INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY
COUNCIL ON

**Annual Review
2006-2007**

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

This year marks the International Council's tenth anniversary. Conceived in 1993, the Council was born in Cairo, where the inaugural meeting of Council Members took place in September 1997. Its permanent office was opened in Versoix, Geneva, in April the following year.

Independent of governments and intergovernmental organisations as well as voluntary and private sector organisations, the Council works closely with all such bodies in the pursuit of its research objectives.

The Council is governed by its Executive Board, which is responsible for overall direction of the Council's programme, finances and organisation. All decisions to start research are taken by the Board. The Board appoints the International Council, which may have up to 30 Members and includes Board Members. Council Members meet annually to identify and discuss emerging international human rights issues and recommend themes for research to the Board.

The Council's Secretariat, based in Geneva, designs and manages the Council's projects and ensures that research findings are brought to the attention of relevant authorities and those who have a direct interest in the policy areas concerned.

The Council is registered as a not-for-profit foundation under Swiss law. The Council is recognised as an NGO with Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Mission Statement

The International Council on Human Rights Policy will provide a forum for applied research, reflection and forward thinking on matters of international human rights policy. In a complex world in which interests and priorities compete across the globe, the Council will identify issues that impede efforts to protect and promote human rights and propose approaches and strategies that will advance that purpose.

The Council will stimulate co-operation and exchange across the non-governmental, governmental and intergovernmental sectors, and strive to mediate between competing perspectives. It will bring together human rights practitioners, scholars and policy-makers, along with those from related disciplines and fields whose knowledge and analysis can inform discussion of human rights policy.

It will produce research reports and briefing papers with policy recommendations. These will be brought to the attention of policy-makers, within international and regional organisations, in governments and intergovernmental agencies and in voluntary organisations of all kinds.

In all its efforts, the Council will be global in perspective, inclusive and participatory in agenda-setting and collaborative in method.

CONTENTS

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

This year marks the International Council's tenth anniversary. Conceived in 1993, the Council was born in Cairo, where the inaugural meeting of Council members took place in September 1997. Its permanent office was opened in Versoix, Geneva, in April the following year.

Looking back, much has been achieved in this time. Looking forward, there is much still to do. The Council has published twenty reports since *Taking Duties Seriously*, the first, appeared in 1999. As a whole, this work is striking for its continued relevance and diversity – the reports range from the negotiation of peace agreements via local government to universal jurisdiction – and for its consistency of style. It now has a certain mass, and covers enough territory to be more than the sum of its parts. Recognising this, in 2007 the Council produced a CD-ROM that contains all its published reports, including translations. Later in the year, it will open a new web site that has been designed specifically to enable users to search the Council's research thematically, including the more than 150 papers that have been commissioned since 1999.

Much more can be done to disseminate and make fuller use of this work, nevertheless. In coming years, the Council will need to develop new products and activities, publish in more languages, use new techniques of communication more effectively, and learn how to adapt its research findings for specific applications in association with other organisations. This is a large agenda, and we are therefore delighted to report the appointment in 2007 of a new Communications Co-ordinator, Mariette Grange, who will develop and help implement a strategy for the Council in these areas.

One of the Council's early achievements was to quickly establish an attractive and recognisable style and identity. Its work is widely perceived by those who use it to be well-finished, focused, accessible but not over-simple, and open-minded. This has contributed to the organisation's impact in its first decade. The Council's non-technical style has made it easier for professionals in other disciplines to engage with the human rights issues that Council reports discuss, while its open and consultative methodology has enabled Council reports to "refresh" certain debates. At its best, the Council's style has created new ways of talking about human rights that are more inclusive but not less rigorous.

Style is tied to methodology. When it began, the Council undertook to hear and reflect the perspectives of different audiences and disciplines, and different regions and societies. This required use of plain and accessible

language. It also led to the adoption of a consultative methodology that in turn causes Council reports to be dispassionate in their tone and measured in the positions they take.

The approach has costs. The issues that Council reports discuss generate strong opinions, and some readers find the Council's publications too disengaged. In addition, because the Council's research is global and does not focus on country situations, it does not generate findings that are specific enough to influence individual institutions or governments. To have direct effect, its work must be put in context. This makes it harder to assess the relevance and impact of its research; and confirms that the Council must learn to hand its findings on to operational and advocacy organisations that can put its research to work.

Nevertheless, several Council reports have influenced the course of discussion or helped to renew debate. *Performance & Legitimacy – National Human Rights Institutions* shifted the way many NHRIs thought about themselves because it focused on what they do rather than on their legal form. *Ends & Means – Human Rights Approaches to Armed Groups* made possible a more pragmatic discussion of the options facing human rights groups that work in countries where armed groups are active. The insights of national actors reported in *Local Perspectives – Foreign Aid to the Justice Sector* helped cause some funding organisations to reconsider their approach. Partly because of its content and partly because of its timing, *Beyond Voluntarism – Human Rights and the Developing International Legal Obligations of Companies* helped trigger what might even be called a paradigm shift in discussions of business responsibility. Some of the Council's best work has compressed complex issues into short reports; these too have had some influence. *Local Rule – Decentralisation and Human Rights* drew attention to the links between human rights and local government; *The Persistence and Mutation of Racism* was widely distributed in the run-up to the UN World Conference on Racism; *Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions* (co-published with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights) provided elements of a practical and flexible approach to self-assessment.

There have been setbacks too, of course. The Council has had considerable difficulty completing a report on accountability (renamed *Rights and Responsibilities of Human Rights Organisations*) and its report on poverty-reduction programmes has faced serious delay; the deadlines of some projects have slipped. This said, the Council's increased financial stability means that it can now put additional resources into the research programme when required, and this may help it to manage the difficult transition periods created by staff changes, notably the movement of Research Directors.

In the final analysis, the Council has been created by the many people who have contributed to its work. The staff are of course crucial: their vision and professionalism and commitment determine whether the Council's work is excellent or not. But the contribution of the Council's project advisers should also be stressed; they give their wisdom as well as time to Council projects without remuneration. The Council's many consultants and researchers have been no less generous. Though fees have begun to rise as the Council has become more secure financially, much of the Council's best research has been done for love rather than money: the commitment of researchers to the Council's ethos, and their willingness to work co-operatively without individual recognition, have energised and justified the Council's methodology and spirit. The same may be said for the numerous experts and activists who have commented on the Council's draft reports. The advice received has always improved them and on several occasions has triggered a complete rewrite of the text.

Finally, of course, the Council is the creation of Council Members and the Board. Many Members have enriched and inspired the organisation. Two in particular should be recognised, however. One is Hina Jilani, who joined the first Board and returned in 2006 to take over the Chair: her judgement, commitment and deep experience have contributed enormously to the Council's sound development. The other is Thomas Hammarberg, the Council's original Chair, whose thoughtful, attentive and deeply engaged spirit infuses so much of what we try to achieve.

True, the International Council is still setting out. Yet the many people who have contributed to its first years have already created a culture and a body of work that open the way for others to realise its considerable potential.

Robert Archer
May 2007

THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME IN 2006-2007

PROJECTS PUBLISHED

Human Rights Standards: Learning from Experience (120B)
Published in co-operation with the International Service for Human Rights and the International Commission of Jurists.

