



## ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003

Human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings; their protection and promotion is the first responsibility of governments.

*1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*



Rights & Democracy

International Centre for Human Rights  
and Democratic Development

# ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003



**Rights & Democracy**

International Centre for Human Rights  
and Democratic Development

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# MANDATE

Created by the Parliament of Canada in 1988, Rights & Democracy is an independent and non-partisan organization that works with civil society organizations and governments, in Canada and abroad, for the benefit of developing countries. It often acts as a mediator, to facilitate dialogue and to work on projects where consensus between civil society and governments has not yet been built. Rights & Democracy promotes human rights and strengthens democratic institutions around the world through partnerships with human rights, indigenous peoples' and women's rights groups, as well as democratic movements and governments.

Rights & Democracy initiates, encourages and supports cooperation between Canada and other countries in the development, promotion and strengthening of democratic and human rights institutions and programmes that give effect to the rights and freedoms defined in the United Nations' *International Bill of Human Rights*.

Rights & Democracy works at national, regional and global levels. It has thematic expertise in democratic development, women's rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, the intersection of globalization and human rights and transnational justice. It also addresses issues related to violations of civil liberties in the context of terrorism, the impact of fundamentalisms on human rights, Canada's foreign policy and strengthening the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

Rights & Democracy receives the majority of its funding from Canada's Overseas Development Assistance Budget through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Each year Rights & Democracy submits a report on its activities to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who tables it in Parliament. The financial accounts and transactions are examined annually by the Auditor General of Canada. Rights & Democracy is a non-profit charitable organization (registration number 0808345-59). Donations are tax deductible.

Directed by Jean-Louis Roy since August 2002 (by Warren Allmand from 1997 to 2002 and by Edward Broadbent from 1989 to 1996), Rights & Democracy is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors, currently chaired by Kathleen Mahoney of Alberta.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rebecca Cook  
John Fryer  
Lydia Hwitsum

Sophia Macher  
Kathleen Mahoney  
Wayne Mackay

Vitit Muntarbhorn  
Willy Munyoki  
Mutunga

Peter Turner  
Michèle Rouleau  
Jean-Louis Roy



## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

We live in challenging times. The policy of preventative strikes vigorously pursued by powerful States is in the process of destroying fundamental principles of international law, which undermines the credibility of the United Nations and its ability to accomplish its most essential functions: to guarantee international peace and security. This policy manifested itself in military operations in Afghanistan last year and in Iraq this year. Increasingly national security measures enacted by States to deal with terrorism have resulted in the restraint of civil liberties, the containment of political dissent and justification for repression. This has resulted in human rights violations worldwide.

These new developments have been a concern for Rights & Democracy. This year's annual Think Tank addressed the issue of the promotion of human rights in the context of terrorism. It was noted that while there is an international consensus to condemn terrorism, there is no universally adhered-to definition of terrorism. Military responses to terrorism must be tested for their conformity with international law, while the underlying symptoms of terrorism, such as social inequalities, poverty, underdevelopment and lack of pluralism and democracy must be addressed urgently and seriously. As the democratic deficit is worsening in many countries, it is important to insist on the State's responsibility to give effect to international human rights obligations.

Rights & Democracy's programme of action strives to foster dialogue and cooperation between civil society and government in Canada and abroad in support of initiatives that translate commitments to international human rights instruments into actual democratic and human rights practices, policies, institutions and laws.

These are the goals of Rights & Democracy, which we will seek to achieve with our new President, Jean-Louis Roy, who took office in August 2002. We welcome him warmly and will work closely with him in the fulfillment of his mandate. We underscore the strong commitment of our Board members and their involvement in the work and activities of Rights & Democracy. It is with great pleasure that we welcome three new Board Members: Rebecca Cook, Wayne McKay and Peter Turner. However it is with sadness that we bid farewell to Suzanne Laporte, who has left the Board to take up new functions as Ambassador in Brazil, and David Matas, whose mandate has come to term. Their contributions will be missed.



KATHLEEN MAHONEY

## PERMANENT STAFF AND TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

**Akouëté  
Akakpo-Vidah  
Warren Allmand  
(until May 2002)  
Antonio  
José Almeida**

**Iris Almeida  
Véronique Bosset  
Diana Bronson  
Ariane Brunet  
Kevin Callahan**

**Marie-France  
Cloutier  
Patricia Daigle  
Madeleine  
Desnoyers**

**Mary Durrán  
Louise Lavallée  
Marie Léger  
Geneviève Lessard  
Lucie Léveillé**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From Mexico to Afghanistan, from Burma to Kenya, from Colombia to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, from Nigeria to Guatemala, from Peru to Rwanda, Rights & Democracy intervened in all regions of the developing world in 2002-2003.

Our interventions supported national groups that are pursuing the objectives at the heart of our mandate: consolidating democracy and human rights; creating the conditions for political, social and economic convergence; and working towards national reconciliation and the end of impunity.

At the regional level, our work entailed the challenge of articulating and strengthening human rights obligations within the process of economic integration. In our hemisphere, this process must produce a true community that shares its growth and prosperity. Consequently, Rights & Democracy is working towards Canada's ratification of the *American Convention on Human Rights* and its recognition of the *American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People* of the Organization of American States.

We also undertook vigorous and important actions at the international level. We have confronted issues that affect hundreds of millions of men and women: the new national security agenda, the rise of fundamentalisms and the inclusion of economic and social rights in multilateral commercial negotiations.

Our institution is at the centre of multiple national and international networks devoted to the search for equity and equality, including many partnerships dedicated to women's human rights and indigenous peoples' rights.

In this time of uncertainty, the creation of the International Criminal Court is a major advance. Rights & Democracy contributed to its creation and will contribute to its success. We also will participate in the search for avenues and means to consolidate the international human rights system—which is one of the greatest challenges for human rights defenders at the beginning of this century. We will also seek to strengthen the United Nations and reinforce its mandate to preserve international peace and security.

I offer my sincere thanks to all those who, in Canada and throughout the world, hosted our teams and helped our institution to contribute to the struggle for equity, human rights and democratic development for all.

