



The Mother Tree at the Children's Meeting Place, United Nations, Nairobi, Kenya.

Report

International Roots Meeting (2004) and preparations for the "Way Forward"

by Ms Kajsa B. Dahlström
President Globetree

Bergsgatan 2 (III), S-112 23 Stockholm, Sweden

Tel.: +46 (0)8-652 3527; Fax: (0)8-652 2177

E-mail: kajsa@globetree.org

Homepage: www.globetree.org

Report submitted to:

The Commission on Environment, Secretariat of Union of the Baltic Seas UBC-LVRLAC project during Oct-Dec 2004 (Ref. nr. 71004521 to Sida contribution)

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Foreword and Acknowledgements

Foreword

The International Roots Meeting of 15-20 November 2004 was the product from 3 years of intensive preparatory work wherein a network of children/youth, contacts in schools and NGOs in Sweden and East Africa was established. Due to several external constraints that delayed and hindered the timely release of funds, still 171 children and youth managed to attend the International Roots Meeting. These children carried home the positive spirit and results to their classmates in more than 30 schools in at least 14 cities/municipalities. Their continued concerns and needs serve as the strongest motivation for them and the adults to continue to strengthen incentives and independent initiatives for actions. The children have found friends with common concerns who will champion their needs. Children from countries around the Baltic Sea and Lake Victoria will now look forward to the Stockholm Water Symposium (August 2005) and the World Championship in Cooperation (June 2006) where they can demonstrate their cooperative work and concerns.

At the International Roots Meeting children prepared questions and presented them to a discussion panel of East African and Swedish Mayors and representatives from 14 cities. The children will continue to meet and voice their concerns on the future of their education and of their classmates. They also want to be able to communicate with one another by email and to report their activities in an e-newsletter. There are concerns over child abuse and their classmates who are sick with HIV/AIDS. They wish to have more trees in their school and a cleaner environment where they can learn and also play.

Children also sat together preparing greetings and messages, in which they narrated their concerns to the UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan, who in his earlier statements to the Children's Meeting Place showed that he understands their needs and share their concerns.

Globetree organizational structure of networks with schools, NGO/CBOs and local authorities offers a platform for children and youth. Children can now meet and talk to adults/decision makers at the Children's Meeting Places in 7 cities in the Lake Victoria Region (Homa Bay, Kisumu in Kenya; Mwanza in Tanzania; Busia, Entebbe, Kampala, Mukono in Uganda) and 4 cities/municipalities in Sweden (Borlänge, Sundsvall, Strängnäs and Värmdö), where two more will be inaugurated this year. Local initiatives to establish Children's Meeting Places have been reported from the Kampala area.

Each one of the Children's Meeting Places has a tree under which they meet in a similar way as that one at the grounds of the United Nations Office Nairobi (UNON), where five bigger gatherings have been taken place.

Activities from the International Roots Meeting are reported along with flash-backs of the 1st and 2nd Preparatory Roots Meetings (April and November 2003). Children have offered a collection of conclusions and recommendations which will be used to prepare a strategic paper as the base of a concrete Action Plan for 2005/2006 and the future. Project-leaders, teachers, community workers, Mayors and their councillors have done the same to take a joint action to ensure education, increase the awareness of the Rights of the Child, reduce child abuse and harassment, HIV/Aids and improve the environment for children.

Acknowledgements

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed in their own ways to the process of preparing the International Roots Meetings over the past 3 years. Mayors and councillors from many municipalities, experts, project-leaders, and heads of schools, teachers, numerous children, youth, friends and volunteers have supported the Globetree staff with their materials for this report.

Globetree wish to thank all of you for your participation in the Roots Meeting. We know the amount of work needed to prepare for the participation, which also have been acknowledged in the reports of the First and Second Preparatory Roots Meeting.