The Council was pleased to publish this report in September 2006 in association with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR), both of which are directly involved in standard-setting and the promotion of standard-setting activities in Geneva. The report was based on a meeting of experts that the Council convened in 2005. In October 2006 the Council convened a second meeting of experts to discuss how standard-setting might evolve in the future. Most of the participants were from Geneva-based institutions, but the Council also invited several organisations from other regions, recognising the importance of widening participation in standard-setting activities, if these are to remain legitimate.

The President of the UN Human Rights Council, Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba, spoke at a launch event co-organised by the three organisations and attended by many diplomatic missions and NGOs. Secondary launch events included a presentation on October 12 at the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, during an NGO forum organised by the International Centre on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CIDESC); a presentation on November 12 at the Sixth International Colloquium *Strengthening Human Rights in the South*, organised by Conectas-Sur, which brings together academics and activists from Latin America, Africa and Asia; and a presentation on 27 November in Uruguay to the regional meeting of the Inter-American Platform of Human Rights and Democracy (PIDHDD) with the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

Human Rights Standards describes and draws lessons from many of the standard-setting processes that have taken place in recent years. Given the variety of these experiences, no one approach or list of criteria will provide a sound guide to organisations that seek to develop standards in the future. The report therefore suggests options that should be considered – with respect to a standard's form, the actors involved in developing it, political strategies for securing its adoption, implementation etc.

Research director:	Jean-Nicolas Beuze (to April 2006); Magdalena Sepúlveda (from May 2006).
Start:	September 2004.
Papers commissioned:	November 2004.
Expert meeting:	February 2005.

Draft report:	November 2005.
Consultation:	November-December 2005.
Title:	*Human Rights Standards: Learning from Experience.* In English and Spanish. Portuguese summary.
Publication:	September 2006.
Research team:	Writers: Jean-Nicolas Beuze, Magdalena Sepúlveda. Additional contribution: Cordula Droege. Papers: Rachel Brett, Optional Protocol on child-soldiers to CRC; Julian Burger, Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; Param Coomeraswamy, Bangalore Pinciples on Judicial Conduct; Mariette Grange, Convention on the Rights of All Migrants; Caroline Lambert, Optional Protocol to ICESCR; Anuradha Mohit, Disability Convention; Betty Murungi, International Criminal Court; Grainne O'Hara, standard-setting processes of UNHCR; Martin Scheinin, Minimum Standards of Humanity; Maria Stavropoulou, Guiding Principles on IDPs; Lee Swepston, ILO standard-setting mechanisms; Wilder Tayler, OAS standard-setting experience; Mark Thomson, Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture; Theo van Boven, Right to Remedy and Reparations; Kirsten Young, Landmines campaign.
Advisers:	Hina Jilani, Nigel Rodley, Ulrika Sundberg, Bacre Waly N'Diaye.

Negotiating Justice? Human Rights and Peace Agreements (128)

This report was published in March 2006 and formally launched on April 5th during a one-day seminar organised by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the occasion of the State visit of HM King Harald V of Norway.

Following publication, various other follow-up activities were organised. A secondary launch took place in Belfast in June 2006. In November 2006, the Council's Executive Director presented the report at meetings in Manila and Davao (Mindanao), organised by the South-South Network (SSN), based in the Philippines. These meetings were well attended by representatives of government and the military, official mediators, church organisations, political parties, parliamentarians, academic experts and opposition movements. In December, Susan McCrory presented the report in London to staff of the Foreign Office's Human Rights and Research Departments, and the FCO/Defence Ministry's Global Conflict Prevention Pool. Later that month she presented the report to desk officers for human rights and development spending at the European Commission in Brussels; to staff of the office of EU HR Javier Solana's Personal Representative for Human Rights Michael Matthiessen, and with staff of the International Centre for Transitional Justice office in Brussels and the International Crisis Group. In March 2007 Christine Bell presented

the report at a seminar held at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Lund, Sweden, and at a meeting at the LSE co-organised by the LSE Centre for Human Rights, the Transitional Justice Institute of the University of Ulster and the International Council.

The report examines the dilemmas and trade-offs that negotiators and peace mediators face when they consider human rights and, based on country studies (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mozambique, Northern Ireland and Sierra Leone), suggests how such difficulties can be managed and sometimes resolved. It argues that human rights can make a practical and positive contribution to many areas of conflict resolution, during the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements. It then examines in more detail the rights of forcibly displaced persons in relation to their return home and access to property; and the tensions arising from the requirements of international law regarding accountability and efforts to end impunity, that are particularly sensitive in the context of societies in transition. Finally, the report briefly addresses some of the challenges faced when agreements are implemented. Chapters end with detailed recommendations and a list of questions that those involved in peace negotiations might use to assist them in addressing the issues.

Follow-up will continue during 2007, based on co-operation with organisations active in the field.

Research director:	Jean-Nicolas Beuze.
Start:	October 2004.
Papers commissioned:	October-November 2004.
Review meeting:	March 2005.
Draft report:	July 2005.
Consultation:	August-September 2005.
Title:	*Negotiating Justice? Human Rights and Peace Agreements.* In English. Summary in French, English and Spanish.
Publication:	March 2006.
Research team:	Lead researcher: Christine Bell. Country reports: Jasna Baksic Muftic (Bosnia-Herzegovina); Fabienne Hara (Burundi); Adrian Edwards (Cambodia); Ingrid Kircher and Martha Doggett (El Salvador); Marcie Mersky (Guatemala); Andrea Bartoli and Rati Jebashvili (Mozambique); Fionnuala Ni Aolain (Northern Ireland); Michael O'Flaherty (Sierra Leone). Thematic reports: Bill O'Neil (reform of the judiciary); Catherine Phuong (forcible displacement); Michelle Parlevliet (national human rights institutions); Naomi Roht-Arriaza (transitional justice).
Advisers:	Suliman Baldo, Maggie Beirne, Frank LaRue, Ian Martin, Francesc Vendrell.

"These Years" – tenth anniversary report (133)

This short report was drafted towards the end of 2006. A preliminary text was published in May 2007 on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary Council meeting in Bangkok in May 2007. A final version, making reference to the discussions in Bangkok, will be published later in the year.

The document provided a platform for the Bangkok meeting, at which Council Members and guests discussed the Council's first ten years of existence and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in human rights work. At the same time, it was a stand-alone report that summarised some of the major recent trends that human rights have influenced and been influenced by.

The report includes an introduction by Thomas Hammarberg, the Council's first Chair and now Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe, and a reflection by Juan Méndez, President of the International Centre for Transitional Justice and former United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide.

A final chapter will be added before publication that will discuss future directions of human rights work and will reflect discussions in Bangkok.

Co-ordination:	Robert Archer.
Start:	November 2006.
Draft report:	May 2007.
Publication:	Fourth quarter 2007.
Working title:	*These Years – Human Rights*.
Research team:	Introduction by Thomas Hammarberg. Reflection by Juan Méndez. Additional writing: Robert Archer.
Advisers:	Hina Jilani, Lydia Alpizar, Charlotte Bunch, Stefanie Grant, Imrana Jalal, Dimitrina Petrova, Marco Sassoli, Chaiwat Satha-Anand, Wilder Tayler.

Rights and responsibilities of human rights organisations (119)
(Former title: Issues of accountability for human rights NGOs.)

