



**Advancement of Civil Society Participation
in the Community of Democracies**

**Quarterly Programmatic Report
April – June 2005**

Under Leader Award No. GEG-A-00-01-00005-00

Submitted by Pact on behalf of
Partners of the Americas

As indicated in the corresponding quarterly financial report, the total amount expended under this sub-award to date is \$208,051.50. These figures accurately represent amounts reported to Pact for the period ending May 31, 2005.

I. Executive Summary

During this quarter, Partners of the Americas worked with its Chilean counterpart, Corporación Participa, to complete all work pertaining to the preparation and execution of the non-governmental component at the Community of Democracies Ministerial Meeting in April. Specific activities included the publication of “Voices from the Regions: Non-Governmental Proposals for the Community of Democracies”, the organization of a Pre-Ministerial preparatory meeting, and the inclusion of five civil society representatives on each of the Ministerial panels.

In addition, Partners and Participa initiated activities corresponding to the evaluation and systematization of the Non-Governmental Process through an analysis of the extent to which civil society proposals were included in the Santiago Ministerial Declaration and a compilation of reflections from non-governmental delegates at a closing meeting immediately following the Ministerial.

Throughout the quarter, Partners and Participa also undertook various outreach and advocacy activities, such as presenting non-governmental inputs to government officials, participating in Convening Group meetings, widely distributing the collection of civil society inputs, and providing information via e-newsletters and the website.

With approval from USAID and the State Department, Pact has issued a no-cost extension of the project through December 31, 2005, which will allow Partners and Participa to conduct various activities that will strengthen the sustainability of the Non-Governmental Process, including a newspaper insert, a participatory evaluation and second publication, and a workshop in Mali (site of the 2007 Ministerial).

II. Background

The Council for a Community of Democracies was created in 2000 in order to consolidate and expand democracy around the world by implementing programs that strengthen and promote democratic values and practices, advocating for democracy-centered foreign policy, and creating a network of government representatives, democracy advocates, and nongovernmental organizations. This project strengthens the Community of Democracies process through the development of a strong civil society counterpart.

As the Council for a Community of Democracies prepares for its 2005 meeting in Santiago, Chile, a key objective is to strengthen civil society participation within the movement. At previous ministerial meetings, held in Warsaw in 2000 and Seoul in 2002, civil society actors held parallel forums to discuss democracy-related issues and develop proposals for the larger Community of Democracies process.

To increase the effectiveness of civil society participation, an Executive Secretariat was established to coordinate an ongoing global democracy dialogue that provides input into the Community of Democracies process. Corporación Participa of Chile was chosen for the Executive Secretariat role, which involves coordination of worldwide dialogue with social and political actors representing Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, North America, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Partners of the Americas has partnered with Corporación Participa to work toward the following objectives:

- To advocate and lobby governments for the inclusion of civil society concerns and proposals about democracy in the CD process.
- To promote and strengthen regional and global civil society networks working in the Community of Democracies.
- To disseminate information about the Community of Democracies to a broad group of social and political actors at the regional and global levels.

Program activities include six regional workshops and various follow-on meetings to increase civil society awareness of the Community of Democracies, to identify and analyze democratic deficits, and to discuss regional and global proposals for consideration at the Santiago meeting.

Another core element of the program is the creation of a Global Issues Group, composed of the Democracy Coalition Project, the Council for a Community of Democracies, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, the Institute of Multi-Party Democracy, and the Executive Secretariat for the non-governmental Community of Democracies process. The Group will issue recommendations regarding the institutional structure of the Community of Democracies and will develop criteria for civil society participation in the Santiago meeting, including civil society representation at the Ministerial Conference sessions.

Through a recently approved five-month no-cost extension, the project will place an increased focus on sustainability of the non-governmental process.

III. Key Results This Period

During this quarter, Partners of the Americas worked with its Chilean counterpart, Corporación Participa, to complete all work pertaining to the preparation and execution of the non-governmental component at the Community of Democracies Ministerial Meeting in April (Stage Four). Specific activities included the publication of “Voices from the Regions: Non-Governmental Proposals for the Community of Democracies,”¹ the organization of a Pre-Ministerial preparatory meeting, and the inclusion of five civil society representatives on each of the Ministerial panels.

