

December 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for December 2010 and January 2011

Dear Friends,

As we mentioned in the previous bulletin, in the month of December we presented the World Report on the Culture of Peace 2010 at the World Education Forum (Dec. 10-13, 2010). This was part of the Forum 2010 on Education, Research and Culture of Peace that took place between December 3 and 30, 2010 in Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain.

In the High-Level Meeting on the Culture of Peace on December 4, the World Report was first presented by David Adams and Oliver Rizzi Carlson, representing the Youth Team that prepared the Report. The United Nations documents that form the basis for the World Report were outlined, and the main features and findings of the Report were discussed.

On December 12, a session was dedicated to a detailed presentation of the World Report. Seven out of the ten members of the Youth Team were present and explained in detail the basis for the Report, the process, the findings as a whole as well as for each region. The Youth Team and the audience then had a productive discussion regarding the future of the World Report and the steps ahead in the promotion of the Culture of Peace. Copies of the report were distributed to participants in Spanish and English.

This was a great opportunity to have some members of the Youth Team meeting face-to-face for the first time. It also served to motivate other youth to support our work. Among other things, youth participants at the Forum expressed interest in supporting and translating the Report into other languages.

In a meeting with the Youth Team, Manuel Manonelles from the Culture of Peace Foundation expressed his appreciation for the work done by the Youth Team and reiterated his support for new Culture of Peace initiatives in the future.

Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury also expressed his gratitude for the Report elaborated by the Youth Team and discussed opportunities to capitalize on the World Report and use it to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace in the future. The Youth Team also thanked Ambassador Chowdhury for his unwavering support of civil society initiatives for the Culture of Peace and expressed its eagerness to continue collaborating in the future.

The World Report on the Culture of Peace 2010 in Spanish is now available at http://www.decade-culture-of-peace.org/world_report_2010_cast.pdf . You can also access the UNESCO report on the Culture of Peace at <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/299>.

The Decade for a Culture of Peace has served as a foundation for a global movement. Our work is just beginning.

Peace,

Youth Team for the Culture of Peace

mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org

November 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for November 2010

Dear Friends, It has been three months since we last communicated about the World Report from the Civil Society for the Culture of Peace Decade (http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/2010_civil_society_report.pdf).

During this time many of you have sent letters to the United Nations General Secretary requesting that he forward the report to the UN General Assembly.

Despite your many fine letters, the Secretary-General has not forwarded the report to the General Assembly as a UN document.

HOWEVER, the report was printed in a limited edition by the Fundacion Cultura de Paz to be distributed to the 200 members of the UN General Assembly.

Thanks to the initiative of Manuel Manonelles of the Fundacion, Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Dr. Abdul Momen, and his staff member Sarwar Mahmood, copies of the report were distributed along with a cover letter by the Bangladesh Ambassador to all of the desks in the General Assembly Meeting Hall during the final debate on the Decade for a Culture of Peace that took place on October 18.

As a result, Our report is recognized in a paragraph of the final resolution for the Decade that was submitted in recent days in draft form by Bangladesh, as follows:

"Commends civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace, and takes note that one thousand and fifty four organizations from the civil societies in more than one hundred countries have observed the International Decade, as called for in paragraph 13 of the General Assembly resolution 64/80."

Our report was also recognized in the following contribution to the General Assembly debate on October 18 by the representative of Spain: "El informe del Secretario General (documentao A/65/299) [UNESCO] se ala que el Decenio Internacional ha conseguido difundir el concepto de una cultura de paz a diversos niveles y sectores de la sociedad ... En el mismo sentido se pronuncia el denominado "Informe global sobre Cultura de Paz 2010", elaborado por la Fundacion Cultura de Paz con contribuciones de mas de 1000 organizaciones de la sociedad civil de un centenar de paises de todo el mundo, qu ha sido transmitido al Secretario General con arreglo a lo previsto en la resolucion 64/80 de la AG y distribuido a los Estados Miembros por la Mision de Bangladesh".