This is one of two projects that the Council has found difficult to complete. It was first approved for development by the Board in 2002, and an initial report by Michael Dottridge was circulated for review in 2002-03. The response from human rights organisations that were consulted was mixed. Some respondents considered the subject itself should be avoided, because it offered governments an opportunity to question the legitimacy of independent human rights monitoring. Others were critical of the tone,

and identified several areas where the text was incomplete in its coverage. After further consultation in 2003-04 and the appointment of a new team of advisers, the Secretariat produced a revised draft in 2005, written by Monette Zard with assistance from Patricia Armstrong. It paid particular attention to tone and to the variety of human rights organisations, and filled in the gaps in coverage that had been identified earlier. This draft was reviewed twice by the Board during 2006, in March and in May. The Board recommended that the project should be re-titled (as above) and asked for further editing to shorten and improve the argument. While Board Members reflected some of the reserve about publishing on this subject at all, they recognised that the core issue – the duty of human rights organisations to act responsibly – is important, is on the public agenda and should be addressed. When prepared, the new draft will be discussed at a meeting of experienced human rights advocates before it is circulated more widely.

The Council remains committed to preparing and eventually publishing a report on "the responsibilities and rights of human rights organisations". Nevertheless, the departure of Monette Zard in December 2006 means a further delay. The work required will be done as soon as timetabling allows, without causing delays to new work. The completion of other current projects will also take precedence over completion of this one.

Research director:	David Petrasek to end 2002; Robert Archer (interim to September 2003); Monette Zard to November 2006; Robert Archer (interim from end 2006).
Start:	August 2002.
Papers written:	September-November 2002.
Draft report:	April 2003; third revised draft September 2005.
Review meeting:	December 2002; first quarter 2006.
Consultation:	April-September 2003; February-December 2004; November 2005-June 2006; Board consultation March-May 2006.
Working title:	*Rights and Responsibilities of Human Rights Organisations* (retitled 2006).
Publication:	In English. Summary in French, Spanish and English To be reconfirmed.
Research team:	Original researcher: Michael Dottridge. Background paper: Hugo Slim. Additional writing: Monette Zard, Patricia Armstrong, Robert Archer.
Advisers:	Fateh Azzam, Ibrahim Kane, Regan Ralph, Wilder Tayler.

Migration and human smuggling (122)

Work on this project continued through 2006. A initial version of the report was delivered in October 2005. After review, the advisers decided in early 2006 that it needed extensive additional writing. This was undertaken

by Monette Zard, the Research Director responsible for the project, with support from Jacqueline Bhabha, who led the legal research. The redraft was delivered in November 2006 and reviewed at a meeting of the project's advisers in March 2007. After editing, it will be circulated for review and then prepared for publication in the fourth quarter of 2007.

The project analyses the foundations of international policies on irregular migration, and more specifically human smuggling, and constructs the case for integrating human rights principles more explicitly in those policies. In recent years two international treaties have come into force with profound implications for the rights of those who are smuggled: the UN Convention to Protect the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families (1990), and the UN Convention to Combat Transnational Organised Crime (2000), to which Protocols on Trafficking and Smuggling are attached. Motivated primarily by the imperatives of law enforcement, the Crime Convention and its two Migration Protocols nevertheless contain certain protections for migrants, though fewer for those who are "smuggled" than for those who are "trafficked" because the former are considered to have "consented" in an illegal enterprise. The Council's project will examine the new international legal framework to deal with people-smuggling, taking account of existing international human rights and labour standards, with the aim of developing a policy approach that will properly integrate human rights alongside other relevant considerations such as law enforcement.

At the heart of the report is a legal analysis by Jacqueline Bhabha that explores the principles underlying international policies on migration and smuggling. It links three strands of thinking that have consistently influenced policy in this area: policies driven by law enforcement and protection of sovereign frontiers; policies driven by economic interest, which see benefits in controlled immigration of labour; and policies driven by protection, designed to prevent exploitation and abuse of vulnerable people. Additional legal research was undertaken by Rosalind Dixon in late 2005 to elucidate references to human rights in the UN Convention to Combat Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols on Trafficking and Smuggling. The legal analysis is supported by country reports on Albania, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico and Britain, which describe the legal environment and different experiences of smuggled migrants in each country.

Following the departure of Monette Zard to the Ford Foundation in late 2006, the Council appointed Cecilia Jimenez to take this project forward. A human rights lawyer with expertise in the area of migration, Cecilia will act as an interim Research Director for this project until October 2007, by which time we hope the draft report can be made ready for publication. Follow-up will continue into the third quarter of 2008.

Research director:	Monette Zard (to November 2006); Cecilia Jimenez (from December 2006).
Start:	July 2004.
Papers commissioned:	January 2005 (legal analysis); January-March 2005 (country studies).
Review meeting:	July 2005.
Draft report:	October 2005. Redrafted: October 2006.
Consultation:	December 2006-February 2007 (reset).
Working title:	*Smuggled People, Migration and Human Rights*. In English. Summary in French, Spanish and English.
Publication:	September 2007 (reset).
Research team:	Lead researchers: Jacqueline Bhabha (legal analysis); Philip Rudge (writer). Additional writing: Monette Zard. Country research: Ilir Gedeshi (Albania); Paola Monzini (Italy); Ariana Renteria Torres and Cesar Nunez (Mexico); Anni Santhiago (Malaysia); Sue Conlan (Britain).
Advisers:	Chaloka Beyani, Stefanie Grant, Walter Kälin, Juan Méndez, Jyoti Sanghera.

"Terrorism" and political violence (129)

This project builds on a workshop that took place on the occasion of the eighth meeting of the International Council, held in Lahore in May 2005. An initial draft submitted in late 2005 discussed the challenges that "terrorism" and recent counter-terrorism policies present for human rights work and how human rights organisations are responding to them. After consideration, it was agreed that further writing and research were needed, which the Secretariat undertook between the end of 2005 and September 2006.

The revised draft was reviewed by the Board in early October 2006, and subsequently discussed at a meeting of human rights experts and activists that the Council convened in February 2007. After further editing it will be circulated for wider comment, before it is published in early 2008.

The report sets out in accessible language the legal issues that surround terrorist acts and the notion of terrorism, and goes on to discuss how human rights organisations might develop their positions on this issue when they address governments, the public, and those who sympathise with the use of political violence. Human rights organisations have developed sophisticated ways to monitor and assess violations of human rights by states. For historical reasons and because of the nature of human rights law, however, their analysis of violations by non-state actors has evolved less rapidly. As a result, political authorities often perceive their response to political violence and "terrorism" to be inadequate. Moreover, among the general public there is often a perception that human rights advocates

are overly concerned with criticising abuses committed by states during counter-terrorism actions but lack a coherent position on their right to be safe from "terrorist" violence.

The report will not recommend a new approach to advocacy with respect to political violence. It will offer additional arguments that organisations may want to use, while emphasising the vital importance of upholding traditional human rights principles.

This project complements two earlier reports by the Council. One, *Human Rights After September 11* (2002), discussed the impact on human rights work of the suicide attacks in September 2001 and the changes to security policy that followed. The other, *Ends & Means* (2001), advanced a framework for dealing with the problem of how human rights organisations can influence armed groups. The latter report, out of print since 2005, was reprinted in 2006.

