspectives for the youth"**

**Latin Leaders Plan for Union Based on Culture of Peace**

**... "The Cochabamba pronouncement"**

## **NORTHERN AMERICA**

**The White Tree of Peace**

**... "this tree symbolizes the Iroquois Nations gathered around a hole where the Peacemaker cast the weapons of war"**

**Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Peace**

**... "what our world leaders would accomplish through peace dialogues and non violent resolutions"**

**To Teach, To Learn**

**... "I find great satisfaction at the end of class when children say goodbye in Arabic or thank you in Chinese"**

**Bitter Roots are often the Wellspring of Conflict**

... "The Bitter Roots Center for Conflict Resolution opened this year"

## ALL REGIONS

### Youth for Culture of Peace Report 2006

... "Youth organisations were asked to describe what activities they would undertake or expand if funds were available."

### Global Peacebuilders Project

... "aims to bring together the sheer diversity of organisations and practitioners working in peacebuilding, conflict resolution, conflict transformation and community relations"

### Executive Board of UNESCO reaffirms Culture of Peace as a Priority

... "peace in action, through dialogue, contacts and other exchanges among peoples and promotion of universal values."

**Young People's Retreat for Social Change - Building a Culture of Peace**  
... "Our rituals come from the Native American tradition, the Buddhist tradition, the Hindu tradition, the Jewish tradition and more."

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## DISCUSSION TOPICS

Here are some of the topics that have been discussed in the first months of CPNN. They may be found under the Forum indicated on the CPNN DiscussionBoard (<http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/ib3/ikonboard.cgi> ).

### ECOLOGY

When you cultivate plants, do you cultivate peace?

### MAKING AN EFFECTIVE PEACE MOVEMENT

Where are there other peace weeks?, And what are the advantages of this approach?

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE OF PEACE

How can culture of peace be developed at the municipal level?

### GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE

Youth initiatives for a culture of peace, How can we ensure they get the attention and funding they deserve?

### OTHER THEMES

The understanding of indigenous peoples, Can it help us cultivate a culture of peace?

## A READING LIST FOR CULTURE OF PEACE

What are the most important books about the culture of peace?

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Peace,

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## **Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for April/May 2007**

**Dear Friends,**

**I am pleased to announce a new website (<http://cpnn-world.org> ) designed to report the good news that you have been sending us on the advances toward a culture of peace. This website is essential because your good work is seldom reported by the mass media, which focuses on war and violence. The new website is based on a previous website of the Culture Of Peace News Network (<http://cpnn-usa.org>) which we have maintained for several years for the United States).**

**The new website is simple to use:**

- \* Write a 300-400 word news report**
- \* Respond to comments by a moderator who will check your report for clarity**
- or**
- \* Register for DiscussionBoard (takes 24 hours)**
- \* Log in to the Discussion Board to post your comments on any report**

**Since the World Civil Society Report on the Culture of Peace was completed in 2005, many of you have sent me updates about the good work that your organization continues to do for a culture of peace. As you know we made a website for mass media reports of the culture of peace at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/news/cgi-bin/ib4/ikonboard.cgi>. Now we don't have to wait for the mass media, but you can publish your information directly on the new website.**

**Please go to <http://cpnn-world.org> and write your own news report about events or media that promote a culture of peace. It may be something that you and your organization have done, or something that your read or saw in the media that promotes one or more aspects of a culture of peace (human rights, democratic participation, understanding, tolerance and solidarity, sustainable development, free flow of information, equality of women, peace education or disarmament).**

**Also add your comments to the DiscussionBoard which already hundreds of questions that have already been raised. Your comments may be on your own story or to any story previously submitted.**

**If your news report cannot be stated in only 300-400 words, then you should send it to us in two parts. The first part, a summary of 300-400 words, will be used as a news report, and the rest of the report will be put on the DiscussionBoard.**

**As we begin the new website, news reports must be in English, while discussion may be in any language. Hopefully, by the end of the year we can also allow French and Spanish for the news reports. And in a few years we hope to have other websites in other language scripts. A Japanese site already exists at <http://www.cpnn.net> and there is discussion for an Arabic site.**

**If you have further questions about the new website, see the page on frequently-asked questions at <http://cpnn-world.org/moderating/moderating.html>, or send your question to our email address below.**



**On another matter, you have all received previously an invitation to sign and promote the Statement in favor of Life, of Peace, of Equality which is being circulated by the Fundacion Cultura de Paz. If you have not already done so, please go to the website at <http://www.fund-culturadepaz.org/PEACE.htm> and sign the Statement on line.**

**Peace,**

**David Adams**

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## **February/March 2007 Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace**

**Dear Friends,**

**Youth teams for a culture of peace are now being developed in the Arab region.**

**This new process was advanced during the week of February 26-March 3 2007 at the Second Annual Arab Youth Forum and Fourth Annual Arab Reform Conference which were organized and hosted by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt. Along with Jo Lofgren, who was a member of the 2005 UN Youth Advocacy Team, I was invited to take part in order to work with the new youth team for the culture of peace which has now been established at the Bibliotheca. The team includes Hagar Ibrahim who took part in the 2006 Youth Advocacy Team at United Nations (see Bulletin for November/December 2006). Among other members of the team are Ahmed Ragab Al-Kotby and Suzan Adel. Together we worked to engage other youth at the two meetings. This was productive and led to a linkage with the Arab Network of Young Peacebuilders that has been organized by Naoufal El Hammoumi from Morocco.**

**The work was greatly helped by an Arab translation and publication of the Midterm Civil Society Report which is now available on our website. This was produced by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina with support from the Fundacion Cultura de Paz.**

**The Bibliotheca Youth Team plans to design several projects at the regional level, as well as engaging other youth in Egypt. At the same time, we are all working together to ensure that Arab youth are well represented in future advocacy work in international meetings. This should help advance the base of support for the Global Youth Solidarity Fund and Programme that has been discussed in the last several Bulletins and which is described in the Youth Report on our website.**

**Peace,**

**David Adams**

**[mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org](mailto:mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org)**