In addition, the Executive Secretariat began activities corresponding to the evaluation and systematization of the non-governmental process (Stage Five) by analyzing the extent to which civil society proposals were included in the Santiago Ministerial Declaration and gathering reflections from non-governmental delegates at a closing meeting immediately following the Ministerial.

Throughout the quarter, Partners and Participa also undertook various outreach and advocacy activities (Stage Three), such as presenting non-governmental inputs to government officials, participating in Convening Group meetings, widely distributing the collection of civil society inputs, and providing information via e-newsletters and the website.

Per Partners’ workplan, the following specific objectives and activities were prioritized in the past quarter:

¹ The publication is available on the website, http://www.santiago2005.org/archivos_pdf/Ing1%E9s4.pdf.

Objective 1:

Promote inclusion of civil society concerns and democracy proposals in the CD process

- Consultation with civil society in response to the production of “Voices from the Regions: Non-Governmental proposals for the Community of Democracies”, a document synthesizing regional and global proposals to address democratic deficiencies;
- Convening Middle East and North Africa non-governmental participants for a final regional workshop;
- Coordination of non-governmental participation in the Ministerial meeting;
- Advocating and lobbying governments through the Convening Group and other meetings to both allow for substantive civil society participation in the Ministerial meeting and include civil society inputs in the Plan of Action;
- Comparison of the 2005 Santiago Ministerial Declaration final text with the non-governmental proposals to determine the extent of non-governmental proposal inclusion

Objective 2:

Strengthen regional and global civil society networks working in the Community of Democracies

- Convening non-governmental delegates for a post-Ministerial closing meeting to assess strengths and weaknesses of the process
- Engage civil society in ongoing dialogue

Objective 3: Raise awareness about the Community of Democracies

- Ongoing distribution of CD-related materials

Together, these activities contributed to strengthening civil society’s role in the promotion of democracy, and specifically, advancement of expanded and enhanced non-governmental participation and influence in the Community of Democracies process. Following the order of activities listed above, the key results and accomplishments are detailed below:

“Voices from the Regions: Non-Governmental proposals for the Community of Democracies”

After the final non-governmental meeting in March, the Executive Secretariat completed production of a document synthesizing regional and global proposals that address democratic deficiencies. The draft version of this document was presented at the final meeting and then refined to incorporate comments made by participants during the final meeting. In this quarter, the Secretariat then initiated an electronic consultation on the final version of the document. The product of that work has been one of the main tools to develop the outreach and advocacy strategy before the Ministerial. In the weeks immediately prior to the Ministerial, the document circulated by e-mail among all our regional partners, was submitted to governments, and posted on the website www.santiago2005.org.

Convening Middle East and North Africa non-governmental participants for a final regional workshop

Recognizing the obstacles encountered in organizing participation from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, the Executive Secretariat organized a third MENA workshop (April 17-18) to discuss preparations for the Ministerial and begin to generate a group consensus on post-Ministerial activities. The critical importance of this region to the CD

process warranted the focusing of extra time to ensure effective and sustainable non-governmental participation in global democracy discussions.

Since most participants would also represent the region at the Ministerial Meeting, the first day of the Meeting was focused on clarifying many of the pending questions and set the basis for future work together. Issues that were addressed included the preparation of a paper to address the ministerial thematic working groups, discussion of follow-up actions, and organization of the May 2-3 Santiago Study tour program on transitions to democracy and human rights.

The second day of the meeting brought together approximately 50 participants to discuss issues focused on:

- International initiatives on democracy, balancing local agendas and foreign agendas
- Financial resource development
- Principles and opportunities for alliances to strengthen international solidarity with the Arab Reform Movement

In general, the participants were quite lively and offered excellent input on these topics. Further, the meeting served as a significant step forward to coordinate work among Arab actors. At the meeting, participants agreed to follow-up discussions throughout the organization of a Santiago Ministerial follow-up meetings in Egypt (September 2005) and Morocco (June 2005). The goal of these meetings is to explain the CD process, results of the Ministerial, and preparations for the transfer of the Executive Secretariat to Mali.