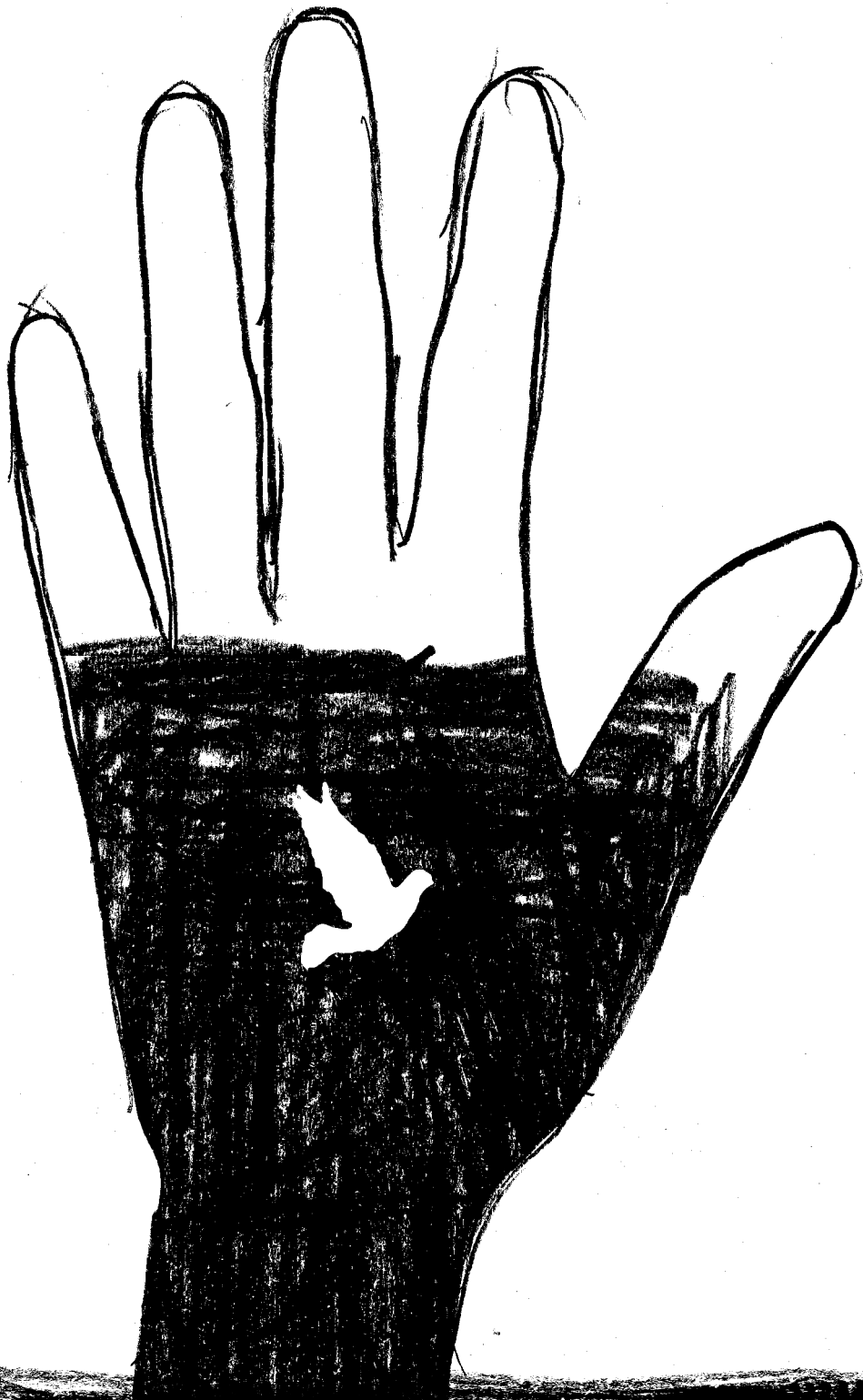
JEAN-LOUIS ROY

Micheline  
(Mika) Lévesque  
Lloyd Lipsett  
Carmen Melfi  
Lauryn Oates

Patricia Poirier  
Serge Rousseau  
Jean-Louis Roy  
(as of August 2002)  
Carole Samdup

Danielle Slawter  
Isabelle Solon Helal  
Marie St-Louis  
Patrick St-Louis

Nancy Thede  
Augie van Biljouw  
Luis Van Isschot



# YEAR IN REVIEW

The past year will be remembered, from a human rights perspective, as one of the bleakest in recent history.

Not only were we preoccupied by the increased number of human rights violations in various countries, but we also watched the international human rights system deteriorate and attract harsh criticisms. Like all multilateral institutions, the success of the UN Commission on Human Rights depends on the political will and financial contributions of its Member States. Addressing the UN Commission on Human Rights, the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, expressed his profound concern in the following terms:

DIVISION AND DISPUTES IN RECENT MONTHS HAVE MADE YOUR VOICE NOT STRONGER, BUT WEAKER, YOUR VOICE IN THE GREAT DEBATES ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS MORE MUFFLED, NOT CLEARER. THIS MUST CHANGE, IF YOU WANT TO PLAY THE ROLE INTENDED FOR THIS COMMISSION AND IF THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS TO BE ADVANCED IN THE BROAD AND UNIVERSAL MANNERS THAT WE ALL DESIRE. (59<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, APRIL 24, 2003)

At the same time, the international framework for peace and security, centered upon the UN Security Council, was brushed aside as the current United States administration launched its unilateral and preventative military actions against Iraq.

The multilateral negotiations that are supposed to create an equitable system of international trade, commerce and investment have also suffered setbacks. The development agenda—adopted at Doha as a key component of the WTO negotiations—has been called into question. Serious divisions about issues such as the right to food and access to medicine have not been overcome.

We are gravely concerned, knowing that the international community's lack of progress in its international and regional negotiations translates into a lack of progress towards the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

Around the world, social and economic conditions are worsening. In Africa, South Asia and the Middle East, this social and economic deterioration is having a particularly devastating impact on the younger generations. Within these cycles of poverty there is a growing incivility and the dangerous rise of fundamentalisms.

The strong tendency towards democracy of the '80s and '90s has been betrayed by the lack of concrete social and economic progress. In Latin America, for example, hopeful democracies have deteriorated into instability and crisis. In this context, the ongoing negotiations towards the FTAA cannot be conceived within a purely economic framework: these negotiations must also take into account the social dimension of the economy and the human rights of the citizens of our hemisphere. To assist in this process, Canada must ratify the *American Convention on Human Rights* and accept the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

The deterioration of democracy and human rights has been exacerbated by a costly obsession with national security. For example, military expenditures in the United States have been increased to more than 400 billion dollars, eight times the amount the entire international community spends on development assistance. In many States, counter-terrorism measures have had the effect of eroding instead of promoting human rights. In the current context, the international community seems to have turned a blind eye to the deplorable situations in places such as Chechnya, the Philippines, Kashmir and Burma.

The most scandalous illustration of the international community's lack of consistency about human rights violations is the Democratic Republic of the Congo. At present, 3.5 million people have been killed and 10 million displaced as a result of the ongoing conflicts. This situation cries out for concerted multilateral action in the name of human rights, yet it has received negligible public attention and scant political will.

Another illustration of the international community's lack of consistency in its treatment of human rights violations is its failure to halt the carnage between Israel and Palestine, a failure which has grave repercussions throughout the Arab world and the international community.

Though there seems to be little cause for rejoicing, some significant progress on major issues deserves to be highlighted. Throughout the past year, we have witnessed significant progress towards the effective implementation of a system of global justice capable of ensuring accountability from the most serious human rights abusers. We have seen the International Criminal Court come into existence and its judges and chief prosecutor appointed. Despite the relentless opposition of the United States and others, the number of ratifications is on the increase, and there are reasons to believe this Court will gain in credibility as it begins its activities.

Rights & Democracy also salutes the creation of a Special Court and of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Sierra Leone, as a means to put an end to years of impunity and to foster durable peace in that war-torn country. In the work of this special tribunal, there is hope that a more systematic approach to the investigation, prosecution and punishment of sexual violence can be developed.

