



World Alliance for Citizen Participation

e-CIVICUS

A Free Weekly Electronic Newsletter Promoting Civic Existence, Expression & Engagement

Please send contributions, comments and questions to editor@civicus.org.

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ABOUT e-CIVICUS

The CIVICUS weekly electronic publication is keeping tens of thousands of people informed of the developments taking place in civil society, the factors that are affecting them and the impact they are having on creating an informed and knowledgeable

FROM THE DESK OF CIVICUS' SECRETARY-GENERAL

Send your comments and contributions to editor@civicus.org.

e-CIVICUS subscribers invited to register for the 2008 CIVICUS World Assembly
By Kumi Naidoo, CIVICUS Secretary General



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for your support of e-CIVICUS, our weekly electronic newsletter that now has a global network of 85,000 subscribers, including yourself. I am writing to extend a special invitation to you to participate in the 8th CIVICUS World Assembly, one of 2008's biggest and most dynamic events organised by and for civil society. The CIVICUS World Assembly will take place in Glasgow, Scotland from 18-21 June 2008 for the third and last time in this series. We hope that you will join us in Glasgow where civil society in all its diversity will debate how to achieve justice for all and will engage with each other as well as with governments, business and international institutions. The overall theme of the conference will be "Acting Together for a Just World", which will be explored through this year's focus theme, *People, Participation and Power*. Find out how you can participate, [click here](#).

ITUC May Day Manifesto 2008

Source: International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

On 1 May, millions of working people across the world join together to celebrate the achievements of more than a century of trade unionism. The high principles of equality, justice, human dignity and peace which have found expression through the trade union movement are just as relevant today as they were when working men and women first came together to fight for their rights at work. These principles gave rise to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention 87 in 1948. But the fundamental rights enshrined in these celebrated instruments are far from reality for much of humanity. For most of the world's people, decent work is but a distant dream. For more information, [click here](#).

Have your say in e-CIVICUS Readers' Survey

By Kumi Naidoo, CIVICUS Secretary General

Deadline to complete the survey: 28 May 2008

As you may know, CIVICUS has been distributing its electronic newsletter, e-CIVICUS, to partners and CIVICUS members since 1999. This free weekly electronic publication keeps over 85,000 readers informed of the developments, influences, issues and impacts of civil society around the world. e-CIVICUS is available in English and in a number of different electronic formats such as html, word, pdf and text. In order to maintain and improve on the delivery of quality information with regard to news, issues, debates, events and other key developments of civil society in the global arena, CIVICUS needs your feedback on e-CIVICUS. All survey responses will be kept strictly confidential and the results will be for internal use only. To complete the survey, [click here](#).

society.

e-CIVICUS WELCOMES CONTRIBUTIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

e-CIVICUS offers a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news, publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us your contributions no later than Tuesday for publication in the coming week to

editor@civicus.org. All contributions must focus on civil society issues or have a civil society angle. To read the contribution guidelines, please visit www.civicus.org/new/media/e-civicuseditorialguidelines-finalDraft.doc.

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Report sees less media freedom in Russia

By Alexander Osipovich

As the world celebrates Press Freedom Day on 3 May, media freedom in Russia "saw continued and substantial declines", the U.S.-based democracy watchdog Freedom House said in a report. Russia has the same level of press freedom as Sudan and Yemen, the watchdog said in its annual survey of media freedom around the world, a copy of which was obtained in advance by The Moscow Times. "Media freedom continued to decline in Russia as the Kremlin further restricted independent news reporting and public dissent while preparing for a stage-managed parliamentary election," the report said, referring to the 2 December State Duma elections. The media environment became worse because of a range of developments, Freedom House said, including the toughening of anti-extremism laws, the suspicious death of Kommersant defence correspondent Ivan Safronov, and police raids on the regional offices of Novaya Gazeta in search of pirated software. For more information, [click here](#).

CIVICUS Poll Question

This week's question:

Should civil society engage more actively with international trade union movements and their decent work campaigns?

To answer the question, [click here](#).

Previous question: Are governments and other international organisations providing an enabling environment of education for all as a matter of human rights?