Coordination of non-governmental participation in the Ministerial meeting

Complementing the nearly two years of work in preparation for the Santiago Ministerial and the intensive efforts of the Executive Secretariat in the past half-year, including the post-March final meeting advocacy work, non-governmental delegates convened immediately prior to the Ministerial meeting for a final preparatory meeting. Seventy non-governmental participants from 40 countries gathered to discuss the methodology and logistical information for the Ministerial Meeting. This meeting served to finalize the list of non-governmental participants that would participate in each of the Ministerial panels. Five delegates were invited and chosen to participate in each of the five thematic panels and five regional panels. The non-governmental delegates then worked together to plan their participation, using the non-governmental proposals relevant to their respective panels as a reference. Participants also reviewed the preliminary draft of government commitments in the Santiago Declaration and decided on how best to coordinate their participation in the Ministerial to work towards inclusion of the non-governmental proposals.

In order to further lobby governments and emphasize the most important changes that needed to be made to the draft version of the Ministerial Declaration, participants crafted an “Appeal by the Non-Governmental Delegates to Governments”.² In the Appeal, delegates recognized the importance of this new opportunity to participate in the Ministerial alongside governmental delegates, highlighted the recommendations emanating from the Non-Governmental Process, praised the fact that some of the non-governmental recommendations were already reflected in the draft Santiago Declaration, and encouraged governments to take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen the CD’s institutional arrangements. The Appeal

² The complete appeal can be found in Appendix I.

also highlighted specific recommendations that governments should include in the Declaration such as: an affirmation of the participation criteria outlined in the Seoul Plan of Action, adoption of an independent mechanism to monitor and assess how countries are meeting democratic standards, establishment of a permanent CD secretariat, expansion and rotation of the Convening Group, institutionalization of non-governmental participation, and endorsement of the UN-Secretary General's proposal to reform the UN human rights system. This Appeal was distributed during the Ministerial in each of the meeting rooms as well as during informal spaces such as the coffee and lunch breaks.

On April 28th-30th, the III Ministerial Meeting of the Community of Democracies was held in Santiago, Chile.³ The Meeting was inaugurated with speeches by Chilean President Ricardo Lagos, Chilean Foreign Minister Ignacio Walker, US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, President of the Executive Secretariat of the Non-Governmental Process of the Community of Democracies Genaro Arriagada, and Former President of Mexico and representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations Ernesto Zedillo, among others. Panel discussions, led by a chair, later convened with about 20 government representatives and five non-governmental representatives in attendance for each panel. The five thematic panels included:

- ***Civil Society and Democratic Governance: Participation, accountability, transparency and information.*** This panel was made up of government representatives from Chile, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Gambia, Jamaica, Norway, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Venezuela and the Club of Madrid. The Non-Governmental Process was represented by: Yuri Dzhibladze (Center for the Development of Democracy and Human Rights, Russia), Sama Aweidah (Arab Women Network, Palestine), Miguel Darcy de Oliveira (Civicus/ Comunitas, Brasil), Andrea Sanhueza (PARTICIPA, Chile), and Tandeka Nkiwane (WITS, South Africa). The key question of this panel was: how can civil society promote democratic governance?
- ***Poverty, Development and Governance.*** The roundtable was chaired by the Foreign Minister of Mexico and non-governmental actors included: George Matthew (Institute of Social Sciences, India), Vanesa Weyraych (CIPPEC, Argentina), Djingarey Maïga (Women and Human Rights, Mali), Parris Chang (Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taiwan), and Robert Hunter (Council for the Community of Democracies, USA). The panel concluded that democracy, development and poverty reduction are inextricably linked and mutually reinforcing. Moreover democracy can neither be sustained nor believable in conditions of poverty and underdevelopment. Poverty and underdevelopment pose the biggest threats to democratic governance and a state's failure to deliver society's expectations often leads to tensions and rebellion.
- ***Cooperation for Democratic Governance: Exchange of regional or interregional experiences to strengthen the Rule of Law and political parties.*** The roundtable was chaired by the United States and co-chaired by Portugal. Representatives of the Non-Governmental Process included: Carl Gershman (National Endowment for Democracy, USA), David French (Westminster Foundation, UK), Brian Kagoro (Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, Zimbabwe), Abdel Hussain Shaban (Iraqi Network for Human Rights, Iraq/Lebanon), and Richard Rowson (Council for the Community of Democracies, USA).