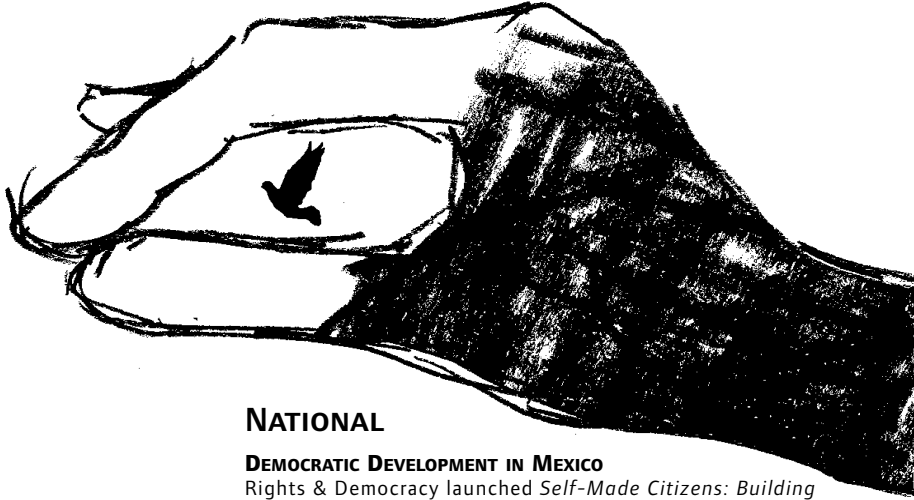
It is evident that the world needs a greater commitment to human rights and democracy; a broader dialogue between civil society and governments; and an immediate effort to reduce the gap between international obligations and the policies, institutions and laws that give them effect.

In the case of indigenous peoples, another year has passed with no significant progress on the draft *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. As we enter the final year of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, Canada must exercise leadership in the negotiations of the draft Declaration. After nine years of work, the international community has an obligation to produce results and to confirm the rights of our brothers and sisters in the world's indigenous communities.

The mandate of Rights & Democracy is more pertinent than ever. Committed as we are to the *International Bill of Rights*, we will continue our advocacy and capacity-building efforts and will make every effort to promote human rights, democratic development, renewed multilateralism and the sharing of growth and prosperity. Despite the bleakness of this past year, we maintain our belief in the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



## NATIONAL

### DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN MEXICO

Rights & Democracy launched *Self-Made Citizens: Building Democracy through Human Rights in Mexico*, a study on democratic development in Mexico. The launch brought together over 85 participants from civil society, government, media and academia at a major forum in Mexico City on February 20-21, 2003. The study focused on three case studies: 1) The impact of free trade on human rights in the State of Coahuila in the north of the country; 2) The rights of indigenous peoples in the State of Oaxaca in the south of the country; and 3) Youth participation and local development in Ixtapalapa, a marginalized sector of the capital region of Mexico City. Rights & Democracy also organized a democratic development forum on Mexico for Canadian civil society and government officials on March 4, 2003, in Ottawa. The study is available online.

### CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA

Rights & Democracy supported the Constitutional Review Process and democratic transition in Kenya. Under the leadership of the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC), efforts were devoted to strengthening the draft Constitution, which bears sufficient democratic credentials to form a basis for national debate. NCEC conducted consultations with key stakeholders to enhance consensus and improve the quality of the draft Constitution and to ensure the democratic participation of Kenyans in this process.

### WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN

Rights & Democracy participated in a field mission to Afghanistan in September 2002, to implement the Women's Rights Peacebuilding Project in Afghanistan. Funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), this 18-month project aims to support and build the capacity of Afghan women engaged in peacebuilding activities at the local, regional and international levels and to provide a comprehensive assessment of the needs of women in Afghanistan. A mission report, launched in Ottawa on December 17, 2002, called for the involvement of women in every aspect of Afghanistan's reconstruction, aid programmes and peacebuilding efforts. The report also addressed the militarization of humanitarian assistance, the need to extend the International

Security Assistance Force outside of Kabul and women's legal, educational and health issues. A press release and media kit on Warlords in Afghanistan was launched on March 10, 2003. A part-time logistical assistant and a full-time field coordinator based in Afghanistan were hired. The Women's Rights Fund focused on education, women's rights, awareness raising, networking and the legal status of women. Rights & Democracy also worked with the international network on Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) to support the work of Afghan women in ensuring a gender perspective in the Afghan constitutional law reform process and in Afghan family laws.

#### **DEMOCRACY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN BURMA**

Rights & Democracy supported the Burmese Women's Union's programme. This support allowed for activities including the organization of a peace education workshop as well as the development of a peace education curriculum for training women and communities in camps. The Burmese Women's Union's objectives are to raise the awareness of Burmese women on issues of human rights, women's empowerment, democracy and community development in order to reach out to and educate women at the grassroots level within and outside the organization.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ARE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED LEGAL NORMS WHICH STATES HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO RESPECT, PROMOTE AND PROTECT VIS-À-VIS THEIR CITIZENS. THERE IS A NECESSARY LINK BETWEEN THE RESPECT FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE EXISTENCE OF AN EFFECTIVE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.**

## **REGIONAL**

#### **DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MAGHREB**

Rights & Democracy held a meeting in June 2002 with officials at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), NGOs and academics to discuss the report entitled *Democratic Development in the Middle East and North Africa* and to explore concrete areas of cooperation and partnership in support of democratic development in these regions. The report is available online.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (UNCHR)**

Rights & Democracy presented statements to the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva in March 2003 on several thematic and country-specific issues, including human rights and terrorism, impunity, the right to adequate food, the right to self-determination of indigenous peoples, economic, social and cultural rights, women's rights in Afghanistan and the ongoing human rights abuses in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burma, China and Colombia. These statements are available on the UNCHR Web site: [www.unhchr.ch](http://www.unhchr.ch).

#### **FOCUS ON AFRICA AT THE G8 SUMMIT**

Rights & Democracy participated in the G6 Billion NGO Conference held at the end of June in Kananaskis, Alberta prior to the G8 Summit, where world leaders met to discuss a variety of issues including terrorism, international trade and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Rights & Democracy organized a workshop on an integrated human rights approach to long-term development in Africa at the consultation organized by the Canadian International

Development Agency (CIDA) with African partners. Rights & Democracy facilitated the travel of two Africans from Nigeria and Senegal to join the advocacy and public education work in Canada. Rights & Democracy published a policy paper, *Human Rights and Democratic Development in Africa: Policy Considerations for Africa's Development in the New Millennium in Preparation for the G8 Summit*, which advocated support for civil society consultations in NEPAD and stressed the need to examine the relationship between development, peace, democracy and the realization of human rights in Africa. The paper is available online.

#### **AGRICULTURE AND THE RIGHT TO FOOD**

Rights & Democracy participated in the World Food Summit: five years later, held in Rome in June 2002 and in the parallel NGO Forum for Food Sovereignty, where it distributed its publication *Unequal Harvest: Farmer's Voices on International Trade and the Right to Food*. With its national and international coalition partners, Rights & Democracy advocated the adoption of a human rights framework to address the issue of hunger. Rights & Democracy participated in the Food and Agriculture Organization's inter-governmental working group on the right to food and assisted in developing guidelines for implementation of the right to food. In



PHOTO: RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY

**WORLD FOOD SUMMIT: FIVE YEARS LATER, ROME, ITALY, JUNE 2002.**  
From left to right: Maxime Laplante (Union paysanne); Cathleen Kneen (Organic Farmers of British Columbia); Carole Samdup (Rights & Democracy); Stewart Clark (Canadian Food Grains Bank) and the Honourable Lyle Vanclief (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada).

partnership with Via Campesina, Rights & Democracy supported the capacity-building of farmer and peasant organizations in Asia, Africa and the Americas to promote a human rights framework in the context of regional and international agricultural trade agreements. At the World Trade Organization, Rights & Democracy promoted fair trade rules for developing countries based on domestic and extra-national state obligations pursuant to the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. Rights & Democracy also advocated at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in support of the work of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food.