Results: Yes - 25%, No - 71%, Don't Know - 4%

TELL A FRIEND ABOUT e-CIVICUS

The e-CIVICUS newsletter keeps tens of thousands of people and organisations informed of the many developments taking place in civil society around the world. As a subscriber you know the value e-CIVICUS can bring to your work. So why keep it to yourself?

Do you have a friend who works for a more just world? Would you like to share this newsletter with them? Why don't you suggest they register for a free subscription?

They can send us an e-mail to subscriptions@civicus.org or fill out the subscription form [here](#). Alternatively, please forward their e-mail address to KumiNaidoo.e-civicus@civicus.org and we'll contact them on your behalf. Please send us your contributions no later than Monday every week to editor@civicus.org. All contributions must be focused on civil society issues or have a civil society angle.

COUNTDOWN TO THE 2008 CIVICUS WORLD ASSEMBLY

CIVICUS looks forward to your participation in the World Assembly. Let's Act Together for a Just World!!!



Register now for the CIVICUS World Assembly

The 8th CIVICUS World Assembly will take place from 18-21 June in Glasgow, Scotland. This

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2008 CIVICUS World Assembly
The World Assembly will take place
between 18-21 June 2008, Glasgow,
Scotland. Building on and continuing
the success of past World
Assemblies, the overall theme for
this event is *Acting Together for a
Just World*. This overall theme will
be explored through the focus theme
of *People, Participation and Power*.



year, the World Assembly will focus on the theme of *People, Power and Participation*, looking at how civil society accesses, engages with and participates in all forms and spheres of governance at the local, national and international levels. Register online now to participate! The World Assembly will bring together members of civil society, government, donors, business and media who will explore "Acting together for a just world" through the focus theme of "People, Participation and Power". For additional information on the programme and what to expect, browse through our e-flyer available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#). To register, please [click here](#).

The Drum Beat 440 focus on CIVICUS World Assembly

Published on 28 April 2008

Focusing on the themes of the 2008 CIVICUS World Assembly, The Communication Initiative's current issue of The Drum Beat includes summaries of projects, strategic thinking articles and reports, and resource materials related to civil society, civic education, participatory governance, and accountability. This issue of The Drum Beat published a summary of the World Assembly theme, *People, Power, and Participation*. For more information, [click here](#).

e-CIVICUS DIALOGUES

Food crisis may get worse before it gets better

By Thalif Deen, Inter Press Service (IPS)

The growing food crisis - triggered primarily by rising prices, declining outputs and growing scarcities worldwide - is threatening to impact heavily on the most vulnerable in society: women and children. The United Nations and international humanitarian organisations fear the crisis may get worse before it gets better. "Even temporarily depriving children of the nutrients they need to grow and thrive can leave permanent scars in terms of their physical growth and intellectual potential," warns Andrew Thorne-Lyman, a nutritionist at the Rome-based World Food Programme (WFP). The U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) is particularly concerned with the impact of the current crisis on pregnant women and nursing mothers," says Safiye Cagar, UNFPA's director of information and external relations. For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY NEWS

Campaign for Education breaks world record for the "World's Biggest Lesson"

Source: Global Campaign for Education

More than 7.5 million children, adults, teachers and campaigners took part in the Global Campaign for Education's "World's Biggest Lesson". The world record for the largest simultaneous lesson in history has been broken already and the numbers are still coming in. The World's Biggest Lesson focused on providing quality basic education to everyone especially the 72 million children and 774 million adults who are currently missing out. All over the world politicians and ministers went back to school, and were taught the lesson by children before being asked what they planned to do to make sure everyone gets a quality education. The Global Campaign for Education is still collecting verification forms from around the world, but an early count shows that the World Record has been broken. For more information, [click here](#).



Civil society strategies for free and fair elections in Ukraine

At the recent World Movement for Democracy (WMD) Assembly workshop held in Kyiv, Ukraine, to discuss strategies to promote free and fair elections around the world, election experts and campaigners from various countries shared their experiences and knowledge on the most effective methods to use to ensure transparent elections. Participants and presenters identified some of the challenges faced by civil society groups in ensuring the conduct of free and fair elections.

Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin

The CIVICUS e-newsletter Civil Society Watch Monthly Bulletin is an action-oriented newsletter distributed to over 7,400 people around the world, featuring insightful interviews, updates on threats to civil society, and analyses of current situations. Read more at www.civilsocietywatch.org

CIVICUS blog

What do you think? Have your say on the CIVICUS Blog! CIVICUS seeks to amplify the voices and opinions of ordinary people and give expression to the enormous creative energy within civil society. Our recently launched blog gives you the opportunity to use your voice and engage with the rest of civil society. Have your say by visiting <http://civicus.civiblog.org>



The workshop stressed that civil society organisations must start the process of building broad coalitions and networks of domestic election observers early enough to achieve meaningful results. For more information, [click here](#).

Human Rights Watch press release on Uzbekistan attack

"Uzbekistan's recent grudging steps to improve its dreadful human rights record are a direct result of EU pressure generated by the sanctions," said Holly Cartner, Europe and Central Asia director at Human Rights Watch. "European leaders should use this precious leverage to secure real and lasting improvements for the people of Uzbekistan, rather than reward Tashkent prematurely." A key consideration for EU ministers making policy on Uzbekistan is that the sanctions as a whole will automatically expire in October 2008 unless renewed by consensus – a highly unlikely scenario given the lack of support for the sanctions by some EU member states. For more information, [click here](#).

MISA Statement on World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 2008

Source: Media Institute of Southern Africa Press Statement

The Media Institute of Southern Africa, a regional media and freedom of expression advocacy organisation, based in Windhoek and working through national chapters in 11 Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries, joins the rest of the world in marking World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2008. MISA commemorates May 3 under the theme "Press Freedom, Access to Information and Empowering the People." This theme captures all we expect from our media, and the role our governments should play in promoting media and freedom of expression rights. World Press Freedom Day 2008 comes at a time when respect for the media and freedom of expression rights in Southern Africa are under threat. We mark May 3 under the shadow of a crisis in Zimbabwe and the deterioration of media freedoms throughout the region, most notably in Lesotho, Angola and Swaziland. For more information, [click here](#).



Civic Groups: Evidence on state violence in Zimbabwe

Source: Africa News, www.africanews.com

Civic groups in Zimbabwe have given a document detailing evidence of state-sponsored murder and violence against opposition supporters to Southern Africa's chief elections observer. The document handed to Jose Marcos Barrica, Southern African Development Community (SADC) observer mission head provides evidence of post-election violence, including pictures of opposition supporters who were extensively tortured by the military, political activists and Zanu-PF youth militias. For more information, [click here](#).

WWF: Melting of Arctic ice faster than predicted

By Laura MacInnis

Arctic ice may be melting faster than most climate change science has concluded, the conservation group WWF said in a report published on Thursday, 24 April. It found that ice in Greenland and across the Arctic region was retreating "at rates significantly faster than predicted in previous expert assessments." The Greenland Ice Sheet - with an ice volume of about 2.9 million cubic kilometers - is shrinking fast and "could contribute much more than previously estimated to global sea-level rise during the 21st century," the WWF said. For more information, [click here](#).

Volunteering is a must in civil society

By Asma Hamid, Khaleej Times, United Arab Emirates

The first international symposium on developing a 'culture of volunteering' in universities and schools across the country was held on 29 April. Organised by the Emirates Foundation's volunteer programme Takatof, the symposium, titled 'Learning from the International Volunteer Experience', featured international delegates including senior educational officials and social activists, who stressed that volunteering is a critical aspect of an active civil society. For more information, [click here](#).

Civil society delegation in Saudi Arabia

Source: Arab News

A high-level civil society delegation from India is currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia . The delegation is sponsored by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and is led by its vice-president, Syed Shahid Mahdi. The delegation includes P.K. Abdul Aziz, vice-chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University; Anwar Moazzam, Islamic scholar, academic, writer and director, Urdu Documentation Center, Hyderabad; A.C. Patankar, adviser, Confederation of Indian Industry; Rakhshanda Jalil, co-ordinator, media and culture, Jamia Milia Islamia; and Mita Vasisht, actress. For more information, [click here](#).