³ The list of governmental participants can be found in Annex II and the list of non-governmental participants is in Annex III.

- ***Coalitions, Multi-lateral Fora and Democracy Caucus in the United Nations.*** Rudy Insanally, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guyana, chaired the panel and Danilo Turk, UN Assistant Secretary General, led the moderation. Non-governmental representatives included: Alvaro Pinto Scholtbach (Institute for Multiparty Democracy, The Netherlands), George Soros (Open Society Institute and Soros Networks, USA), Peter Ackerman (Freedom House, USA), Enkhsaikhan Jargalsaikhan (International Civil Society Forum for Democracy, Mongolia), and Georges Fauriol (International Republican Institute, USA). The conversation focused on the role of caucuses including their main activities and the challenges confronted.
- ***Regional Organizations: Responding to threats to democracy and promoting democracy.*** Non-governmental representatives included: Ken Wollack (National Democratic Institute, USA), Morton Halperin (Open Society Institute, USA), Houada Chalak (Civil Society Initiative, Lebanon), Jung Ok Lee (Council of Korean Civil Society Organization, Korea) and Khin Omar (Free Burma, Burma). The central question driving the discussion was: How can organizations and regional mechanisms promote, contribute and consolidate democracy and improve democratic practices?

Following the thematic panels, the Ministerial was then organized into five regional panels:

- ***Asia and Oceania.*** This panel was chaired by the Minister of Ethnic Affairs and Local Governance of New Zealand, Chris Carter, and the rapporteur was the Head of Delegation of Mongolia, Sangajav Bayartsogt. Non-Governmental Process representatives included: Xiao Quiang (World Movement for Democracy, China), Soon Juan Chee (Alliance for Reform and Democracy in Asia, Singapore), Vo Van Ai (Quê Me, Vietnam), Penelope Faulkner (Quê Me, Vietnam), and Khin Omar (Free Burma, Burma). These representatives took the opportunity to draw the panel's attention to countries from the region that do not yet accept the importance of democratic principles and request the Community of Democracies assistance in speaking out collectively on their behalf.
- ***Sub-Saharan Africa.*** This panel was led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Benin, Rogatien Biaou, and Armindo Cipriano Mauricio, Minister of Defense and Parliamentary Affairs of Cape Verde. Non-governmental representatives included: John W. Forje (Africa Institute of South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo), Khabele Matlosa (EISA, South Africa), Kayode Fayemi (Centre for Democracy and Development, Nigeria), Tandeka Nkiwane (WITS, South Africa), and Brian Kagoro (Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, Zimbabwe). Among the variety of issues discussed, the panel concentrated on issues that Africa must face in order to promote democracy, human rights, economic growth, and the struggle against poverty. Also, a large amount of attention was paid to the role of civil society in relation to the continent's deficits and the institutions that should be prioritized for receiving democratic support.
- ***Americas.*** Non-governmental representatives included: Genaro Arriagada (Executive Secretariat, Chile), Francisco de Armas (Cuba), and Gonzalo de la Maza (MÁS VOCES, Chile), and Maureen McTeer (Center for North American Studies, Canada). The panel spent much of its time on the need for strengthening institutional systems such as electoral laws, the system of representation, financing, transparency, access to information, the relationship between policy makers and civil society, and the struggle

against corruption. With respect to the socio-economic system, the panel touched on problems of inequality, exclusion, and poverty.

- ***Middle East and North Africa.*** Non-governmental panelists included: Layla Rajab Zayed (Gulf Centre for Democratic Development, Bahrain), Sama Aweidah (Arab Women Network, Palestine), Mohsen Marzouk (Freedom House and Middle East Center for Democracy Promotion, Tunisia), Yousry Moustafa (Ford Foundation, Egypt), and Carl Gershman (NED, USA).
- ***Europe, Russia, and the New Independent States.*** The panel was led by the Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Boris Tarasyuk, the Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan, Elmar Mammadyarov, and the Secretary of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, Gianni Buquicchio. Non-governmental representatives included: Rana Birden Günes (Civil Society Development Programme, Turkey), Guillermo Adams (Fundación Pablo Iglesias, Spain), Edil Baisalov (Coalition for NGO & Democracy, Kyrgyzstan), Valantsin Stepanovic (The Human Rights Center, Belarus), and Isabel Hilton (Open Democracy, UK).