Following the departure of Monette Zard to the Ford Foundation in late 2006, the Council appointed Richard Carver to take this project forward. Richard Carver has worked on different violent conflicts for several human rights organisations. He will act as the interim Research Director for this project until November 2007, by which time we hope the draft report can be made ready for publication. Follow-up will continue into the third quarter of 2008.

Research director:	Monette Zard (to November 2006); Richard Carver (from November 2006).
Start:	October 2004.
Papers commissioned:	November-April 2004.
Review meeting:	20-21 May 2005 (8th Council meeting).
Draft report:	September 2005. Redraft: September 2006.
Consultation:	December-February 2006.
Working title:	*"Terrorism" and Political Violence*.
	In English. Summary in Spanish, French and English.
Publication:	May-July 2007 (reset).
Research team:	Rapporteur: Patricia Gossman. Papers: Neil Hicks (state policies); Sidney Jones (Indonesia); Martin Scheinin (legal issues); Wilder Tayler (responses of human rights organisations). Additional writing: Monette Zard, Robert Archer.
Advisers:	Lydia Alpizar, Charlotte Bunch, Stefanie Grant, Imrana Jalal, Hina Jilani, Dimitrina Petrova, Chaiwat Satha-Anand, Marco Sassoli, Wilder Tayler.

Administrative detention (126)

Initial work on the design of this project was undertaken by Susan McCrory between August and December 2006. She reviewed research on the issue, and consulted a range of organisations that have expertise in this area. Those consulted included staff of the World Health Organisation (and some regional offices); the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees; the ICRC; the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch; the NGO Coalition on Refugees; the Association for the Prevention of Torture; and the Secretary and members of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

The consultation revealed that, while specific instances of administrative detention (of political suspects, asylum claimants, the mentally ill etc.) have been studied, rather little research has compared grounds for detention, conditions of treatment, or legal safeguards, across the various categories of administrative detainees. The Council's Board gave approval to a preliminary proposal, based on these consultations, in October 2006.

It is likely that, while the Council may refer to many categories of administrative detention, and to different jurisdictions, the project will focus on three categories of people: those detained because they are suspected of "terrorism" or other politically-motivated crimes; asylum seekers and immigrants held in detention; and individuals detained on grounds of mental illness. Administrative detention is likely to be defined to mean cases in which persons are held in detention by means of procedures that do not involve the courts or judicial intervention. The project is also likely to focus on the treatment of detainees, and the role of safeguards to ensure that detention is justified, rather than the original justifications for detention. The project's aim, will be to identify standards of treatment during detention that ought to be respected in all categories of cases; and safeguards that should be in place for all categories of detainees.

Following Susan McCrory's departure at the end of 2006, the design's completion has been deferred until her successor joins the Council in June 2007. Recruitment of advisers and researchers was also halted.

Research director:	Susan McCrory (to December 2006).
Design:	Fourth quarter 2006; third quarter 2007.
Start:	Fourth quarter 2007.
Status:	In design; Initial feasibility note: Martin Scheinin, 2005.
Working title:	*Administrative Detention.*
Research team:	To be identified.
Advisers:	To be identified.

Corruption and human rights (131a and 131b)

This project, in two parts, was designed in the fourth quarter of 2006. The Council's Board gave approval to proceed to design after discussing a detailed proposal in October 2006. Research started in March 2007, and a draft of both reports (131a and 131b) should be available at the end of 2007. Publication is due in September/October 2008.

The Research Director responsible for this work, Magdalena Sepúlveda, undertook consultations on this project between July and November 2006. In November, she attended an international conference on corruption organised in Warsaw by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Government of Poland; the Council's Executive Director acted as Rapporteur for this meeting. She subsequently attended the bi-annual Conference of Transparency International in Guatemala, also in November, and consulted widely with other organisations that have programmes on corruption. While many governments and international organisations, as well as NGOs, have taken initiatives designed to reduce corruption, and a number – including the World Bank, OECD-DAC, UNDP and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights – have begun to draw on human rights, the consultation revealed that the links between corruption and human rights have not yet been analysed in detail. Where does corruption clearly have an effect on the enjoyment of rights? How might human rights methods and principles be applied effectively to curb or prevent corruption? Are anti-corruption policies always compatible with human rights? The Council's project will focus on answering these questions.

Two parallel research processes will run side-by-side, generating separate but complementary reports. The first will make links in specific terms between instances of corruption and violations of specific rights; and how specific rights may be applied to illuminate and eventually curtail various forms of corruption. In the course of this work, the research will examine "grey areas" – forms of "corruption" (or social exchange) that may have a mild or even benign impact on the enjoyment of rights.

The second will compare the principles and methodology underlying anti-corruption policies with the values and principles of human rights, in order to identify areas of difference and possible clashes between them. This is a significant issue, because it is evident that in certain respects anti-corruption policies depart from human rights principles. The second report will indicate where tensions are likely to occur and where anti-corruption policies should be careful to avoid infringements of human rights.

The project will generate several country studies and a variety of thematic and legal papers, written by both corruption and human rights specialists.

It is hoped to run the two sub-projects in parallel, enabling the research teams to learn from one another. Research started in March 2007, following a meeting of the lead researchers and advisers. Publication is scheduled for September/October 2008. Follow-up will continue through the first half of 2009.

Research director:	Magdalena Sepúlveda.
Design:	November 2006-March 2007.
Start:	March 2007.
Consultation:	January-March 2008.
Status:	In research.
Working titles:	*Hard Law Connections between Corruption and Human Rights* (131a). *How to Combat Corruption while Respecting Human Rights* (131b).
Publication:	Fourth quarter 2008.
Research teams:	Lead researchers: Julio Bacio Terracino, Noel Kututwa. Gender adviser: Dr. Namawu Alhassan Alolo. Lead writer: C. Raj Kumar. Thematic papers: Brigit Toebes, The impact of corruption on the right to health; Victoria Jennett, The impact of corruption on the rights to equal access to justice and effective remedy; Helen Darbishire, The right to information as a tool to combat corruption; Maina Kiai, The role of national human rights institutions; Todd Ladman, Correlations between the human rights situation in a country and levels of corruption; Christian Gruenberg, Comparative assessment of compliance of anti-corruption legislation with human rights standards; Carlos Castresana, The challenges of investigating corruption: An insider view; José Ugaz, The politicisation of anti-corruption campaigns; Lucy Koechlin, Human rights approaches to national integrity systems.
Advisers:	Chong San Lee, Sandra Coliver, Stuart Gilman (Philliat Matsheza [alternate]), Colin Gonsalves, Nihal Jayawickrama, Ivan Krastev, Eduardo Rodriguez Veltze.

Poverty reduction programmes and human rights (121)

This project (like 119) has experienced long delays. Originally approved by the Board for development in late 2002, a first delay was caused by the departure of the original Research Director in 2004, before the design had been completed. The project was taken over by the Executive Director, who completed the design and recruited the research team and advisers in 2004. Research started in five countries in early 2005 and country reports were completed on Ghana, Chile, Bolivia, Thailand and Bangladesh in mid-2005 and discussed at a review meeting in Thailand. An initial draft of the synthesis report was then to have been submitted by

the lead researcher in November 2005. A second delay occurred, however, when he did not deliver the report. A number of new deadlines were agreed during 2005 and 2006. In August 2006, the Council transferred responsibility for preparing the draft to the second lead researcher, Alta Folscher. She agreed to submit a draft at the end of 2006. This work too has taken longer than expected, and a third delay occurred in early 2007 when the electronic draft and notes were stolen during a burglary in South Africa. We hope to return to the project schedule as soon as a draft is delivered. Given the length of the hold up, however, it is inappropriate to set a new schedule until a text becomes available.