For the International Roots Meeting and Way Forward we wish to give a warm thank you to:

- The Swedish Ambassador Bo Göransson, Kenya for your participation in the Roots Meeting
- LVRLAC; The Chairman, H.W. the Mayor of Entebbe Mr. Stephen Kabuye for the special support in making the Roots Meeting possible. The Board of Directors H.W. Mayor Dr. Stephen Agullo Peter, Homa Bay and Mayor Leonard B. Bihondo, Mwanza, Tanzania. Thank you for your support to the vision of the Children's Meeting Place. Ag. Secretary General Dr. Julius Ayo Odongo for your efforts to find the funding for the Roots Meeting.
- We wish to thank all Mayors and Councillors. We know your time is limited; still you committed yourself to join for many days to listen and learn from children. We also wish to thank you for your receiving us in your cities, personal guidance, dialogues with councillors, principal of schools, teachers and children. We will keep all these days together as an inspiration for future efforts.
- LVRLAC Woman Network. Your encouragements and determination have been and still is such an inspiration.
- UBC, Mr. Risto Veivo, who together with Dr. Ayo, LVRLAC Secretariat took the time to find possible ways to finance the Roots Meeting. We know it required a lot of work.
- Sida, Mr. Per Karlsson and David Nilsson for your support in finding ways to bring the proposal into action.
- UNEP, Dir. of the Division of Communications and Public Information, Mr Eric Falt and Mr. Theodore E.A. Oben, Program Officer Youth and Sports Program. At the moment you knew the UN Security Council Meeting would take place at the dates of the Roots Meeting you took personal actions to support us to make the necessary changes. Thank you for your support with an office at UNEP and all other support in these difficult days. We also wish to thank you Mr. Falt for taking your time to participate in the Mayor's Meeting and meet with all children under their tree.
- UNON, Chief Buildings Management, Mr Jack Howard. You have been such a support in the preparations for the 7 Stones Fireplace at the Children's Meeting Place.
- We thank all the experts. Thank you for coming and sharing your professional skills and personal concern with both children and adults. A special thank you to Ms. Elisabet Idermark, Information Officer, GIWA, Kalmar and Prof. Ms. Gunnel Dalhammar, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.

- The National Museums of Kenya has been an important place of meeting for all Globetree activities and with special focus on the heritage-the roots. We wish to thank so many of you at the museum. Our special thanks to Dr. Idle Omar Farah, Director General and Mr. Joseph Cheruiyot, Chief Curator (now retired). You and your staff helped us solve so many problems and you supported us at moments when we hardly thought we would manage all necessary changes. Thank you also for giving all premises for free as well as all other technical and practical support.
- Bomas of Kenya is a must in the Globetree programs. We always receive a lot of support and the programs remain in our memories. Special thanks to Information Officer, Ms. Margaret W. Chege and her colleagues.
- Participants in the Seven Stones Ceremony from all the continents. You travelled far and you took personal care of the inauguration ceremony. Your discussions and concern to find a common way forward carried on into the nights.
- All of you who received us all for the study visits in your schools and centers. The visits help us understand the every day life of children in need.
- The management of YMCA and the Olive Gardens. You helped us at all hours to welcome all participants and give them a good home during the Roots Meeting.
- All volunteers. The Roots Meeting would not be possible without your help – at all hours. Without hesitation you took off to solve unexpected problems at all hours.
- All participants. Children, youth, teachers, chaperons and parents. Some of you travelled far and some of you walked some kilometers to join the Roots Meeting. All of you made so many preparations at schools, preschools, home and centers. Without you and all your preparations and support the Roots Meeting would not take place. Special thanks to all project-leaders and teachers supporting all children to make their visions and wishes visible.
- Pillars of Hope; Jane Ruvaga, Moses N'dungu, Jane Ramu, Faith W. Mbote, Joseph Cheruiyot and Margaret Mwaura. You are indeed the Pillars. Your preparations and your support at all hours is the foundation for the Roots Meeting.
- To all of you who have participated in the preparations, the event and the follow up of the Roots Meeting. Special thanks for all your writings and photos. Some of them are in this report. Forgive us for not mentioning your names.
- A special thank you to Mr. Jacky Foo for your help in making this report and the Way Forward.