Here is my rough translation of the preceding remarks: "the report of the Secretary General (document A/65/299) [report of UNESCO] indicates that the International Decade succeeded in diffusing the concept of a culture of peace in various levels and sectors of society.... A similar success has been achieved by the so-called "World Report on the Culture of Peace 2010" elaborated by the Fundacion Cultura de Paz with contributions from over 1000 organizations of the civil society and over one hundred countries throughout the world, which was transmitted to the Secretary General in accordance with resolution 64/80 of the General Assembly and distributed to the Member States by the Bangladesh Mission."

Relevant remarks about the need to continue working for a culture of peace were also made during the October 18 debate by the representatives of Cuba and Pakistan. Cuba called in particular for work on educational curricula and responsibility of the mass media, while Pakistan called upon all countries to include reference to the culture of peace in the preambles to their constitutions.

Unfortunately, the General Assembly chamber was almost empty throughout the debate on October 18. The speaker from Pakistan remarked that the lack of attendance at the session showed that peace is not really a priority at the UN, which is also indicated, he said, by the lack of mention of peace in the MDGs. No speaker mentioned the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (A/53/243), that was adopted in 1999 and which calls for a global movement for a culture of peace.

Our World Civil Society Report on the Culture of Peace will be presented to the Forum 2010 which is dedicated to the culture of peace and which will take place throughout the month of December in Santiago de Compostela (Spain). See their website at <http://www.foro2010.org> for details. I promise to send you more information in a December Bulletin, since I will be participating in the Forum along with the youth team members who were responsible for the report.

I conclude with the opening operative paragraph of the draft resolution tabled by Bangladesh that provides a challenge for the years to come, based upon the Programme of Action:

"Reiterates that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace is to strengthen further the global movement for culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010) and calls upon all concerned that renewed attention be given to this objective."

Peace, David Adams, mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org

August 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for August 2010

Dear Friends, As you know from our previous Bulletin, the World Report on the Culture of Peace has been submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General and may be found via a link on the Decade website homepage, <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org> or you may go to it directly at

http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/2010_civil_society_report.pdf

It would be very helpful if your organization could send a brief letter to the Secretary-General requesting him to forward the report to the United Nations General Assembly for their consideration when they debate the culture of peace. Since the debate will probably take place in October, it would be good if you could send the letter soon, but there is no deadline as he can submit the report anytime during the session which continues until next year. By the way, it is not useful to send an email as it is unlikely that it would be read by him. On the other hand, a letter on the letterhead of your organization, signed by an official of the organization, would be very effective. It should be in one of the six languages of the United Nations, preferably in English. A certified letter is best, but not necessary.

The text of a letter should be addressed to "DEAR MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL" and sent to the following address:

H.E. MR. BAN KI-MOON

SECRETARY-GENERAL

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

NEW YORK, NY 10017, USA

Although not necessary, it would be useful if you could send a scanned copy of the letter to us at the email address below.

A letter in your own words is most effective, but you may wish to take some elements from the sample letter below.

Peace,

David Adams

decade@decade-culture-of-peace.org

To avoid spam, this is not a direct link. You must write the address into your own email account.

SAMPLE LETTER ON ORGANIZATIONAL LETTERHEAD

H.E. MR. BAN KI-MOON

SECRETARY-GENERAL

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

NEW YORK, NY 10017, USA

DEAR MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL,

We are proud to be a participating organization in the World Civil Society Report on the Culture of Peace which was sent to you on July 21 by Dr. AK Abdul Momen, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative from Bangladesh to the United Nations.

In making this report, we responded to the call in operative paragraphs 13 and 17 of the General Assembly resolution A/RES/64/80 requesting that we report to you about our activities and observance of the Decade, and that you submit a summary of this to the General Assembly.

We would be very pleased if you could forward this report so that our participation and the participation of the other organizations, over 1,000 in all, could be recognized by the United Nations General Assembly when they hold their debate marking the end of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010).

Although the report that you received could only contain a summary of the innumerable activities of the participating organizations, the full information has been made available on the Internet at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/end-of-decade-report/cgi-bin/ib4/ikonboard.cgi>

Thank you for your recognition of our work for a culture of peace and non-violence. Along with most of the other organizations participating in this report, we agree that, while the Decade for a Culture of Peace is ending, the global movement for a culture of peace is just beginning.