The project will examine where use of human rights methods and principles can raise the effectiveness of programmes to eliminate poverty. Country research teams described and then analysed how different actors had experienced selected poverty-reduction programmes. In each case, the teams brought together expertise in human rights and expertise in development, to make sure, first, that those interviewed were heard in their own terms, and second, to encourage inter-disciplinary learning during the research. Researchers were asked to interview national government officials responsible for implementing poverty reduction programmes, and civil society organisations that work with communities affected by them. In parallel, the Council commissioned two background papers, describing how "poverty" has been understood by the development community and by the human rights community.

Though increasingly sophisticated efforts have been made to "mainstream" human rights into development, obstacles to communication remain between development and human rights specialists. This report will seek, first, to identify in rather specific terms where development officials might improve the impact of programmes by making (more conscious) use of human rights methods and principles. Secondly, a conscious effort will be made to understand the strengths and weaknesses of development and human rights practice, to identify where the two methodologies are complementary and most useful to one another. The project will attempt, thirdly, to write about human rights and human rights methods in language that is accessible to development professionals. We hope this approach, and the project's use of paired researchers, will help facilitate communication between human rights and development practitioners. The project will give specific attention to gender and gender dimensions of poverty.

Research director:	Mohammad-Mahmoud Mohamedou (to April 2004); Robert Archer (from May 2004).
Start:	Mid-2004.
Papers commissioned:	November 2004-May 2005.
Review meeting:	July 2005.

Draft report:	November 2005. Reset to May 2007.
Consultation:	Reset: to be determined on receipt of the draft.
Status:	In research.
Working title:	*Poverty Reduction Programmes and Human Rights – Making Progress.*
	In English. Summary in Spanish, French and English.
Publication:	Reset: to be determined on receipt of the draft.
Research team:	Lead researchers: Peter Rosenblum (to August 2006); Alta Folscher (from September 2006). Country research: Manuel de la Fuente, Edga Antonio Aramayo Tejada (Bolivia); Gonzalo de la Maza, Jorge Contesse (Chile); William Ahadzie, Raymond Atuguba (Ghana); Sriprapha Petcharamesree (Thailand); Meghna Guhathakurta (Bangladesh). Thematic papers: Roger Riddell and Agnès Picod (poverty approaches).
Advisers:	Akila Belembaogo, Shanthi Dairiam, Rosalind Eyben, Zie Gariyo, Agnès Picod (succeeded by Mac Darrow), Roger Riddell, Peter Uvin.

Information technology and human rights (132)

This project was in an early phase of design at the end of 2006. The Research Director responsible, Susan McCrory, had started to consult and some preliminary options were put before the Board in October 2006; but no final preferences were agreed and the precise focus of the project remains open. Following her departure at the end of 2006, further work on the design was suspended and will be resumed when her successor joins the Council in June 2007. No advisers and researchers have yet been recruited.

During preliminary consultations, Susan McCrory discussed the project with the International Telecommunications Union (the principal international organisation dealing with radio and telephone communications and the main international organisation implicated in the World Summit on the Information Society); several European and North American NGOs; the Media Division of the Council of Europe's Directorate of Human Rights; the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for New Zealand; the European Data Protection Supervisor; UN agencies (including IOM and UNHCR) that deliver field assistance to vulnerable groups; and the IT security department of the International Criminal Court. Susan McCrory also attended two discussion meetings of internet companies and civil society organisations that are seeking to agree international standards for internet companies.

Though the exact focus of the Council's research has not been agreed, the project is likely to seek to identify where new technologies generate new human rights issues, familiar human rights issues (albeit masked by

their technicality), or opportunities to promote or protect human rights. It will not evaluate a list of technological applications, because such an approach would be too wide-ranging and probably unhelpful. The aim would rather be to provide a range of tests and criteria that users can apply to assess technological applications themselves. The Council may commission a feasibility paper and convene an initial meeting to help identify the different categories of issues that the project should explore, and develop a practical and useful methodology.

Research director:	Susan McCrory (to December 2006).
Design:	Fourth quarter 2006; third and fourth quarter 2007.
Start:	Fourth quarter 2007.
Status:	Pre-design.
Working title:	*Information-Gathering Technologies and Human Rights*.
Research team:	To be identified.
Advisers:	To be identified.

PROJECTS APPROVED FOR DEVELOPMENT

Traditional authorities and human rights (109)

The Board confirmed this project for development in October 2006. Work on the design will begin after June 2007, when two new Research Directors will be in post.

Traditional authorities exist in numerous forms in many societies – elected or hereditary monarchs, religious leaders, tribal chiefs, elders, and so on. To different degrees they exercise power, enjoy political or religious legitimacy, and compete with or are part of the state. Characteristically, their legitimacy is derived not from government (which may or may not recognise their authority) but directly from the communities they (claim to) represent. In some cases, they have considerable power in law, in others their authority is informal and may be virtually invisible to outsiders. Sometimes their power is waning, because of abuse or changes in society around them. Elsewhere, traditional leaders have enlarged their sphere of authority, for example when state institutions temporarily weaken or collapse.

Such authorities present challenges for outside organisations, who may find it hard to relate to them, understand their role or assess their performance. Human rights advocates are often critical of some of their decisions, when these do not reflect human rights norms. Yet, such authorities offer dispute and settlement mechanisms that are accessible, affordable, often swifter

than formal courts, and socially legitimate. How should human rights organisations relate to decision-making mechanisms, and how should they judge and seek to influence them?

Research director:	To be determined.
Design:	Third quarter 2007.
Start:	Fourth quarter 2007.
Status:	Pre-design.
Working title:	*Traditional Decision-Making Mechanisms and Human Rights.*
Research team:	To be identified.
Advisers:	To be identified.

Sexuality and human rights (134)

The Board selected this subject for development in October 2006, following a discussion at the 2006 Council meeting in Budapest, when it was one of several issues recommended for consideration by Members of the Council. Informal consultation has begun but the design process has not started and is unlikely to begin until the third quarter of 2007.

Though it is premature to indicate the likely focus of this project, a number of angles may be explored. There is first a cluster of issues concerning sexual identity and the rights of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals, which provoked controversy in the Commission on Human Rights in 2005. Are we witnessing the articulation of a demand for a new right or a new standard? Discrimination in relation to sexual identity is a second possible focus. There is also the issue of how the human rights movement responds to the demands made on it by those pressing for new rights or claims in relation to sexuality. The Council might work on this issue as an example of the relevance of human rights to emerging social movements. Finally, the Council might contribute helpfully simply by analysing the issue of sexuality, and clarifying the connections between human rights and a range of specific issues raised by sexuality, in order to assist discussion of a subject that often provokes strong emotion.

Research director:	To be determined.
Design:	Second and third quarter 2007.
Start:	Third or fourth quarter 2007.
Status:	Pre-design.
Working title:	*Sexuality and Human Rights.*
Research team:	To be identified.
Advisers:	To be identified.

PROJECTS CLOSED IN 2006

Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions (125)
Published: September 2005 with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.
Preface: Louise Arbour.