Special thanks to all children and youth. Your joy, concern, questions, worries, smiles, tears, love and care is the spirit of the Children's Meeting Place and the Roots Meeting.

Ms. Kajsa B. Dahlström

President Globetree

March 2005

1.0 Summary

The International Roots Meeting took place in Nairobi 15-20 Nov. 2004 and was organized by Globetree and the Pillars of Hope (Nairobi) in cooperation with the Lake Victoria Regional Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) and its Women's Network. It brought together 290 children, youth and adults from Kenya, Sweden, Tanzania and Uganda together for various types of activities that would foster cooperation between children and youth and in particular between Sweden, countries of the Baltic Sea and countries around the Lake Victoria.

1.1

The International Roots Meeting (Nov 2004) was the result of preparatory meetings and workshops that started in 2001 and in the process, it has involved several thousands of children and youth from schools and non-governmental and community based organizations in more than 14 cities in Kenya, Sweden, Tanzania and Uganda.

The objectives of the International Roots Meeting were:

- to enable children to jointly voice their concerns to adults,
- to bring together teachers, community workers, professionals and city councillors of different backgrounds to dialogue with children and to respond to their needs,
- to involve adults in important roles to ensure children of their rights,
- to contribute suggestions and recommendations of a strategic plan of action and activities called the "Way Forward" for 2005 and 2006.

1.2

The goal of the Children's Meeting Place program is to bring together children and youth from 7 cities in Sweden, 7 cities in East Africa and 7 cities from the Baltic countries. Several common themes have been discussed by children at these Children's Meeting Places and these themes are the Rights of the Child, child abuse and injustice, the environment, education and others. The children and youth also came up with ideas to develop activities to make their world a better place. They participated via their local organizations which may be schools, community centers, NGOs, special centers and Children and Youth Network. Their actions, at the same time, also responded to UN strategy for development – the Millennium Development Goals.

1.3

Response to the needs of children and youth also came from Mayors and Councillors from city councils, teachers and staff from schools and various organizations. All of them have joined their common mission and to listen and help the children.

1.4

The International Roots Meeting had cultural and social activities (drama, dance, sports, ceremonies, etc.) as well as workshops and meetings for three groups of participants (a) children and youth (b) teachers and staff of organizations (c) Mayors and Councillors. All activities dealt with concerns of children and youth and how adults can help improve the situation for them.

1.5

Between 2003 and 2004, because of the Roots meetings the following have been achieved and/or enabled:

- 11 major Children's Meeting Places have been inaugurated.
- two Children and Youth Networks with local chapters were established
- more than 70 meetings, public activities or events were organized
- more than 100 schools are involved and more than 50,000 students can be involved in future activities
- more than 50 East Africans visited Sweden and 200 Swedes have visited East Africa

1.6

Suggestions from Children and Youth on what they wish to do and supportive activities from adults will now be formulated into a Plan of Action for 2005-2006.

2.0 Introduction

This report provides readers with information about the International Roots Meeting which was held between 15-20 Nov 2004 in Nairobi and the follow up Nov-Dec. 2004 in the Lake Victoria and Baltic Sea Region.

Preparatory meetings and workshops started in 2003 and involved several thousands of children and youth from schools and non-governmental and community based organizations in more than 14 cities in Kenya, Sweden, Tanzania and Uganda.

The objectives of the International Roots Meeting were:

- to facilitate children to jointly voice their concerns to adults,
- to bring together teachers, community workers, professionals and city councillors of different backgrounds to dialogue with children and to respond to their needs,
- to involve adults in important roles to ensure children of their rights,
- to contribute suggestions and recommendations to the future formulation of a strategic plan of action/activities called the "Way Forward" for 2005 and 2006.

Design of activities for the Meeting was therefore in the form of workshops, presentations, and opportunities to share ideas for cooperation. Social and cultural activities were organised by the children while the organizers arranged special events for everyone. The program for the International Roots Meeting also included workshops for teachers and for mayors/city councillors. Results from discussions are reported here.