ACCOUNTABILITY

Your opportunity to influence a key mechanism for holding companies to account

Source: AccountAbility, www.accountability21.net

AccountAbility is currently revising the AA1000 Assurance Standard which aims to increase the credibility of organisations' sustainability reporting. Only through assurance can companies be held to account for what they report. This process helps highlight omissions and false statements regarding sustainability performance, and often leads to improvements in performance. The standard is being revised through a uniquely collaborative and participatory process: an online wiki platform which has the potential to increase the access and transparency to this and a whole range of other processes that many stakeholders are traditionally excluded from. The wiki process has been supported by a large number of international multi-stakeholder consultations. AccountAbility is now reaching out to stakeholder groups that have not been as well represented, including civil society. For more information, [click here](#).

MCC and Aid Effectiveness: Using Economic Rates of Return to Guide Development Assistance

Source: Center for Global Development

Economic rate of return (ERR) analysis - a form of cost-benefit analysis that estimates the net impact of project investments - is an important tool for strengthening accountability in development assistance. The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) incorporates this methodology as a cornerstone of its due diligence process when it reviews compact proposals from eligible countries. Demonstrating its commitment to transparency, the MCC recently launched a groundbreaking public web feature that explains how economic rate of return analysis is conducted and how its results are used to guide the MCC and its partner countries in their project investment decisions. For more information, [click here](#).

GET INVOLVED!



Join Stop the Hunger Crisis Campaign

Source: World Hunger Crisis

In just three years, the price of staple foods like wheat, corn and rice has almost doubled, and this week, World Bank President Robert Zoellick said that if left unchecked, global food shortages could set the world back seven years in the fight against extreme poverty and global disease. Leaders must take action. The soaring cost of staple foods and the resulting hunger crisis has caused riots from Haiti to Bangladesh, threatens hundreds of thousands of people with starvation and could push one hundred million more people deeper into poverty. Please build on your recent commitment by taking immediate action. To sign the ONE Campaign petition, [click here](#).

Discussion Forum: Paris Declaration for Aid Effectiveness and the role of CSOs

Source: Development Gateway Foundation

"The Paris Declaration was adopted in March 2005 at a High-Level Forum (HLF2) organised by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development (OECD). The PD is presently being adhered to by approximately 25 donor countries, 80 recipient countries and around 25 multilateral institutions. In September 2008 donor countries and recipient countries will meet for a High Level Forum (HLF3) in Accra, Ghana to assess progress on the implementation of the PD, and to agree a new 'agenda for action'. This will be the first opportunity for donor and recipient countries, and civil society organisations, to review the progress on the implementation of the PD. For more information, [click here](#).

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS & GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY

Defend and Protect Poor People's Right to Food

Source: Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)

An urgent structural shift in the global economic food system is needed to stem the effects of the growing food crisis, according to the members of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) alliance who met in Bangkok last week. GCAP Asia members call on their governments and international financial institutions like the IMF, World Bank and Asian Development Bank to immediately monitor prices in a transparent and accountable way, increase food distribution to vulnerable communities, particularly to pregnant women, small children, and sick people and increase public investment in food production and agriculture, ensuring land rights, credit and technical support for small-hold women farmers. For more information, [click here](#).



Analysis: World Food Crisis and the MDGs

By Salil Shetty, Director of the United Nations Millennium Campaign

The dramatic surge in food prices has plunged millions of poor people and many net food importing poor countries into a food crisis. Consequently, it has also put at risk their chances of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Whilst the focus has been on the impact on the MDG 1 of reducing poverty and hunger, given the close inter-connectedness between all the 8 MDGs, the impact on these sections of the poor on health, education and livelihoods more broadly, cannot be underestimated. For more information, [click here](#).

ADB to meet amid food crisis, growing poverty

By Karl Wilson, Agence France-Presse

Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Haruhiko Kuroda warned recently that soaring food prices had pushed back Asia's fight against poverty, and that some countries may one day need foreign aid to feed their hungry. The rises are blamed on higher energy and fertilizer costs, greater global demand, droughts, the loss of rice farmland to biofuel plantations and price speculation. For more information, [click here](#).