This report was published in French, Spanish and English. Follow-up was extended beyond the original scheduled date (the second quarter of 2006) because there continues to be demand to present its findings to meetings of national human rights institutions or organisations that work closely with them. While the Council is no longer initiating activity on this subject, Council staff will continue to respond to requests to present this report and its predecessor *Performance & Legitimacy: National Human Rights Institutions* (2000), when asked to do so.

In 2006, Susan McCrory presented the report to a meeting of national human rights institutions in Belfast. She subsequently discussed it with a group of Iraqi parliamentarians during a visit to Geneva organised by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human rights. In November, the report's lead author, Richard Carver, travelled to the Czech Republic to present it to the Eighth International Roundtable for Ombuds Institutions in Eastern Europe and the CIS, organised in Karlovy Vary by UNDP. The OHCHR has continued actively to distribute the report, which has certainly reached a large number of national human rights institutions. In 2006 the English edition was reprinted. The report was translated into Russian in 2006 (for publication in 2007) and was published in Arabic in May 2007.

The project complements *Performance & Legitimacy : National Human Rights Institutions* (2000, reference 102), which was itself republished in 2004 with a new postscript. *Performance & Legitimacy* focused on what NHRIs need to be and do if they are to be effective and respected by governments and those who use their services. The second report is a short practical document designed to help national commissions, and organisations that work closely with them, to assess the effectiveness of their work and working practices. The report sets out benchmarks to assess the compliance of an NHRI with the Paris Principles, and draws on key findings of *Performance & Legitimacy* to set indicators of performance and impact. With the help of specific examples, it goes on to discuss the value – and some of the risks – of using indicators to measure progress and aspects of effectiveness.

Research director:	Jean-Nicolas Beuze (to April 2006); Susan McCrory (to December 2006).
Start:	First quarter 2004.
Draft report:	Draft 1: October 2004; draft 2: March 2005.
Consultation:	November-December 2004.

Title:	*Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions.*
	In Arabic, Spanish, French and English. Co-published with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Russian: 2007.
Publication:	September 2005.
Research team:	Lead researcher: Richard Carver.
Advisers:	Brice Dickson, Kim Forss, Imrana Jalal, Zonke Majodina, Orest Nowosad, Livingstone Sewanyana.

Doing Good Service: Local Government and Human Rights (124)
Published: October 2005.

This report continued in follow-up and was closed at the end of 2006. Follow-up was less extensive than planned, because, for health reasons, the Research Director responsible was unable to travel during the first half of 2006. Some outreach and additional dissemination were nevertheless possible. The report was presented at two training courses in Copenhagen, organised by the Danish Centre for Human Rights, and at a meeting organised by the Swiss Agency for Co-operation and Development.

The project examines how use of human rights principles and tools might improve the performance and accountability of local governments, and particularly their delivery of economic and social services. Based on research in Bolivia, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Senegal, Tanzania and the Ukraine, it compares the human rights framework with good governance and other approaches used by local governments, examines the impact of decentralisation on protection of rights, and suggests how local officials can pragmatically apply human rights principles and methods to improve effectiveness and accountability. It follows on from an earlier Council report on local government, *Local Rule* (2003, reference 116), which surveyed human rights issues that arise in relation to decentralisation.

The report is available in English, with a separate Summary in English, French and Spanish. The report and Summary were translated and published in Russian in 2006.

Research director:	Monette Zard (to November 2006).
Start:	November 2003.
Papers commissioned:	January-June 2004.
Review meeting:	June 2004.
Draft report:	Draft 1: September 2004; draft 2: March 2005; draft 3: July 2005.
Consultation:	October 2004-January 2005.
Title:	*Doing Good Service: Local Government and Human Rights.*
	In English and Russian. Summary in Spanish, French, Russian and English.

Publication:	October 2005.
Research team:	Lead researcher: Nancy Thède. Researchers: Manuel de la Fuente and Graziela Vasquez (Bolivia); Harihar Bhattachariya (India); Abid Qaiyum Suleri and Nadeen Ayaz Mbaye (Pakistan); Soliman Santos (Philippines); Cheikh Guèye and Assane Mbaye (Senegal); Rwekaza Sympho Mukandala and Christopher Maina Peter (Tanzania); Mridula Ghosh (Ukraine).
Advisers:	Catherine Dom, Peter Kagwanja, Walter Kälin, Rashid Seedat, Patrick Van Weerelt, David Velásquez.

TRANSLATIONS AND REPRINTS

The Council continues to encourage translations of its work. In 2006 the Council reprinted *Ends & Means* (2002, reference 105), which discusses how human rights organisations can seek to influence the behaviour of armed groups, as well as *Local Perspectives* (2002, reference 104), which examines the strengths and weaknesses of aid programmes designed to reform institutions that protect the rule of law and human rights.

Human Rights Standards – Learning from Experience (2006, reference 120B) was translated into Spanish in 2006, in co-operation with the Inter-American Platform of Human Rights and Democracy (PIDHDD) and Conectas-Sur (Brazil). It was summarised in Portuguese at the end of 2006, in co-operation with Conectas Sur. A training version will be prepared in Arabic by the International Service on Human Rights, which co-published this report with the Council and the International Commission of Jurists.

Assessing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions (2005, reference 125) was published in Arabic in May 2007 in association with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. It was translated into Russian in 2006 in association with UNDP (Bratislava Office) and is due to be published in 2007.

Human Rights after September 11 (project 118) was published in Thai in 2006.

Local Government and Human Rights – Doing Good Service (2005, reference 124), and its Summary, were published into Russian and distributed in Russian-speaking countries in 2006, with assistance from UNDP.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Realizing Rights – the Ethical Globalization Initiative (EGI)

The Council continued in 2006 to support EGI alongside the Aspen Institute and the Earth Institute at Columbia University. The current agreement was renewed at the end of 2006. The Council's Executive Director and a Board Member sit on EGI's Board, and Council staff provide policy support to some of EGI's programme, notably its work on migration. Scott Jerbi, EGI's Senior Advisor, works out of the Council's offices in Versoix. EGI continues to focus on three policy areas: trade policies with a focus on poverty, decent work and multilateral institutions; health policy, with a focus on HIV-Aids in sub-Saharan Africa; and migration, with a focus on development. Mary Robinson has been a Member of the Council since 2004.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

In 2005 the Council co-published its report on national human rights institutions (125) with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. During 2006 the two organisations continued to disseminate this report and Council staff participated in several meetings of national human rights institutions organised by the OHCHR. We agreed to translate and publish the report into Arabic. The Council co-operated with the OHCHR on several other activities during the year, touching particularly on Council reports 121, 128 and 131. Council staff attended and helped facilitate a meeting on corruption that OHCHR organised with the Government of Poland in Warsaw in September 2006.

International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)

The Council was glad to co-publish its report on international standard-setting (120B) with the ICJ and ISHR, both of which play a role in standard-setting in Geneva. The organisations took 500 copies of the report for distribution and ISHR will use the report to create a training module in Arabic. In October staff facilitated a meeting on "complicity" organised by ICJ's business and human rights programme.

Conectas-SUR (Brazil)

Council staff participated in Conectas-Sur's annual meeting in 2005. In 2006 Conectas-Sur agreed to co-publish a Summary of the Council's report on standard-setting (120B) in Portuguese, to co-publish the report in Spanish in co-operation with the Council and the Inter-American Platform of Human Rights and Democracy (PIDHDD), and to discuss the report at its 2006 annual meeting, which Ms Sepúlveda attended. Sur's journal published a Council paper on human rights and development in 2006.