Yours truly,

[signature]

[name]

[official position]

[organization name]

[organization address]

May/July 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for May/July 2010

Dear Friends,

Please excuse the delay of this Bulletin. It took longer than we expected, but now we can inform you that the final summary report for the Decade has been submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General with a request that he transmit it to the UN General Assembly for their debate on the culture of peace in October. We owe a great "thank you" to Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury for his efforts that made this possible.

The link to the summary report may be found on the Decade website homepage, <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org> or you may go to it directly at http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/2010_civil_society_report.pdf

We will continue to follow closely the report's progress from the office of the Secretary-General and keep you informed.

Thanks to all of you for your significant contributions to the report and to the global movement for the culture of peace. The summary report is based upon individual reports from over 1,000 organizations. The individual reports can all be found at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/end-of-decade-report/cgi-bin/ib4/ikonboard.cgi>

In other news, we are pleased to provide the link to the youth organizations that have been awarded funding by the Global Youth Solidarity Fund of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. They may be found at <http://unaocyouth.org/ysf/list-of-ysf-winners/>

Peace,

David Adams

decade@decade-culture-of-peace.org

To avoid spam, this is not a direct link. You must write the address into your own email account.

February/March 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for February/March 2010

Dear Friends,

Please see the website of the World Report at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org>

As you see, almost 200 organizations have already answered the call and entered their information for the Report. Many others have registered and we expect to receive their reports soon. Be part of it! Don't miss the opportunity! Don't be left out!

You have two options to submit your data:

1) Register and put your data directly on the website;

or

2) Fill out the questionnaire which is available on the website in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese in WORD, HTML or PDF formats and send the filled-out questionnaire to one of the emails below so that we can put it online for you.

We have extended the deadline until April 31, 2010, but please do not be later than that because the report will be written during the month of May in order to submit to the United Nations at the beginning of June.

Some of you may noticed the following change. Instead of submitting data about actions only for the second half of the Decade, we have decided to submit data for all 10 years of the Decade. If you made a report in 2005, you do not need to do anything, because we will include the 2005 data in the report. If you did not submit a report in 2005 and have already submitted your report for 2005-2010, you may just send us the additional data about your actions for 2001-2005 and we will put it on line for you.

Peace,

Marcos Estrada - the Americas, Arab States and international organizations - evaluation@decade-culture-of-peace.org

Cecile Barbeito - Europe and Africa - africaeurope@decade-culture-of-peace.org

Meg Villanueva and Nikki Delfin - Asia Pacific - maurea8@gmail.com

Alicia Cabezudo - Latin America - pazderechos@yahoo.com.ar

David Adams - International organizations - decade@decade-culture-of-peace.org To avoid spam, these are not direct links. You must write the address into your own email account.

January 2010

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for January 2010

Dear Friends,

Start your 2010 with a Culture of Peace.

Do not be left out!

In the last bulletin it was announced that we are a youth team who has decided to go forward with the report because we have the enthusiasm and the energy necessary. Now, it is time to work.

We would like to thank those of you who took time to complete the questionnaire online. We have seen remarkable Culture of Peace initiatives around the world - and we know that there are more out there to be shared with us!

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

The questionnaire is available online and can be completed in five different languages, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Russian. Alternatively, you can ask for the questionnaire in Word format, send us the accomplished version, and then we enter the data in the questionnaire online.

Your work is important - not just to the report but to the Culture of Peace movement around the world! By sharing information with us you not only give visibility to your initiatives, but also have the opportunity to exchange information with other organizations and institutions.

42 organizations have already registered to complete the questionnaire, and we would like to encourage you to complete the questionnaire, or invite and/or remind other organizations you know who might not have done so. Also, please don't forget the photos!

Please enter or send your information before the deadline of January 31, 2010.

Marcos Estrada - the Americas, Arab States and international organizations - evaluation@decade-culture-of-peace.org

Cecile Barbeito - Europe and Africa - africaeurope@decade-culture-of-peace.org

Meg Villanueva and Nikki Delfin - Asia Pacific - maurea8@gmail.com
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Alicia Cabezudo - Latin America - pazderechos@yahoo.com.ar

David Adams - International organizations - mail@decade-culture-of-peace.org