#### **INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION MISSION TO PERU – TAMBOGRANDE MINING PROJECT**

Rights & Democracy undertook a mission to Peru from May 27 to June 6, 2002 to observe the public consultation process organized by the municipal authorities of Tambogrande, regarding a mining development project in the region of northern Peru. The report, *Gold and Land: Challenges of Democratic Development*, concluded that Manhattan Minerals Corporation and the government of Peru should recognize the legitimacy of the results of the Tambogrande municipal referendum, which confirmed overwhelming opposition to the company's plan to develop a gold mine in the town. It encouraged the Canadian government to develop human rights criteria, in line with international human rights law, to evaluate the impact of all projects funded by Export Development Canada. This report is available online in French, English and Spanish.

#### **RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Rights & Democracy, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, organized the Right to Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples seminar during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York in May 2002. This seminar

facilitated dialogue between representatives of States and indigenous peoples concerning the right to self-determination vs. the protection of the territorial integrity of States in international law, an issue which had become a serious stumbling block to negotiations on the adoption of the *Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. Close to fifty participants including delegates from Austria, Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Canada, Ecuador, Finland, Guatemala, Mexico and New Zealand joined representatives of indigenous organizations and United Nations experts in this seminar. The report of the seminar is available online in French, English and Spanish and was presented as a policy contribution to the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, which focused on the same issue during their deliberations in December 2002.

### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)**

Rights & Democracy vigorously pursued its international advocacy for the ratification of the *Rome Statute*. At the historic first meeting of the Assembly of State Parties (ASP) to the ICC in New York in September 2002, Rights & Democracy presented a statement drawing attention to four points: 1) the responsibility of State Parties to ensure that the Court be established on the basis of the highest possible legal, political and moral standards; 2) the importance of electing impartial and highly qualified judges for the credibility of the future Court; 3) the necessity of maintaining regional and gender balance among judges; and 4) the need to resist the political pressure of the United States in its campaign to undermine the integrity of the *Rome Statute* and secure blanket immunity for its troops in United Nations peacekeeping missions. With the Centre for Criminal Law Reform and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Rights & Democracy prepared an updated version of the ICC manual on ratification and implementation of the *Rome Statute*. Rights & Democracy continued to work as a member of the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the ICC. Rights & Democracy closely monitored progress in the establishment of the ICC and organized regional training workshops on ratification and domestic implementation of the *Rome Statute* in developing countries.



**Judge Philippe Kirsch of Canada swears in during inaugural session of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, on March 11, 2003.**

PHOTO: CP IMAGES/D. LIRANIC

### **WARNING SIGNS OF FUNDAMENTALISMS**

Rights & Democracy contributed to the creation of a Web site based at Women's Human Rights net (WHRnet). The Web site is focused on the impact of fundamentalisms on women and the identification of trends that reflect the emergence of fundamentalist discourses, using country or community-based case studies. The phenomenon broadly referred to as fundamentalism is defined as the use of religion, ethnicity and culture to gain and mobilize political power. Fundamentalist ideologies and movements can transform themselves from a mere presence in a society, initially appearing as one of the many options for religious observance or affiliation, into a compulsion and may ultimately lead to violations of rights, notably women's rights. The Web site facilitates the sharing of issues and strategies to counteract fundamentalist agendas and to assist women working at the domestic level to communicate their experiences to the international community. This project was undertaken jointly with the Women Living Under Muslim Laws Network and WHRnet.

## SPECIAL EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

### **AYESHA IMAM AND BAOBAB FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS**

Rights & Democracy honoured Ayesha Imam and BAOBAB for

Women's Human Rights with the 2002 John Humphrey Freedom Award for their exemplary contribution to the women's rights movement and in particular for their work in protecting women's rights under the new discriminatory Sharia criminal laws that have been implemented in 13 of the northern states of Nigeria in the last four years. Despite threats and harassment, Ms. Imam and BAOBAB, which has 100 volunteers in 15 states, have mobilized civil society organizations across Nigeria to challenge conservative religious laws that are being used to perpetuate violence against women. While in Canada, Ms. Imam met with students, human rights groups, the media, academics and government officials to discuss strategies for international solidarity. Each year on December 10, International Human Rights Day, Rights & Democracy presents the John Humphrey Freedom Award to a frontline human rights defender or organization for exceptional achievement in the promotion of human rights and democratic development. The Award consists of a grant of \$25,000 as well as a speaking tour of Canadian cities to help increase awareness of the recipient's human rights work.



Ayesha Imam, from BAOBAB, laureate of the John Humphrey Freedom Award 2002.

### **ANNUAL THINK TANK: PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY IN THE CONTEXT OF TERRORISM**

Rights & Democracy hosted its annual Think Tank on Promoting Human Rights and Democracy in the Context of Terrorism in Ottawa on May 30, 2002. Rights & Democracy partners from around the world shared their perspectives with Canadian governmental and non-governmental organization representatives about the impact of the war on terrorism in different parts of the world and recommended strategies for ensuring that the need for security measures does not become a pretext for the suppression of basic human rights. The report is available online.

### **URGENT ACTION AND IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITIES**

Rights & Democracy's Urgent Action and Important Opportunities Initiative was created by the Board of Directors to provide Rights & Democracy with the capacity to respond to human rights abuses, humanitarian crises and important political developments that are related to its mandate but which are unanticipated and for which no regular budget has been allocated. One project involved a contribution towards the travel costs of bringing women to Nepal to testify before the South Asian Court of Women on Trafficking in March 2003, through assistance to the Asian Women's Human Rights Council in India. Another project supported the Arab regional consultation meeting between experts on women's issues and the Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences. The meeting led to a portrait of violence against women in the Arab world being drawn up and provided a regional contribution to the Special Rapporteur's report on global progress to eliminate violence against women. In the past fiscal year, the total budget for this initiative was \$236,194.

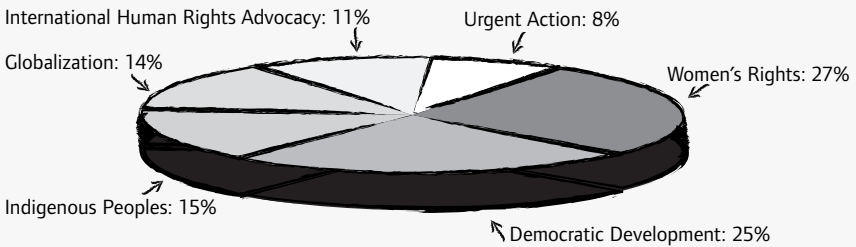
For a full list of projects carried on by Rights & Democracy during the year, please consult our Web site: [www.ichrdd.ca](http://www.ichrdd.ca)

## PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

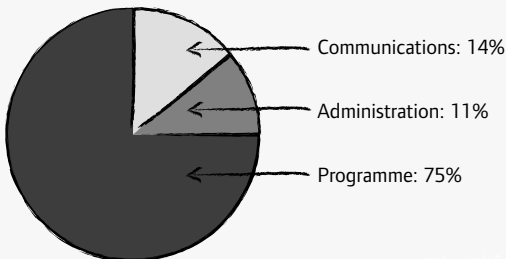
Rights & Democracy enjoys affiliations with regional and international organizations, human rights groups and democracy support institutions. It has consultative status (Category II) with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is on the International Labour Organization's Special List of NGOs. It also has observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. It participates in the work of the Organization of American States (OAS) and its institutions, namely the inter-American human rights system. It is a member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the United Nations (CONGO) and is on the steering committee of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (ICC). It is also responsible for the coordination of the Coalition for Women's Human Rights in Conflict Situations.