Programs

- International Roots Meeting – The Way Forward (15–20 Nov), (for all participants)
- Mayors Meeting (18–20 Nov) (includes public and closed sessions for invited guests only)
- Seminar Program International Roots Meeting (17 Nov)
- Follow-ups - Workshop and consultations (21 Nov – 31 Dec)

International Roots Meeting – The Way Forward

15 – 20 November 2004, Nairobi, Kenya (modified programme for general participants)

Monday 15th Welcome to Nairobi (Swedish participants)

- 17.00 Swedish participants arrive to Nairobi
- 18.30 Pillars of Hope (the Nairobi hosts) welcome the Swedish participants staying at YMCA
- 19.30 Pillars of Hope (the Nairobi hosts) welcome the Swedish participants staying at Olive Gardens

Tuesday 16th Children's Garden & National Museums of Kenya

- 09.00 Visit to the Children's Garden, Dagoretti Center and the Abandoned Baby Center in Nairobi (in 2 groups)
- 12.00 Arrival of the Lake Victoria and Nairobi participants
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.00 Welcome address, Curator of the National Museums of Kenya, Mr. Simon Gatheru
- 14.05 Welcome to Nairobi! – The Pillars of Hope
- 14.10 Roots Meeting and the Way Forward Ms. Kajsa Dahlström, President Globetree and Mr. Peroy Kirchner Program Director, Globetree
- 14.25 Presentation of all groups from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Sweden
- 15.00 Welcome to Our Tree – Children and Youth
- 15.10 The Children's Meeting Place, National Museums of Kenya - Nairobi Botanical Garden, Manager William Wambugu
- 15.20 Meet and Greet – the Children's Way
- 16.30 Group photo
- 16.45 Participants from Nairobi to home
- 17.30 Dinner at the National Museums of Kenya

Wednesday 17th Study day & working groups

- 09.00 Visit to Children's Garden and short sightseeing of Nairobi (the Lake Victoria Region participants - 2 groups)
- 09.00 Visit to schools: Muslim Primary, Kilimani or Ndururua school (Swedish participants - 3 groups)
- 12.00 Lunch at respective hostel
- 13.30 YMCA participants to Olive Gardens
- 14.00 Artful messages from the Children's Meeting Place to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan
- 15.00 Seminar Roots Meeting – Way Forward at Olive Gardens
- 18.00 Dinner at Olive Gardens
- 19.30 Cultural Evening at Olive Gardens; Host: The Kenyan and Tanzanian participants

Thursday 18th National Museum of Kenya

- 09.00 Children and Youth prepare questions to the Mayors
- 11.00 Mayors, the Woman Network and councillors of LVRLAC arrive
- 11.30 Lunch
- 13.00 Children's Welcome to their guests
- 13.15 Mayors address to the children
- 13.20 Lake Victoria Woman Network – address to the children
- 13.30 Sweden and the Lake Victoria Region cooperation - Ambassador Bo Goransson, Swedish Embassy, Kenya
- 13.45 Meet and Greet – The Children's Way
- 14.15 Children's questions to the Mayors
- 15.30 Guided tour of the Museum
- 17.00 Departure to YMCA
- 18.00 Dinner at YMCA
- 19.30 Cultural evening at YMCA. Host ; The Ugandan and Swedish participants

Friday 19th Bomas of Kenya

- 09.00 Welcome to Bomas of Kenya by Bomas Senior Information Officer, Mr. Mohammed Osman Chito
- 09.10 Our messages to the Roots Meeting – Children, youth and adults from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Sweden
- 09.45 Working Groups - The Roots Meeting and the Way Forward
- 11.45 Lunch
- 13.00 Mayors, The Woman Network and children discuss common issues (working groups)
- 13.45 Working Groups (continue) - The Roots Meeting and the Way Forward
- 14.30 Bomas of Kenya - Culture Program
- 15.30 Snack
- 16.00 Bomas of Kenya – Tribal Village Tour
- 18.00 Dinner at respective hostel