UNDP

UNDP (Bratislava) funded a translation of the Council's 2005 report on local government (124) and helped distribute it in Russian-speaking countries. The Council's Executive Director helped facilitate a UNDP e-discussion on the links between human rights and the Millennium Development Goals, and prepared an preliminary draft of a short report on the same subject for UNDP's Governance Center in Oslo. UNDP (Bratislava) separately invited the Council to present its report on national human rights institutions (125) to a meeting of NHRIs from central and Eastern Europe, held in the Czech Republic in November 2006.

TENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

The ninth annual meeting of Council Members was held in Budapest in May 2006. No thematic workshop was organised this year. Council Members discussed four themes: the mainstreaming of clandestine repression (in the context of contemporary discussions of torture, extraordinary rendition, and challenges to understanding of humanitarian law); freedom of expression and religion (in the context of controversies over the Danish cartoons, and calls for an international standard banning blasphemy); reform of the UN's human rights institutions (notably the creation of the Human Rights Council, but also calls for a single new institution covering women affairs); and sexual rights and identity (examining a range of emerging discussions in this field). In addition, Council Members proposed themes for the Council's research programme, as usual.

During the meeting, Council Members heard presentations by human rights organisations from the region, who described the main human rights problems in Hungary and surrounding countries, giving particular attention to the position of the Roma, and the pioneering forms of litigation which the European Roma Rights Centre has developed.

Hina Jilani took over the Chair of the Council's Executive Board at this meeting, succeeding Asma Jahangir.

The tenth anniversary assembly took place in Bangkok in May 2007. To it were invited all current and past Members of the Council, a range of local and regional organisations, and some of those who have collaborated particularly closely with the Council's work since its office opened in 1998. For a list of Members of the Council, please refer to appendix iii.

As noted above, a short report was prepared for the tenth anniversary meeting. It reviewed trends in human rights in the last ten years, providing a platform for the meeting itself, which considered the direction that human rights work is likely to take in the next few years, and what priorities the International Council should set for itself.

ANOTHER CAT SEMINAR

In February Dr Miklos Marschall spoke at *Another Cat* meeting on the subject of corruption. Dr Marschall is Regional Director of Transparency International for Europe. His responsibilities include East and Central Europe and the former Soviet Union. He is also responsible for the bi-annual International Anti-corruption Conference (IACC). Between 1994 and 1998, he was the Executive Director of CIVICUS, a global network of NGOs and foundations created to promote civil society. From 1991 to 1994, he served as Deputy Mayor of Budapest, Hungary.

In October Nicholas Stewart QC and Dr Marc Henzelin spoke together at *Another Cat* that examined some of the legal shortcomings of international trial procedures, based on their experience as advocates. Mr Stewart is a barrister, practising in London, who has been a Deputy High Court Judge since 1992. He has acted in cases before the European Court of Human Rights and from 2003 until judgement on 27 September 2006 was lead counsel for Momcilo Krajisnik on charges of genocide and other serious crimes before the ICTY. He is a member of the Advisory Panel of the ICTY, a former President of the *Union Internationale des Avocats* and was chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee for England and Wales from 1994 to 1998. Dr Henzelin was admitted to the Geneva Bar in 1987. A Partner at Lalive Attorneys, he also acts as a Judge at the Appeal Court of Geneva and is one of the two Swiss Lawyers admitted to plead before the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Court. Formerly co-founder and co-director of the University Centre of International Humanitarian Law (UCHL), he is now a member of the Committee of the International Bar Association's Business Crime section and a member of the Board of the European Criminal Bar Association.

Responding to demand

The Executive Director and staff participate in a range of meetings or initiatives that are relevant to the Council's mandate but not directly linked to the Council's research programme. We list below examples of the events and speaking engagements of Council staff during 2006.

- Acted as a facilitator, and contributed to, a UNDP electronic discussion on Human Rights and the MDGs.
- Trainer at courses on human rights organised by the Danish Centre for Human Rights, both for international participants.
- Participated in a consultation on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, held by the Government of Mexico, in Mexico City.
- Prepared the preliminary draft of a short publication on Human Rights and the MDGs for UNDP's Governance Centre, Oslo.
- Authored one of four papers commissioned by the World Health Organisation on ethical issues that governments and multilateral institutions will need to address if an influenza pandemic occurs; presented the paper at WHO, Geneva.
- Rapporteur for a meeting on corruption organised in Warsaw by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Government of Poland.
- Delivered a speech on legal reform to a conference organised by the InterParliamentary Union, Geneva.
- Provided input to Iraqi Parliamentarians during meetings organised by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva.
- Facilitated during a one-day consultation on "complicity" and business responsibility organised by the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) for representatives of business, trades unions and NGOs.
- Participated in academic conferences on human rights in Belgium and the Netherlands.
- Participated in, and presented at, an international workshop organised by the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation to discuss its human rights policy.
- Presented and participated in a workshop on budget analysis and human rights held in Geneva by ICCO.
- Participated in a meeting on UN reform (Universal Periodic Review) organised by the Swiss Government in Lausanne.
- Participated in informal diplomatic discussions convened by Amnesty International on the same subject.
- Participated in a meeting on human rights defenders convened by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

FINANCE

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The International Council's accounts comply with International Accounting Standards. The Council's commitment to institutional transparency and accountability is reflected in the close consultative relationships it maintains with its donors and its full and timely reporting.

The Council maintains financial controls that ensure the optimum use of its limited resources. Responsibility for financial management rests with the Finance Officer and ultimately with the Board Member who is Treasurer of the Council.

A key goal of the International Council's financial management is to guarantee the long-term sustainability and growth of the organisation.

AUDIT

The Council's 2006 accounts were audited by an independent auditor, Mr Marc Bétemps, in accordance with Swiss requirements, and approved by the Executive Board in February 2007.

OPERATIONS

The Council's total expenditure in 2006 was CHF 1'492'568. Its total income was CHF 1'564'881. The Council therefore recorded a surplus of CHF 72'313. Added to the surplus from 2005 and previous years, the Council carried into 2007 a balance of 583'314. On the basis of this positive balance, with the agreement of the Board, the Council has been able to set aside, for the first time, an adequate reserve to make the Council's finances more sustainable in the long-term.

INCOME

Grants accounted for most of the Council's income (CHF 1'582'441). Grants were received in 2006 from:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands	CHF 311'042	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland (DFAE)	CHF 12'000	
Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)	CHF 150'000	
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	CHF 217'781	SKR 1'250'000
Department for International Development (DFID)	CHF 383'045	GBP 172'000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland	CHF 94'380	EUR 60'000
Ford Foundation	CHF 395'940	USD 300'000
CAFOD	CHF 18'253	GBP 8'000

Other income mainly consisted of bank interest (CHF 25'298) and consultancy fees (CHF 7'075).

During 2006 the dollar depreciated against the Swiss franc by 7.2% resulting in an exchange loss of Swiss francs 51'500.

EXPENDITURE

The Council spent CHF 826'754 on projects during the year (against a budget of CHF 1'690'000).

Changes in staff, notably Research Directors, had a direct impact on the progress of current projects and the development of new ones. This was reflected in the Council's lower project expenses in 2006 compared both to the budget and previous years.