Commitments and recommendations from each of the thematic and regional panels were presented at the closing meeting of the Ministerial. Non-governmental participants then met to discuss progress in the process, to assess the Ministerial Meeting, and to begin focusing on the next steps.

Advocacy for substantive civil society participation in the Ministerial meeting and civil society inputs in the Plan of Action

Prior to the Ministerial, the Executive Secretariat distributed anywhere from three to 20 copies of “Voices from the Regions” to regional partners and colleagues so that they could publicize the process, its strengths and achievements, and generate increased involvement. In addition, fifteen regional partners from the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe sent the publication to their respective foreign ministries and/or met with government representatives to discuss the dynamics of the Ministerial and exchange points of views. At the Ministerial Meeting, 1000 printed copies of the document, available both in English and Spanish were distributed to all governmental and non-governmental participants as well as Ministerial authorities.

The Executive Secretariat and other non-governmental representatives continued participating in the majority of Convening Group meetings. In April, representatives from the Executive Secretariat for the Non-Governmental Process met with the Convening Group at the Chilean Embassy in Washington, DC, to discuss the content of the Ministerial Final Declaration. Along with the non-governmental representatives, the meeting also was attended by representatives from the ten members of the Convening Group (Chile, Mexico, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Poland, South Korea, India, Mali, South Africa, and the United States). The Executive Secretary shared the final non-governmental document with government officials and highlighted some of the proposals contained in the document.

At this meeting, non-governmental actors also expressed concern about the Santiago Ministerial invitation process explaining that many participants were concerned that the invitation process had not followed the criteria set out in the Seoul Declaration. A non-governmental statement of disappointment was also distributed expressing regret that the

governments of Russia, Bahrain, Fiji, and Venezuela were invited as full participants to the Ministerial.

Along with meeting with the Convening Group, the Executive Secretariat has maintained fluent contact with the Chilean Chancellery and, in particular, with the Community of Democracies Governmental Secretariat. At these meetings, agreement was reached on format and coordination for the Ministerial Meeting. This excellent communication with the Chilean Government was a key part of the organizational success of the Ministerial Conference.

Comparison of the 2005 Santiago Ministerial Declaration final text with the non-governmental proposals to determine the extent of non-governmental proposal inclusion

In general, out of the overall statements and 68 global and region-specific commitments made at the Ministerial there were 37 references that somewhat coincided with non-governmental proposals. Annex IV contains a comprehensive document that compares the non-governmental proposals with the Ministerial Commitments section by section. This document, along with other instruments, will be crucial in the analysis of the non-governmental process.

Convening non-governmental delegates for a post-Ministerial closing meeting to assess strengths and weaknesses of the process

Upon conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting, non-governmental delegates met for a closing meeting, to assess non-governmental participation in the Ministerial Meeting. During this meeting, it quickly became clear that there were three separate issues to be evaluated: the 2003-2005 non-governmental process, the Ministerial Meeting, and the Santiago Declaration. Overall, participants agreed that although some aspects of the Ministerial Meeting and the Santiago Declaration were disappointingly short of delegates' expectations, the non-governmental process itself had made important advances and represented significant progression.

It was agreed in the closing meeting that despite the many achievements of the non-governmental process, improvements to the CD process are possible and a careful analysis of the process should be undertaken. Participants noted the enormous difference in actions between Warsaw and Seoul, which were treated as individual meetings with little coordinated follow-up, and the two-year long process between Seoul and Santiago. Further, delegates praised the Executive Secretariat and other key organizations for implementing a region-based, global participatory non-governmental strategy and for coordinating a world-wide effort to involve different stakeholders in preparing concrete proposals for the Santiago Ministerial.