Saturday 20th United Nations (Gigiri)

- 09.00 Meet and Greet at United Nations
- 10.00 Preparing the Children's Meeting Place – banners and messages, Working groups
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.30 Children prepare their conclusions and recommendations
- 14.30 Welcome to the Children's Meeting Place!
- 15.00 Conclusions and recommendations - Roots Meeting Way Forward – all groups under The Mother Tree
- 16.30 Light meal
- 17.30 The Seven Stones Ceremony

- Fireplace at The Children's Meeting Place
- The Mother Tree
- The Roots Speak
- 19.30 Departure for all

Mayors Meeting Program

18 – 20 November 2004,
Nairobi, Kenya

Thursday 18th National Museum of Kenya

Morning Mayors and the Woman Network of LVRLAC and councillors of the Lake Victoria Region arrive to the Boulevard Hotel, Nairobi

- 11.30 Lunch at the National Museum of Nairobi
- 13.00 Children's Welcome to the Mayors, Woman Network and Councillors of Lake Victoria Regions
- 13.15 Mayors and Woman Network address to the children
- 13.30 Sweden and the Lake Victoria Region Cooperation – Ambassador Bo Goransson, Swedish Embassy, Kenya
- 13.45 Meet and Greet - the children's way
- 14.15 Children's questions to the Mayors
- 15.30 (Closed Session and with Invited Guests only)
Roots Meeting – Way Forward LVRLAC - Globetree
H.W. Mayor Stephen Kabuye, Chairman LVRLAC
Councillor Illuminata Mwita, LVRLAC Woman Network
M/s Kajsa Dahlström, President Globetree
Reporting: The Children's Meeting Place
Chairman: H.W. Mayor of Entebbe, Mr. Stephen Kabuye
H.W. Mayor of Mwanza, Mr Leonard B. Bihondo
H.W. Mayor of Kisumu, M/s Prisca Auma
H.W. Mayor of Homa Bay, Dr. Stephen Agullo Peter
H.W. Mayor of Busia, Mr Michael Mugeni
H.W. Mayor of Mukono, Mr. Johnson Muyanja Senyonga
- 18.00 Evening meal together with the children at YMCA
- 19.30 Cultural evening at YMCA; Host : The Ugandan and Swedish participants

Friday 19th Bomas of Kenya

- 09.00 Welcome to Bomas of Kenya, Bomas Senior Information Officer, Mr. Mohammed Osman Chito
- 09.10 Messages to the Roots Meeting – children, youth and adults from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Sweden
- 09.45 Closed Session: Roots Meeting – Way Forward LVRLAC - Globetree
H.W. Dep. Mayor of Kampala, Dr. Hasib Kabuye Takuba

Mayor City of Strängnäs, Mr. Anders Svensson. I hold the Golden Key! My Promise to the Children

Ms. Tori Carlsson speaking on behalf of the Municipal Commissioner of Robertsfors (Sweden)

Ms Sara Persson speaking on behalf of the Municipal Commissioner of Kalmar (Sweden), Municipal Commissioner of Värmdö (Sweden), Report

Dalaskippet/The Dalavessel – Cooperation between municipalities in the Dalarna Region

Mr. Anders Sundvall, Managing Director, Sustainable Development for Education, NaturResursCentrum Dalarna (Sweden)

Save a drop of water today to safe water for everyone tomorrow. Prof. Gunnel Dahlhammar, Royal Institute of Technology, Environmental Microbiology. Lake Victoria and the Baltic Sea – a need for concern for the shared water.