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISM AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

Civil Society seminar on International Investment Arbitration

Source: Advocates for International Development

Advocates for International Development (A4ID) is to host a seminar for NGOs entitled "How Civil Society Can Influence International Investment Arbitration". The seminar will give NGOs an introductory understanding of the investment arbitration processes, including how and when they may participate in arbitration proceedings as *amicus curiae* (a "friend of the court"). International investment arbitrations involve disputes between States and foreign investors. The interests of local communities, labour organisations, minority rights groups, or the environment can be seriously affected by the outcome. For more information, [click here](#).

Poor children main victims of climate change

By Jeremy Lovell (Source: Reuters)

Millions of the world's poorest children are among the principal victims of climate change caused by the rich developed world, a United Nations report said on Tuesday, calling for urgent action. The UNICEF report "Our Climate, Our Children, Our Responsibility" measured action on targets set in the U.N. Millennium Development Goals, aimed at halving child poverty by 2015. It found failure on counts from health to survival, education and gender equality. "It is clear that a failure to address climate change is a failure to protect children," said UNICEF UK director David Bull. For more information, [click here](#).

UNCTAD XII Adopts conclusions on the Accra Declaration

Source: UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service

The closure of UNCTAD XII, the 193 Member States of UNCTAD adopted by consensus a short ministerial declaration entitled the Accra Declaration together with a more detailed analysis of the challenges and opportunities of globalisation for development and a new work plan for UNCTAD, known as the Accra Accord. The conference conclusions address pressing economic, trade and development issues as well as setting UNCTAD's four-year work programme. The conclusions highlighted the challenges facing many developing countries in relation to global economic integration and set out a detailed agenda for progress in economic and social development. For more information, [click here](#).

PROFILES



DONOR: Unidea - Uni Credit Foundation

Unidea - UniCredit Foundation, is a private foundation set up by UniCredito Italiano in March 2003 in order to plan and support initiatives in the field of development solidarity and co-operation. Unidea proposes intervening in the social and humanitarian sphere, by operating in the sectors of medical, educational and environmental aid. In particular, the Foundation directs its actions to developing countries and those with economies in a period of transition. The Foundation has the following objectives: to intervene in situations of great imbalance and inequality which arise in an age of rapid globalization; to promote and sustain co-operation and humanitarian aid projects; to carry out analysis and reflection which result in a profound knowledge of the contexts of the work operations; to enhance and spread the culture of no-profit, donation and voluntary work. For additional information, [click here](#).



MEMBER: The National Association of NGOs of Uruguay (Asociación Nacional de ONG de Uruguay, ANONG)

The National Association of NGOs of Uruguay (Asociación Nacional de ONG de Uruguay, ANONG) is a national umbrella organisation that encompasses more than 90 non-governmental organisations across the country. ANONG members work in a diverse range of fields such as poverty eradication, social sciences, communications, consumerism, culture, human rights, education, children, regional integration, youth, environment, women rights, health, housing and volunteerism. Member organisations conduct a vast array of activities, including provision of social services, lobbying and advocacy, research, capacity building and educational actions. ANONG has contributed to building a lasting relationship between civil society organisations and governmental organisations, especially those dealing with social policies at a national or local level. For more information, [click here](#).

BOOKS, REPORTS & RESOURCES

Report: Defending Civil Society

Co-authored by International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) and World Movement for Democracy Secretariat at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

Civil Society is facing serious threats today across the globe. An offensive against the spread of democracy has spread and intensified. This ongoing backlash against democracy has been characterised by a pronounced shift from outright repression of democracy, human rights and civil society activists and groups to more subtle governmental efforts to restrict the space in which civil society organisations (“CSOs”) - especially democracy assistance groups - operate. The report articulates well-defined international principles protecting civil society, already embedded in international law, including norms and conventions that regulate and protect civil society from government intrusion. For more information, [click here](#).

Understanding Japanese NGOs from facts and practices

Source: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

JICA works at the level of ordinary people to help developing countries become self-reliant in pursuing their own socio-economic development. Assistance is not simply a matter of handing over goods and equipment. To foster self-reliance, JICA aims to act as a bridge that links Japan with developing countries, so that the knowledge and experience of all peoples can be shared, and developing countries can strengthen their own problem-solving capability. For more information, [click here](#).