Each Council project has an individual budget, which in most cases covers more than one year. The annual expenditure on each budget is calculated from the project design and stated in the annual budget that is put to the Board for approval.

OUTLOOK

The Council will continue to spend less in the first part of 2007 because of staff changes. Allowing for this, the budget for 2007 has been reduced. The total budget has been set at CHF 2'189'500, compared to an original forecast of CHF 2'550'000.

With two new Research Directors starting in June 2007 and a new Communication Co-ordinator who started in May, activity and expenditure will rise in the second half of the year.

APPENDICES

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE BOARD

At 1 January 2007

Hina Jilani	Chair
Dimitrina Petrova	Treasurer
Lydia Alpízar Durán	
Charlotte Bunch	
Stefanie Grant	
Imrana Jalal	
Marco Sassoli	
Chaiwat Satha-Anand	
Wilder Tayler	

Asma Jahangir stood down as Chair of the Board in May 2006. She remains a Member of the Council. Hina Jilani rejoined the Board and Council in 2006, and became Chair of the Board. Marco Sassoli, of Switzerland, joined the Board and Council in May 2006, replacing Walter Kälin.

STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT

At 1 January 2007

Robert Archer	Executive Director
Magdalena Sepúlveda	Research Director
Patrick Cattan	Finance and Administration Officer
Fairouz El Tom	Research & Publications Officer
Corinne Baustert	Office Manager
Anne-Claude Treboux	Administrative Assistant
Max Frigo	Intern (to April 2007)
Scott Jerbi	Senior Adviser, The Ethical Globalization Initiative

Departures:

Jean-Nicolas Beuze, Research Director since September 2004, left the Council in April 2006 to become Deputy Head of OHCHR in Uganda. Monette Zard, Research Director since September 2003, left the Council in November 2006 to become International Human Rights Program Officer at the Ford Foundation, New York. Susan McCrory, Research Director since May 2006, left the Council in December 2006.

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

At 1 January 2007

Fateh Azzam (Palestine)
Regional Representative, OHCHR, Beirut; Member of the Arab Human Rights Fund (AHRF) Preparatory Committee.

Lydia Alpízar Durán (Costa Rica)
Executive Director, AWID, Mexico.

Akila Belembaogo (Burkina Faso)
Lawyer; Deputy Regional Director, UNICEF's Office for the Middle East and North Africa.

Tapan Kumar Bose (India)
Documentary filmmaker; Secretary General, South Asia Forum for Human Rights.

Charlotte Bunch (United States)
Director; Centre for Women's Global Leadership, Rutgers University, New Jersey.

Roberta Clarke (Trinidad & Tobago)
Regional Programme Director, Caribbean Regional Office, UN Development Fund for Women.

Lyse Doucet (Canada)
Presenter and correspondent for BBC World Television and BBC World Service Radio.

Tiebile Dramé (Mali)
Former Foreign Minister of the transitional government of Mali.

Dharam Ghai (Kenya)
Development economist; Advisor to the International Institute of Labour Studies, ILO.

Stefanie Grant (United Kingdom)
Lawyer; former Director of the Research Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva.

Asma Jahangir (Pakistan)
Lawyer; AGHS Legal Aid Cell, Lahore; UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

Imrana Jalal (Fiji)
Lawyer; Human Rights Adviser, Regional Rights Resources Team.

Hina Jilani (Pakistan)
Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders; Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Konstantin Korkelia (Georgia)
First Deputy Minister of Justice; Deputy Director, Institute of State and Law, Georgian Academy of Sciences; Senior Lecturer, Tbilisi State University.

Ian Martin (United Kingdom)
Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Nepal.

Jessica Montell (Israel)
Director, B'tselem, Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

Devendra Raj Panday (Nepal)
Former Finance Secretary and Finance Minister in Nepal; founding Bureau Member of South Asians for Human Rights.

Dimitrina Petrova (Bulgaria)
Executive Director, Equal Rights Trust, London.

Roger Raupp Rios (Brazil)   Federal Judge, District Court of Porto Alegre; Professor of Law, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul.

Mary Robinson (Ireland)   Director, Realizing Rights – The Ethical Globalization Initiative; former president of Ireland; former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Anthony Romero (United States)   Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union.

Marco Sassoli (Switzerland)   Professor of international law, University of Geneva.

Chaiwat Satha-Anand (Thailand)   Professor of Political Science, Thammasat University; Director, Thai Peace Information Centre, Foundation for Democracy and Development Studies, Bangkok.

Sylvia Tamale (Uganda)   Lawyer; Associate Professor and Dean of Law, Makerere University.

Wilder Tayler (Uruguay)   Lawyer; Deputy Secretary-General, International Commission of Jurists.

DIVERSITY CHART 2006

The Council seeks to be truly international and interdisciplinary. In 2006, the regional and professional backgrounds of those who collaborated with the Council are set out below. The list includes all those who conducted research for Council projects, acted as advisers, attended research meetings or spoke at *Another Cat*.

	Secretariat	%*	Council	%	Consultants	%	Total	%
Western Europe	9	**69**	6	**22**	25	**33**	40	**34**
Eastern Europe	0	**0**	2	**7**	9	**12**	11	**9**
North America	1	**8**	2	**7**	10	**13**	13	**11**
South America	1	**8**	5	**19**	11	**14**	17	**15**
Middle East & North Africa	1	**8**	2	**7**	0	**0**	3	**3**
Sub-Saharan Africa	1	**0**	4	**15**	8	**11**	13	**11**
Asia	0	**0**	5	**19**	10	**13**	15	**13**
Australasia	0	**0**	1	**4**	3	**4**	4	**3**
Total	13	**100**	27	**100**	76	**100**	116	**100**
Women	8	**62**	13	**48**	26	**34**	47	**41**
Men	5	**38**	14	**52**	50	**66**	69	**59**
Total	13	**100**	27	**100**	76	**100**	116	**100**
International organisations	4	**31**	6	**22**	12	**16**	22	**19**
Government	1	**8**	1	**4**	15	**20**	17	**15**
Judiciary / Law	0	**0**	5	**19**	5	**7**	10	**9**
Private business	1	**8**	0	**0**	0	**0**	1	**1**
University	3	**23**	5	**19**	18	**24**	26	**22**
NGO	4	**31**	7	**26**	17	**22**	28	**24**
Journalism	0	**0**	2	**7**	0	**0**	2	**2**
Self-employed consultant	0	**0**	0	**0**	8	**11**	8	**7**
Other	0	**0**	1	**4**	1	**1**	2	**2**
Total	13	**100**	27	**100**	76	**100**	116	**100**

* Percentages are rounded off.

**To order the Council's CD-Rom
A Decade in Human Rights
email order@ichrp.org
(CHF 10, € 8, US$ 10, £ 5)**

Tenth Anniversary!

The International Council is ten years told.

To mark the event, in May 2007 the Council produced a CD-ROM
containing all the work it has published in different languages
since the first report appeared in 1999.

In Bangkok in the same month the Council's annual meeting
reviewed recent trends in human rights and future issues
that human rights organisations need to prepare for.
A paper based on the meeting will be published later this year.

We are redesigning the web site too.
Its format will enable users to search all the Council's research
thematically. The new site will open in the summer of 2007.

To keep in touch visit us on **www.ichrp.org**