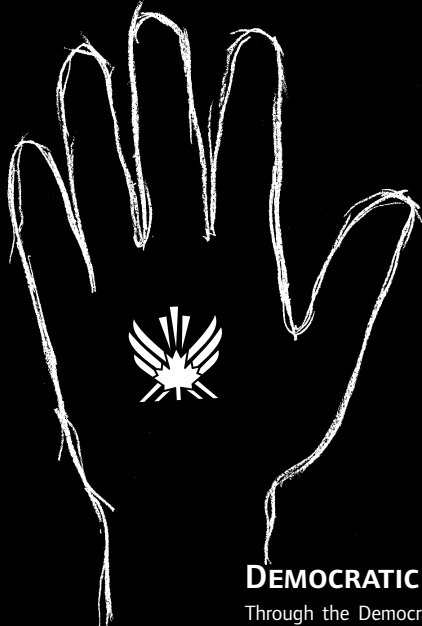
**FROM APRIL 1, 2002 TO MARCH 31, 2003, RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY INITIATED AND SUPPORTED OVER 100 PROJECTS: 38 STAFF-MANAGED PROJECTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,414,816 AND 66 GRANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,284,502, FOR A TOTAL OF \$2,699,318.**

### MONEY SPENT PER PROGRAMME



### MONEY SPENT PER DEPARTMENT





## DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Through the Democratic Development theme, Rights & Democracy works at national, regional and international levels to promote and defend democracy, defined as "the full respect for all human rights." To this end, it supports civil society participation, advocates the recognition of the right to democracy, works to strengthen human rights institutions and facilitates capacity-building of partners during strategic periods of democratic transition. Its strategic focus is on enabling effective participation in the political sphere of excluded sectors of the population. It also uses a framework based on international human rights instruments to assess democratic development in specific countries. These assessments are aimed at both orienting international actors in their strategies to support democratization and strengthening key social sectors. Activities planned for 2003-2005 include, *inter alia*: a forum in Morocco to promote dialogue between civil society actors and government on the state of democracy, supporting peacebuilding activities in Colombia and in Africa's Great Lakes Region, encouraging constitutional development in Kenya and Nigeria and pro-democracy movements in Burma, Mexico, Guatemala and Peru, strengthening the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights and advocating the right to democracy at the United Nations.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Through the Women's Rights theme, Rights & Democracy defends and promotes the integration of women's human rights within the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and advocates in favour of the implementation of international human rights instruments such as the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979) and the *Declaration on Violence against Women* (1993). It has developed a participatory methodology to document violations of women's rights. Rights & Democracy works in cooperation with partners on ending impunity on violence against women, especially within the context of armed conflict situations. It supports implementation of Security Council *Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security* (2000) from a grassroots perspective in countries such as Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Rights & Democracy works on the impacts of fundamentalisms through the identification of trends and strategies to counter them, including field missions to countries and public awareness-raising using the Web as a means of communication.

## GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Through the Globalization and Human Rights theme, Rights & Democracy supports policies and laws which govern economic integration but which do not undermine the promotion and protection of those governing international human rights. It works with Canadian and international non-governmental coalitions on key cross-cutting issues such as the right to food, the impact of foreign investment and information and communications technologies on human rights. In pursuing these initiatives, Rights & Democracy supports partnerships in Asia, the Americas and Africa, particularly in the context of regional integration mechanisms. It also advocates at the international level, specifically around the World Trade Organization agreements on agriculture and intellectual property, the Food and Agriculture Organization's Intergovernmental Working Group on the right to food and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights Initiatives related to economic, social, and cultural rights. It is active in the World Summit on Information Society (2003-2005) process as well as in follow-up activities related to the United Nations Conference on Financing for Development (March 18-22, 2002, Monterrey, Mexico).

## RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Through the Rights of Indigenous Peoples theme, Rights & Democracy defends and promotes the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples, in particular, their right to self-determination. It advocates the adoption of the United Nations and Organization of American States' (OAS) draft declarations on the rights of indigenous peoples and facilitates dialogue between governments and indigenous peoples. Rights & Democracy facilitates the participation of indigenous organizations in democratic processes in specific countries and their access to international organizations for the promotion of their rights. It supports the Continental Network of Indigenous Women in the Americas to improve participation of women in national and international debates on the rights of indigenous peoples. Rights & Democracy also supports the protection of collective intellectual property rights that apply to indigenous peoples' drawings and designs.

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

Through the International Human Rights Advocacy theme, Rights & Democracy urges States to support the effective operation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and provides technical assistance to States in domestic compliance with the *Rome Statute*. It facilitates the access and participation of NGOs, particularly from developing countries, in regional and international fora. It participates in and prepares submissions for the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR). It supports frontline human rights defenders, advocates effective human rights enforcement mechanisms, including thematic and country Special Rapporteurs, and proposes measures to defend and strengthen the international human rights system. It also monitors the impact of new security legislation on civil liberties and human rights through its participation in the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group.



# PRESENTATIONS, SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS

THE FOLLOWING IS A SELECTION OF PRESENTATIONS, SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS BY RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY DURING THE YEAR:

**March/April 2002**, *The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women*, presentation by Isabelle Solon Helal, 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference: Women, the Family and the State, organized by the National Association of Women and the Law, Ottawa.

**March 18-22, 2002**, *From Commitment to Action*, presentation by Iris Almeida, NGO Forum of the UN International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico.

**April 3-5, 2002**, *In Praise of the Imperfect Indicator*, presentation by Nancy Thede, International Seminar on *Rights in Principle and in Practice: Theoretical Foundations for Methodological Choices and Quantitative Comparative Research on Rights Realization: the Case of Torture in Mexico*, organized by the Mexican National Human Rights Commission, Merida, Mexico.

**April 5, 2002**, *Comfort Women*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, École internationale, Montréal.

**April 15, 2002**, debrief of Financing for Development Conference, presentation by Carole Samdup, Canadian Council for International Cooperation Aid Effectiveness Group, Ottawa.

**May 11, 2002**, *Strategizing from an International Perspective on the Implementation of the Tokyo Tribunal Judgement*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, follow-up to the Tokyo Tribunal, Tokyo.

**May 29, 2002**, *Women's Rights in Afghanistan*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, Congress of the Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN), Montréal.

**June 13, 2002**, presentation by Marie Léger on human rights and the protection of intellectual property of drawings and designs, *Conversatorio internacional, la Propiedad intelectual de los Diseños de los Pueblos Indígenas Experiencia para su defensa en las Américas*, organized by CHIRAPAQ, Lima.

**June 21-25, 2002**, welcoming speech by Kathleen Mahoney and chairing of two panels entitled *Human Rights Defenders* and *Criminalization of Dissent*, G6B People's Summit, NGO meeting parallel to the G8 Summit, Kananaskis, Alberta.

**August 31, 2002**, *Investment, Human Rights and Sustainable Development*, discussion facilitated by Diana Bronson, NGO Forum, World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa.

**September 2-6, 2002**, participation of Jean-Louis Roy and Iris Almeida, first meeting of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the International Criminal Court, New York.