There was consensus among participants that the non-governmental strategy opened the door for non-governmental actors to participate directly in joint panels with government representatives. Beyond such overt results, the non-governmental influence in the Ministerial process was also reflected by the Ministerial first-time division into thematic and regional issue panels, a reflection of the non-governmental agenda. Adding to the richness of the Ministerial, participants believed that the conversations among governmental and non-governmental delegates resulted in real dialogue on serious and sometimes controversial issues, going beyond the planned speeches that had undermined previous Ministerial Meetings.

On a different note, participants also expressed frustration with the slow pace of change in other aspects of the governmental process. Disappointment revolved around the fact that despite pressure from non-governmental actors the invitation criteria established in Seoul was not rigorously applied in deciding which countries should be invited as full members to Santiago. Additionally, there was a common sentiment that the Santiago Declaration did not include many of the proposals emanating from the non-governmental process and that the final text lacked specificity. One participant explained the disappointment of the Declaration after the achievement of having an integrated meeting as feeling as: “We were heard for the first time, but we still weren’t listened to.” In all, while the results of the Ministerial Meeting did not reach expectations, participants were in strong agreement about the overall success of the non-governmental process and its crucial role in the Community of Democracies.

Engaging civil society in ongoing dialogue

During the Non-Governmental Closing Meeting a number of suggestions emerged about how best to organize the follow-up to the Santiago Ministerial Meeting and how to prepare for the next Ministerial Meeting in Mali in 2007. One suggestion was to broaden the discussions on the major issues facing the non-governmental process by forming an e-group to continue addressing the central topics including:

- Institutionalization of a Steering Committee to help guide the Non-Governmental Process in the future;
- Future functions of the Global Issues group; and
- Further analysis of the Santiago Declaration in comparison with the non-governmental proposals contained in “Voices from the Regions”

Ongoing distribution of CD-related materials

Newsletter & Website: In the past quarter, five weekly newsletters were sent containing information about the process and national, regional and global activities. The website www.santiago2005.org is permanently.

IV. Comparison of Planned and Actual Accomplishments

All activities are being implemented in accordance with the project timeline, as follows:

Activities Planned for This Quarter	Timeline	Status
Definition and implementation of a strategy to raise government awareness about the importance of including civil society recommendations	October-May	Completed
Advocating and lobbying governments to both allow for substantive civil society participation in the Ministerial meeting and include civil society inputs in the Plan of Action	October-May	Completed
Coordination of non-governmental participation in the Ministerial meeting	December-June	Completed
Publication and follow-up to recommendations that strengthen the institutional structure of the CD process	October-May	Delayed (see below)

Engage civil society in ongoing dialogue	October-July	Underway
Ongoing distribution of CD-related materials	October-July	Underway
Ongoing capacity building and technical assistance	October-July	Underway

V. Activities Planned for Next Quarter

This project was originally scheduled to end in July 2005. However, as the Non-Governmental Process has developed, new possibilities for strengthening its sustainability and effectiveness have emerged, and cost savings and cost sharing have made these activities financially feasible. Pact has therefore extended its award to Partners through December 31, 2005.

The following new activities will take place during the next two quarters:

Newspaper Insert. Partners and Participa will produce a four-page color newspaper insert to be published in Chile's largest newspaper. This insert will draw attention to the Community of Democracies Third Ministerial Meeting and the historic participation of the Non-Governmental Process in the Meeting. This is an important outreach tool as it will generate interest in the Community of Democracies and further legitimize the CD process by chronicling the way that non-governmental actors were allowed to participate. This insert will be translated into English and sent to regional coordinators for distribution and awareness raising in their respective regions and countries. This activity is planned for completion during the July-September quarter.

Analysis and Participatory Evaluation of the Non-Governmental Process. The initial budget approved for this project included funds for a second publication that would serve as a guide to the Non-Governmental Process and provide a detailed explanation of the activities carried out by the Executive Secretariat. This second publication will not only be a useful tool for non-governmental actors seeking to understand how civil society can become involved in governmental processes, but it will also be a crucial manual for the next host of the Secretariat of the Non-Governmental Process, in Mali. The second publication will include an analysis and a participatory evaluation of the Non-Governmental Process.