Ms. Elisabet Idermark, M. Sc. Information Officer GIWA - Global International Waters Assessment (a water programme led by the United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP)

- 11.45 Lunch
- 13.00 Mayors and children discuss common issues (working groups)
- 13.45 Working Groups - The Roots Meeting and the Way Forward
- 14.30 Bomas of Kenya – Culture Program
- 15.30 Coffee/tea
- 16.00 Bomas of Kenya – Tribal Village Tour
- 17.00 Return to Boulevard Hotel
- 19.30 Dinner at hotel

Saturday 20th United Nations (Gigiri)

- 09.00 Departure for the United Nations (from hotel)
(Closed Session with Invited Guests only)
- 09.30 Preparations for Conclusions and Recommendations of the Way Forward
LVRLAC - Globetree
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.30 World Championship in Cooperation and The Way Forward – Mr. Eric Falt,
Director United Nations Information Center
- 14.30 Children welcome the mayors to the Children's Meeting Place – The Mother
Tree
- 15.00 Conclusions and recommendations – The Way Forward – All Groups
- 16.30 Light meal
- 17.30 The Seven Stones Ceremony
Fireplace at The Children's Meeting Place
The Mother Tree
The Roots Speak
- 19.30 Departure for all

Seminar Program:

17 November 2004 at the United Nations, Nairobi

- 09.30 The Vision of the Roots Meeting M/s Kajsa B. Dahlström, President Globetree
- 09.45 Woman Network in the Lake Victoria Region. How we support one another!
M/s Rose Mary Tumusiime, LVRLAC Women Network, Uganda
- 10.15 The Rights of the Child and Agenda 21 – Two Hands Working Together
M/s Ann-Mari Vråmo initiator of the Children's Ombudsman, Växjö (Sweden)
M/r Peter Wenster, Local Agenda 21 Coordinator at the Swedish Association of Local Authorities
- 10.45 Ancient Wisdom in Modern Education
Shri. Soenam T. Jamyangling, Swedish-Tibetan School- and Culture Association, Stockholm (Sweden)
- 11.45 Take care of the young and old roots! The Sami children and their heritage.
M/s Sigrid Stångberg, Teacher Sami School. Tärnaby (Sweden)
- 12.15 We have a lot in common! Similarities in expressions of art and culture
M/s Harriet Nordlund, Director Beaivvas Sami Theatre
- 12.45 The Inca Trail of Wisdom
M/r. Allen Holmquist, Santa Fe, New Mexico (USA)
- 13.15 Lunch
- 14.30 I learn from my young partners!
M/s Tori Carlsson, Director, International Youth Forum, Robertsfors Municipality (Sweden)
- 15.00 Children's Meeting Place, Kisumu City Hall
M/s Tori Carlsson, Director, International Youth Forum, Robertsfors Municipality (Sweden)
- 15.00 Young Voices – we can make a difference when we link up to one another!
M/s Anifa Amada, Youth Coordinator Mwanza, (Tanzania)
M/s Winnie Odhiambo, Youth Coordinator Kisumu (Kenya)
- 16.00 Art is the language of children
M/r. Fumbuki S.M. Lubasa, Lecturer Butimba Teacher's College, (Tanzania)
Peroy Kirchner, Globetree, Stockholm (Sweden)
- 17.00 Reflections of the Roots Meeting Open Forum - Discussions
M/S Monica Atieno Afuodi, Deputy Mayor, Homa Bay (Kenya)
M/s Maria Conchita Högberg (Sweden)
- 19.00 Dinner. Culture Program. Children and adults together

Follow-ups - Workshop and consultations (21 Nov – 31 Dec 2004)

- Drafting of the Way Forward LVRLAC – Globetree
- Feed back from the working groups of the Lake Victoria and Baltic Sea region.
- Draft of Minutes is sent to all stakeholders for comments.
- Follow up meeting in Lake Victoria Region and to Swedish municipalities.
- Way Forward Document ready by the 31st of December.