**September 9-11, 2002**, *Legacy of the International Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda in terms of Jurisprudence Related to the Protection of Women*, presentation by Madeleine Desnoyers, Peru's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Public Hearings on Crimes and Violations against Women, Lima, Peru.

**September 19, 2002**, *The Relationship between Human Rights and Democracy, The 2002 UNDP Report: Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World*, presentation by Jean-Louis Roy, public seminar cosponsored by Rights & Democracy, the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa.



Iris Almeida, Director of Programmes,  
Rights & Democracy, Manila, Philippines.

**September 26, 2002**, presentation by Iris Almeida in plenary session on "The War on Terror and its Implications on Human Rights, Civil Liberties, and the Sovereignty of States," International Ecumenical Conference on Terrorism in a Globalized World, Manila, Philippines.

**October 4, 2002**, *Women Challenging the New Political and Military Order*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, Association for Women in Development (AWID) Conference, Guadalajara, Mexico.

**October 7-8, 2002**, presentation by Jean-Louis Roy, First World Congress of Writers for Peace, Dakar, Senegal.

**October 14, 2002**, *Human Rights and Global Governance in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Civil Society and the Indivisibility of Human Rights*, presentation by Iris Almeida, Global Governance 2002 Conference (GO2), Civil Society and the Democratization of Global Governance, Montréal.

**October 15, 2002**, presentation by Diana Bronson on the relationship between the United Nations human rights system and international trade agreements, Forum international de Montréal, Montréal.

**October 23, 2002**, *Globalization and Human Rights*, presentation by Diana Bronson and Carole Samdup, YMCA, Montréal.

**November 25-26, 2002**, *Civil Society and Democracy*, paper presented by Nancy Thede, Expert Seminar on the relationship between Human Rights and Democracy, organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva.

**November 30 – December 4, 2002**, presentation by Marie St-Louis on Rights & Democracy's work with indigenous women in the Working Group Gender and Indigenous Peoples in the Policies of Funding Agencies, First Indigenous Women Summit of the Americas, Oaxaca, Mexico.

**December 4, 2002**, presentation by Jean-Louis Roy, Working Group on the *Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR), Geneva.

**December 10, 2002**, *Human Rights Indicators for Measuring Democracy*, presentation by Nancy Thede, International Workshop on "Methods for Evaluating Democracy" organized by International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), United Nations Global Forum, Marrakech, Morocco.

**December 12-13, 2002**, *Participation of Civil Society in Elaborating the Inter-American Democratic Charter*, presentation by Geneviève Lessard, Inter-American Democratic Charter: Challenges and Opportunities Conference, LIU Centre for the Study of Global Issues, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

**January 14, 2003**, *Right to Food*, presentation by Carole Samdup, Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) Trade Group, Ottawa.

**January 28, 2003**, brief by Jean-Louis Roy, House of Commons Legislative Committee on *Bill C-17: The Public Safety Act*, 2002.

**February 5, 2003**, *Globalization and Human Rights*, introductory remarks by Carole Samdup on behalf of the Canadian NGO Coalition on China, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Consultations, Ottawa.

**February 7, 2003**, *Globalization and Human Rights*, presentation by Carole Samdup regarding the UN International Conference on Financing for Development (March 18-22, 2002, Monterrey, Mexico) to McGill International Development Studies students, Montréal.

**February 20, 2003**, *Women's Rights in Conflict Situations*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, General Assembly of the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI).

**February 21, 2003**, *The Right to Food*, presentation by Carole Samdup, Conference on Farmers and Trade in Food, organized by the World Council of Churches, Geneva.

**March 11-15, 2003**, participation of Marie Léger, Third Special Session of the OAS Working Group on the *Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Washington.

**March 26, 2003**, *Solidarity and Sustainable Development*, presentation by Jean-Louis Roy, Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie, Ottawa.

**March 28, 2003**, *Warlordism in Afghanistan*, presentation by Ariane Brunet, Département des sciences juridiques, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal.



PRELIMINARY PRESENTATION OF RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY'S DOCUMENT ON CANADA'S FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE HONOURABLE BILL GRAHAM, WHEN HE VISITED THE CENTRE IN MARCH 2003 TO DISCUSS THE DIALOGUE ON FOREIGN POLICY LAUNCHED BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. THE HONOURABLE BILL GRAHAM IS SURROUNDED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: LYDIA HWITSUM, JOHN FRYER, MICHÈLE ROULEAU, REBECCA COOK, KATHLEEN MAHONEY, BILL GRAHAM, JEAN-LOUIS ROY, WILLY MUNYOKI MUTUNGA, SOPHIA MACHER AND WAYNE MACKAY. ABSENT: VITIT MUNTARBHORN AND PETER TURNER.

PHOTO: CHRIS KEALIK

# FRIENDS AND DONORS

THE FRIENDS OF RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY WAS CREATED TO ENABLE THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO LEND THEIR NAMES IN SUPPORT OF THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD. ALTHOUGH SOME FRIENDS AND DONORS CHOOSE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICLY THANK THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK.

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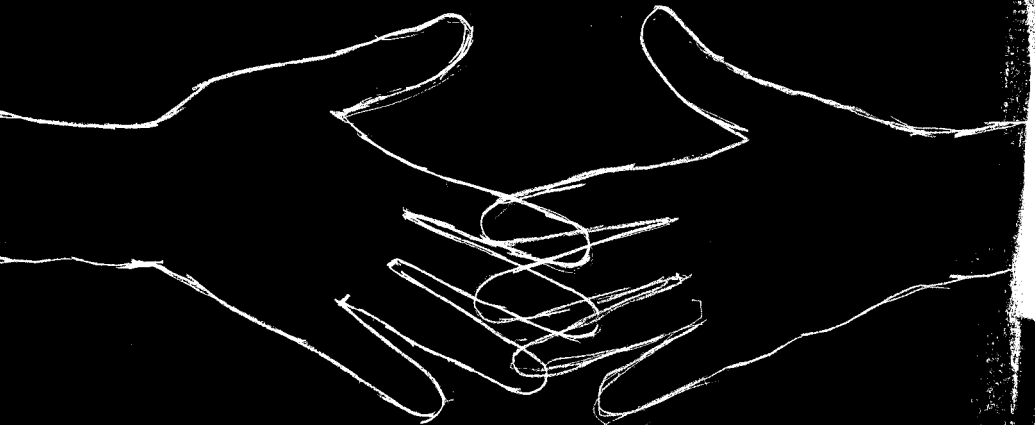
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## ORGANIZATIONS

- Centre pour l'Écuménisme et le Développement (CODEV)
- Canadian Labour Congress (CTC)
- Fédération du personnel de soutien (FPS-CSQ)
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- Syndicat des conseillères et conseillers de la Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ)



# PUBLICATIONS

RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY PUBLISHES REPORTS AND ESSAYS AS PART OF ITS ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION WORK. THESE REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS CAN BE REVIEWED AND DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEB SITE.