Just Another Emperor?

By Michael Edwards

Business involvement in philanthropy is increasing, but is it a blessing, a curse, or somewhere in between? ‘Just Another Emperor?’ is the first book to take a comprehensive and critical look at this vital new phenomenon. Whatever position people may hold, this will be one of the most important debates of the next ten years. For more information, [click here](#).

Launch of a new information portal on Governance & HIV and AIDS

Source: Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)

This portal provides access to free, full-text electronic publications and other Internet sources on the mechanisms of interaction through which HIV and AIDS policies and strategies are developed, implemented, monitored and evaluated at different levels involving both public and private parties. It is aimed at researchers, policymakers and practitioners who are involved in HIV and AIDS responses and interventions. The portal is an interdepartmental initiative. It is managed and developed by KIT Information and Library Services with support from KIT Development, Policy & Practice. For more information, [click here](#).

INTRAC conference: Whatever Happened to Civil Society?

3-5 December 2008, Amsterdam, Netherlands

INTRAC's international conference will re-examine the concept and role of civil society and focus on its significance in relation to current debates and practice in development, human rights and democracy promotion. The conference will explore concepts and practice: what do we mean by civil society? Contributions are invited of case studies that document the roles, activities and interactions of civil society actors in their work on development, human rights protection and democracy promotion. The deadline for contributions is 25 August. For more information, [click here](#).

ANSA-Africa stakeholder conference

19-20 May 2008, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The conference will examine case studies from places where social accountability has helped to bring stability and growth after times of great vulnerability. Participants from countries such as Zimbabwe, Kenya, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique and Sudan have indicated their

skills like participatory budgeting, participatory expenditure tracking, monitoring & evaluation, citizens' report cards, and communicating social accountability. For more information, [click here](#).

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop

25-27 June 2008, London, UK

The Grant Institute's Grants 101 course is an intensive and detailed introduction to the process, structure, and skill of professional proposal writing. This course is characterised by its ability to act simultaneously as a thorough overview, introduction, and refresher at the same time. In this course, participants will learn the entire proposal writing process and complete the course with a solid understanding of not only the ideal proposal structure, but a holistic understanding of the essential factors, which determine whether or not a programme gets funded. Through the completion of interactive exercises and activities, participants will complement expert lectures by putting proven techniques into practice. This course is designed for both the beginner looking for a thorough introduction and the intermediate looking for a refresher course that will strengthen their grant acquisition skills. For more information, [click here](#).

Policy Writing Skills Development Workshop

14 May 2008, Harare, Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network (ZWRCN) is a local Non-Governmental Organisation that seeks to empower women in Zimbabwe through the provision of information affecting the economic, social and political aspects of their lives, and helps them to make informed decisions in these spheres. ZWRCN is seeking specialists with experience in policy research, public policy analysis, or any other relevant qualification, and experience in the development, use of and evaluation of policy writing, including policy briefs to conduct training for ZWRCN staff in policy writing. For more information, [click here](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS, SUBMISSIONS & NOMINATIONS

Call for nominations: Stakeholder Council

Nomination Deadline: 19 May 2008

The Stakeholder Council (SC) is the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)'s formal stakeholder policy forum, similar to a parliament, that debates and deliberates key strategic and policy issues. The maximum 60-member SC meets annually, and comprises a balance of stakeholder and geographic constituencies. The SC's key governance functions include approving nominations for the Board of Directors, making strategic recommendations to the BoD, such as future policy or business planning activities. They are also the "eyes and ears" of the GRI network in their diverse locations and constituencies. Key supporting functions by individual SC members may include participating in technical working groups convened by the Secretariat for guidelines development, advising or actively helping to build the GRI network in their constituencies or regions. For more information, [click here](#).

APPOINTMENTS

This week 20 new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please [click here](#).

JOB OF THE WEEK

Fundraising and Development Officer

Application Deadline: 15 May 2008

Historic Schools Restoration Project

Location: Cape Town, South Africa

For more information, [click here](#).

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