

2nd International CPN Annual Conference
July 15, 2005

- **How Can CPN Contribute to Peacebuilding in Mindanao?**
- **Future Direction of CPN?**

Assumptions:

- Offering some “prime” for the pumps of your imagination
- A venture in solidarity and mutuality
- Reality-test as we go: Attend to the shadow side

Four Needs:

1. Deepening Solidarity

- Provide personal and electronic links to a range of other networks of helpful organizations, e.g., AFJN- USA & Europe; USCCB; Franciscan International; etc. (advocacy); diaspora groups in the States, e.g. for Philippines national “Peace Week”; similar events in Colombia (support for activities).
- Help to connect concern about mining with work being done in African Church with extractive industries.

2. Sharing Best Practices

- Through its web page and listserv, CPN might:
 - Connect peacebuilders interested in collaborative learnings in such areas as pre-K – 12 peace education curriculum, advocacy practices, etc.
 - Facilitate college/university justice and peace curriculum/praxis development, e.g., Hiakema College, Nobili College, Catholic Theological Union, Kroc Institute, etc.
 - Publish relevant and quality theory and praxis papers, case studies, briefs, etc.
- Assist through partner connecting the turning of successful peacebuilding practices – for example, Zones or Spaces of Peace – into systematic, transferable modules making them available to others in the Network and beyond.
- Engage interns in ethnographic studies of indigenous forms of peacebuilding, e.g., local councils; indicators of reconciliation: “when one is able again to borrow salt from a neighbor”; sharing religious festivals and feasts; bombed home as healing

center for women; means and depth by which Peace Space/Zones penetrate various aspects of a community, e.g., family feuds, murder, etc.

- Suggest for advanced peacebuilding study -- by research scholars or student theses -- innovative approaches to major conflict issues, e.g., sanctions; land use; etc.

3. Building Capacity

- Broadcast peacebuilding training needs/opportunities of special groups, e.g., peacebuilding orientation for bishops; rapid response teams for geographical sectors; Inter-religious Leaders Forum; Islamic-derived training program for trainers; Master Trainer programs; etc.
- Invite Network members with fund-raising and/or partnership development capacity to study self-sustainability concerns for the continuation of peacebuilding activities.
- Encourage the field-testing of indicators in the pursuit of monitoring and evaluation, best practices and other major research needs of this emerging discipline.
- Foster collectively the development of strategically placed Catholic-connected peacebuilding capacity centers/institutes – bishops’ Institute in South Africa; French-speaking center in the Kivu; Peace Institute in Haiti; WANEP; MPI/Grassroots Learning Center; etc. -- and encourage their collaboration and growth.
- Enable the assembly of those interested in mobilizing “various mechanisms embedded in society” (business sector, families, churches, civil society organizations, etc.) to devise ways for getting these sectors to work together for peace.

4. Developing a Theology of Just Peace

- Jointly discover ways of including local contexts and praxis in the Just Peace writing project.
- Supplement present Just Peace writing team by giving it a gender balance and by the inclusion of contributors from the South.
- Link those interested in making more explicit and, therefore, more effective local, faith-based rituals and sacramentals, e.g., “vision of St. Teresa” in ICP for IDPs; “Peace Week” journey as pilgrimage; “Peace Space/Zone” as sanctuary (Rwanda); pre-K peace table as altar; community forgiveness as public confession; etc.