## **THIS YEAR'S PUBLICATIONS INCLUDE:**

- *Self-Made Citizens: Building Democracy Through Human Rights in Mexico, 2003.*
- *Seminar on the Right to Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples, 2002.*
- *Women's Rights in Afghanistan. Mission Report, 2002.*
- *Promoting Human Rights and Democracy in the Context of Terrorism, 2002.*
- *Democratic Development 1990-2000: An Overview, 2002.*
- *Human Rights and Democratic Development in Africa: Policy Considerations for Africa's Development in the New Millennium in Preparation of the G-8 Summit, 2002.*
- *Democratic Development in the Middle East and North Africa. A Report Based on Field Research and Consultations, 2002.*
- *Documentar las Violaciones de Derechos Humanos por los Agentes del Estado Violencia Sexual, 2002.*
- *Gold and Land: Challenges of Democratic Development. International Observation Mission to Peru, 2002.*
- *Women's Rights Violations during the Conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: From August 2, 1998 to September 30, 2001. The Memorial, 2002.*



# MANAGEMENT REPORT

The financial statements of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Centre. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and, where appropriate, include estimates based on the experience and judgement of management. Management is also responsible for all other information in the annual report and for ensuring that this information is consistent with the financial statements.

Management maintains books of account, financial and management control, and information systems, together with management practices designed to provide reasonable assurance that reliable and relevant information is available on a timely basis, that assets are safeguarded and controlled, that resources are managed economically and efficiently in the attainment of the Centre's objectives, and that operations are carried out effectively. These systems and practices are also designed to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are in accordance with the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development Act and the by-laws and policies of the Centre.

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfils its responsibilities for the financial reporting as stated above. The Board exercises its responsibilities through the Finance and Audit Committee, which consists of directors who are not officers of the Centre. The Committee reviews the annual financial statements and related reports; the Committee meets with the external auditors annually and, may make recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to these and related matters.

The external auditor, the Auditor General of Canada, conducts an independent audit of the financial statements, and reports to the Centre and to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.



JEAN-LOUIS ROY  
*President of the Centre*



MARIE-FRANCE CLOUTIER  
*Director of Administration and Resources*

Montreal, Canada  
May 16, 2003

# AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

I have audited the balance sheet of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development as at March 31, 2003 and the statements of operations and equity and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Centre's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Canada. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre as at March 31, 2003 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Canada.



RICHARD FLAGEOLE, FCA  
*Assitant Auditor General  
for Auditor General of Canada*

Ottawa, Canada  
May 16, 2003



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

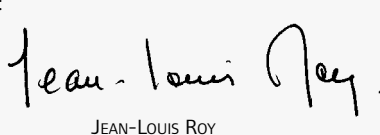

BALANCE SHEET as at March 31

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current		
Term deposits (NOTE 4)	2,314,209	1,490,112
Accrued interest	6,143	29,661
Accounts receivable	53,252	62,494
Contributions receivable	24,777	15,217
Prepaid expenses	44,977	21,402
	<b>2,443,358</b>	<b>1,618,886</b>
Long term		
Capital assets (NOTE 5)	350,944	305,993
	<b>2,794,302</b>	<b>1,924,879</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current		
Bank overdraft	514,954	255,780
Accounts payable	114,712	166,836
Accrued salaries and vacations	377,038	227,653
Termination benefits payable	175,857	-
Obligation under capital leases (NOTE 6)	9,514	-
Grants payable	7,500	45,295
Deferred contributions (NOTE 7)	500,337	62,415
	<b>1,699,912</b>	<b>757,979</b>
Long term		
Deferred lease inducements	125,447	140,444
Obligation under capital leases (NOTE 6)	74,107	-
	<b>199,554</b>	<b>140,444</b>
Deferred capital funding (NOTE 8)	167,106	189,448
	<b>2,066,572</b>	<b>1,087,871</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Equity	727,730	837,008
	<b>2,794,302</b>	<b>1,924,879</b>

Commitments (NOTE 11)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

APPROVED BY:

JEAN-LOUIS ROY  
President of the Centre

KATHLEEN MAHONEY  
Chairperson of the Board

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EQUITY for the year ended March 31

	2003	2002
<b>EXPENSES (NOTE 9)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Programmes and Activities		
Democratic Development	1,025,868	1,226,665
Women's Rights	1,104,316	802,239
Rights of Indigenous Peoples	598,478	546,657
Globalization and Human Rights	580,108	560,153
International Human Rights Advocacy	434,459	500,964
Urgent Action and Important Opportunities	344,810	503,812
Communication and Public Education	769,615	737,854
	<b>4,857,654</b>	4,878,344
General administration	599,374	547,115
Cost of operations before termination benefits	5,457,028	5,425,459
Termination benefits	175,857	-
Cost of operations after termination benefits	5,632,885	5,425,459
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Contributions from the Government of Canada for specific projects (NOTE 10)	189,272	270,351
Other contributions (NOTE 10)	376,275	245,351
Interest	62,614	123,968
	<b>628,161</b>	639,670
Results of operations before funding from the Government of Canada	5,004,724	4,785,789
Funding from the Government of Canada		
Parliamentary appropriation – Core funding	4,820,170	4,812,913
Amortization of deferred capital funding (NOTE 8)	75,276	69,213
	<b>4,895,446</b>	4,882,126
<b>RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(109,278)</b>	96,337
Equity, beginning of year	837,008	740,671
Equity, end of year	727,730	837,008

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the year ended March 31

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
<b>CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Results of operations for the year	<b>(109,278)</b>	96,337
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization of capital assets	<b>85,914</b>	84,210
Amortization of deferred capital funding	<b>(75,276)</b>	(69,213)
Other	<b>7,869</b>	2,681
	<b>(90,771)</b>	114,015
Changes in working capital other than cash	<b>234,948</b>	76,559
Decrease in deferred lease inducements	<b>(14,997)</b>	(17,508)
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions	<b>437,922</b>	(6,004)
	<b>567,102</b>	167,062
<b>CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Parliamentary appropriation – capital funding	<b>52,934</b>	60,171
Obligation under capital leases	<b>85,800</b>	–
Payments on obligations under capital leases	<b>(2,179)</b>	–
	<b>136,555</b>	60,171
<b>CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Acquisition of term deposits	<b>(2,314,209)</b>	(1,490,112)
Redemption of term deposits	<b>1,490,112</b>	1,170,000
Acquisition of capital assets	<b>(52,934)</b>	(60,171)
Acquisition under capital leases	<b>(85,800)</b>	–
Proceeds from sales of capital assets	<b>–</b>	750
	<b>(962,831)</b>	(379,533)
<b>NET CHANGE IN BANK OVERDRAFT</b>	<b>(259,174)</b>	(152,300)
Bank overdraft, beginning of the year	<b>(255,780)</b>	(103,480)
<b>BANK OVERDRAFT, END OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>(514,954)</b>	(255,780)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

### **1. AUTHORITY AND OPERATIONS**

The International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development was established by the Parliament of Canada in 1988 by the *International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development Act*.

The objects of the Centre are to initiate, encourage and support cooperation between Canada and other countries in the promotion, development and strengthening of democratic and human rights institutions and programmes that give effect to the rights and freedoms enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights. In carrying out its objects, the Centre shall:

- a) support developmental programmes and activities for the benefit of developing countries;
- b) support programmes and activities for the benefit of countries other than developing countries; and
- c) foster and support research and education, discourse, the exchange of information and collaboration among people and institutions in Canada and other countries.

The Centre is exempt from any income taxes; it is registered as a charitable organization for the purpose of the *Income Tax Act*.

#### FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

For the purpose of supporting programmes and activities for the benefit of developing countries in accordance with the Act, the Centre is to be paid such amount as may be appropriated by Parliament. The Centre may also receive monies from sources other than the Government of Canada.