This participatory evaluation of the Non-Governmental process will take place over the course of six months and with the following objectives:

- Evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Non-Governmental strategy;
- Assessment of governmental awareness of the non-governmental process;
- Generation of feedback from governments regarding the quality of the final proposals presented for their consideration in the Santiago Declaration; and
- Collection of proposals from both social and political actors involved in the process as well as from governments on how to make the Non-Governmental Process sustainable.

This evaluation process will have three basic stages of implementation. The first stage will take place over a month and a half and will be centered on designing two questionnaires, one for non-governmental actors and one for government representatives. During this time, the Executive Secretariat will contract an expert in participatory evaluation methodology to help during the formulation of both questionnaires. Partners will also draw on its breadth of

experience in conducting participatory evaluations when providing input into the questionnaires. The Executive Secretariat will develop a database of questionnaire recipients so that their responses can be systematized and easily analyzed.

During the second stage of the evaluation process, the questionnaires are distributed and responses are collected. In order to have an evaluation that accurately reflects the views of participants in every region, regional coordinators will be responsible for disseminating questionnaires and then gathering the responses from at least ten different non-governmental actors and three governmental representatives. These regional coordinators will be the same regional leaders that have been involved in the non-governmental process to date.

During the third stage of the evaluation process, which will take place over a month and a half, completed questionnaires will be compiled and a draft report will be prepared that analyzes the responses of both non-governmental and governmental actors. This report will be circulated among all respondents for feedback before final editing and revision.

The evaluation and analysis of the Non-Governmental process will then be added to the second publication, creating a document of approximately 40 pages. Given the importance of this publication to the sustainability of the Non-Governmental Process, it will be translated into both French and Spanish so that civil society colleagues in multiple countries and regions, including Mali, can take advantage of this invaluable resource. This document will be produced as both a CD (500 copies) and in print (1000 copies). PARTICIPA will be responsible for its distribution to the main actors that have been involved in the process, both governmental and non-governmental.

During the July-September quarter, Partners and Participa will complete CSO questionnaire design, government questionnaire design, establishment of contract terms with the eight regional coordinators, and questionnaire distribution. The outline and design of the second publication will also be completed, and the writing process will begin.

Workshop in Mali to transfer the Executive Secretariat. Given that the government of Mali will be the next chair country of the Convening Group, it is important that the civil society organization in Mali that will take over the Secretariat be able to build upon and continue the Non-Governmental Process that began in 2003. This organization participated in the Final Meeting in Santiago and expressed active interest in working closely with the current Secretariat to take advantage of the lessons learned and the tools that have been developed over the past two years. In order to facilitate this coordinated work, a three-day workshop will be held in Mali to explain the national, regional, and global levels of the Secretariat's work. This workshop will convene a diverse group of stakeholders in Mali and will be coordinated by three representatives from the Executive Secretariat. They will present the achievements of the Process thus far, major challenges that lie ahead before the Ministerial Meeting in Mali, and next steps for the Mali Secretariat. Representatives will also work with the organizations from Mali to share the system of fundraising, outreach, and advocacy that the current Executive Secretariat has put in place.

During the July-September quarter, Partners and Participa will begin to identify and invite CSO and international participants and to prepare the meeting agenda.

Overall, during the next quarter, priority will be given to the newspaper insert, participatory evaluation and second publication, and the workshop in Mali. The Executive Secretariat will

also launch the e-group and host three two-week discussions on the International Steering Committee, the Santiago Declaration, and the Global Issues Group.

VI. Success Stories/Lessons Learned

Non-governmental actors were able to participate in the first Ministerial Conference due to the continuous efforts of the Executive Secretariat in coordination with other valuable partners. All participants recognized this as a key achievement of the Non-Governmental Process. Among other factors, this success can be attributed to a fluid and trustworthy relationship that Partners and Participa built with the Official Commission of the Government of Chile.

At the same time, limits were clearly visible with regard to the extent of influence over the language of the Final Declaration. Future advocacy activities will need to learn from this process and recognize the limitations of such work. The second publication will aim to identify some relevant lessons and guidelines for this purpose.