For the purpose of supporting programmes and activities for the benefit of countries other than developing countries, the Centre may, in addition to such monies as may be appropriated by Parliament for that purpose, receive and use monies provided to it from sources other than the Government of Canada.

### **2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Significant accounting policies follow.

#### a) Parliamentary appropriation

The parliamentary appropriation is received through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. The portion of the parliamentary appropriation used to finance the acquisition of depreciable capital assets is recorded as deferred capital funding and amortized on the same basis and over the same period as the related capital assets. The other portion of the appropriation is recorded in the statement of operations in the year for which it is approved.

#### b) Contributions

The Centre follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Contributions externally restricted are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

#### c) Grant expenses

Grants are charged to operations in the year in which instalments are due, as approved by the Centre.

#### d) Term deposits

Term deposits are recorded at cost.

#### e) Capital assets

Furniture and equipment and data processing equipment are recorded at cost and amortized on the straight-line basis at an annual rate of 20%. Leasehold improvements are recorded at cost and are amortized over the remaining term of the lease. Assets acquired by capital leases are recorded at the present value of the minimum lease payments and are amortized on the same basis as other assets owned by the Centre.

#### f) Pension plan

Employees of the Centre participate in the Public Service superannuation plan administered by the Government of Canada. Both the employees and the Centre are required to contribute to the cost of the plan. The Centre's contributions are expended during the year in which the services are rendered and represent the total pension obligations of the Centre.

The Centre is not required under present legislation to make contributions with respect to any actuarial deficiencies of the Public Service Superannuation Account.

### **3. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The transactions related to cash (bank overdraft), term deposits, accrued interest, accounts receivable, contributions receivable, accounts payable, accrued salaries and vacations and grants payable are incurred in the normal course of business. The carrying amounts of each of these accounts approximate their fair values because of their short-term maturity. There is no concentration of accounts receivable and, consequently, the credit risk is low.

### **4. TERM DEPOSITS**

As at March 31, 2003 the term deposits have an average interest rate of 3.05% (3.06% in 2002) and an average term maturity of 333 days (317 days in 2002).

**5. CAPITAL ASSETS**

	2003			2002
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net	Net
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Furniture and equipment	530,457	413,132	117,325	44,455
Data processing equipment	329,693	209,168	120,525	132,494
Leasehold improvements	159,508	46,414	113,094	129,044
	1,019,658	668,714	350,944	305,993

The above assets include equipment under a capital lease for a total value of \$85,800, less accumulated amortization of \$3,510.

**6. OBLIGATION UNDER CAPITAL LEASE**

The Centre has entered into an agreement to rent office equipment under capital leases. The obligations under these capital leases have been discounted at an average rate of interest of 14.15% per annum. Minimum lease payments totalling \$5,214 for the year ended March 31, 2003, including interest of \$3,035, were charged to results.

At March 31, 2003, the future minimum lease payments were:

2004	\$20,856
2005	20,856
2006	20,856
2007	20,856
2008	20,856
Thereafter	20,804
Total future minimum lease payments	125,084
Less: imputed interest	(41,463)
	83,621
Short-term portion	(9,514)
	\$74,107

**7. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS**

Deferred contributions represent unspent resources externally restricted for implementing specific projects, received or receivable in the current period that are related to subsequent periods. Changes in the deferred contributions balance are as follows:

	2003	2002
Deferred contributions, beginning of year	\$62,415	\$68,419
Amount recognized as revenue in the year (Note 10)	(37,894)	(20,752)
Amount received or receivable for subsequent periods		
Canadian International Development Agency		
Afghan Women Project	385,063	-
Girl Soldiers Research Project	69,601	-
Inter-Pares		
National Health and Education Committee Project	18,833	14,001
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade		
International Youth Internship Programme	277	747
Donations	2,042	-
Deferred contributions, end of year	\$500,337	\$62,415

The composition of deferred contributions as at March 31 as follows:

Canadian International Development Agency		
Afghan Women Project	\$385,063	\$ -
Girl Soldiers Research Project	69,601	-
Shaler Adams Foundation		
Monitoring the Rwanda Tribunal Project	24,521	47,667
Inter-Pares		
National Health and Education Committee Project	18,833	14,001
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade		
International Youth Internship Programme	277	747
Donations	2,042	-
	\$500,337	\$62,415

**8. DEFERRED CAPITAL FUNDING**

	2003	2002
Balance, beginning of year	\$189,448	\$198,490
Parliamentary appropriation – capital funding	52,934	60,171
Amortization of deferred capital funding	(75,276)	(69,213)
Balance, end of year	\$167,106	\$189,448

9. EXPENSES	2003			2002
	Programmes and Activities	General Administration	Total	Total
Projects				
Grants	\$1,284,502	\$ -	\$1,284,502	\$1,105,435
Staff managed	1,414,816	-	1,414,816	1,583,447
Salaries and employee benefits	1,513,805	331,363	1,845,168	1,753,260
Rent	154,534	23,403	177,937	179,706
Professional fees	104,635	70,527	175,162	182,796
Board fees and expenses	-	141,653	141,653	148,654
Information	101,609	3,476	105,085	99,882
Cost of awards	80,258	-	80,258	104,730
Amortization of capital assets	75,166	10,748	85,914	84,210
Travel	54,700	2,704	57,404	80,276
Mail and telephony	31,490	6,629	38,119	48,748
Office expenses	29,272	6,162	35,434	44,701
Miscellaneous	12,867	2,709	15,576	9,614
	4,857,654	599,374	5,457,028	5,425,459
Termination benefits	132,049	43,808	175,857	-
	\$4,989,703	\$643,182	\$5,632,885	\$5,425,459

## 10. CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions reported in the statement of operations come from the following sources:

	2003	2002
Deferred contributions, beginning of year		
Other contributions for specific projects	\$333,644	\$229,283
Contributions from the Government of Canada for specific projects (1)	181,301	186,029
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (1)		
International Youth Internship Programme	7,224	77,253
General contributions	5,484	2,385
	527,653	494,950
Amount of deferred contributions recognized as revenue in the year (Note 7)		
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (1)		
International Youth Internship Programme	747	7,069
Shaler Adams Foundation		
Monitoring the Rwanda Tribunal Project	23,146	5,808
Inter-Pares		
National Health and Education Committee Project	14,001	7,875
	37,894	20,752
	\$565,547	\$515,702

The composition of contributions as at March 31<sup>st</sup> is as follows:

Contributions from the Government of Canada for specific projects (1)	\$189,272	\$270,351
Other contributions	376,275	245,351
	\$565,547	\$515,702

## 11. COMMITMENTS

### a) Leases

The Centre has entered into a lease for the rental of office space until 2010. The balance of the commitment under the lease is \$1,147,019. Minimum payments payable over subsequent years are as follows:

2004	\$153,198
2005	153,198
2006	153,198
2007	164,982
2008 and subsequent	522,443
	\$1,147,019

### b) Grants

As of March 31, 2003, the Centre has approved grants totaling \$175,700 in the coming years, under certain conditions.

## 12. PENSION BENEFIT

During the year the Public Service Superannuation Plan required the Centre to contribute to the Public Service Pension and to the Retirement Compensation Arrangements. Contributions during the year were as follows:

	2003	2002
Centre	\$256,025	\$259,718
Employees	\$83,006	\$75,697

## 13. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the presentation adopted in 2003.