3.0 Term of Reference

This report is submitted to the Secretariat of Union of the Baltic Sea/Commission on Environment, Turku, Finland for the UBC-LVRLAC project during Oct-Dec 2004 (Reference number to Sida contribution: 71004521)

3.1

In August 2004 a protocol of cooperation¹ was signed between LVRLAC and Globetree. This formalised a cooperation that started in Sept 2001 at the inauguration of Children's Meeting Place at UNON (Nairobi) where cities and municipalities would dedicate a strong and old tree to children at a central place where children, adults and decision-makers at all levels could meet and dialogue with as a sign of unity. The International Roots Meeting enabled LVRLAC to report on this work.

3.2

At the April 2003 Preparatory Roots Meeting (Nairobi) the conclusions from a dialogue between Executive Director of Habitat M/s Anna Tibaijuka and all the Mayors who attended were:

- To help local mayors to be more international and mainstream the work of UN
- There is a committee of mayors that work as a reference group to Habitat.
- Globalisation in itself is also putting a new and stronger focus on the local level.
- We should join in making important steps for how to make a program including children – even put it in our budgets.
- We should also look for the possibilities on how children and young people can have a place in the organisation of LRVLAC.

Since then, Children's Meeting Places have been established by 7 collaborating LVRLAC cities, Kisumu, Homa Bay, Busia, Mukono, Kampala, Entebbe and Mwanza. Several of the local authorities have now a children and youth unit or department at their city council office. A local Children and Youth Chapter of the LVCYNet (Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network) maintains contact with an appointed Councillor.

3.3

This report further summarises conclusions/suggestions from the International Roots Meeting of Nov 2004 which will be used in the formulation of future cooperative efforts in East Africa via LVRLAC and the Women's Network of LVRLAC in 2005 and 2006.

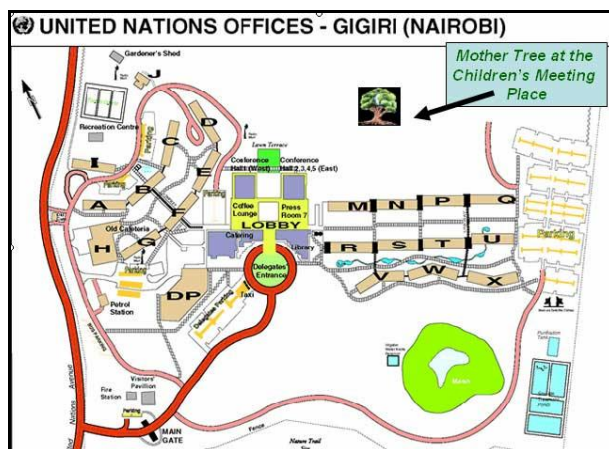
4.0 Background

1. Inauguration of The Children's Meeting Place
2. Events of Significance in 2003 and 2004
3. Table of Events, meetings and Activities (2001-2004)
4. Documents

¹ Protocol of Cooperation between LVRLAC and Globetree (nr. 2004-08-001)

4.1 Inauguration of The Children's Meeting Place

Globetree intensified its global activities for children and youth in Africa when the UNEP Nairobi authorized Globetree to run a Children's Meeting Place in 2001 at the United Nations Office Nairobi (UNON) grounds in Gigiri. The Children's Meeting Place is located on the large open grass lawn in the east of the UNON Lobby. A large Acacia tree serves as the heart of the Children's Meeting Place and was selected because East Africans traditionally use such a type of tree to meet under its shade. This tree at UNON was designated as the 'Mother Tree' for East Africa and several more trees at Children's Meeting Places in cities of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania form a network of meeting places where children can talk elders and discuss issues of mutual concerns. Each participating city (7 in East Africa and 7 in Sweden) will have their own tree at their Children's Meeting Place. Schools have also adopted trees as their meeting places.



The UN in Kenya, with the Children's Meeting Place.



The Mother Tree at the UN.

The inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at UNON in September 2001 led to the idea of organizing the International Roots Meeting in 2004. To prepare this meeting Globetree involved children, youth and adults. Between 2001 and 2004, 4 main meetings at UNON were organized as well as several workshops and gatherings by different groups of people in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Sweden.

The main meetings were:

- Inauguration of The Children's Meeting Place² (Sept 2001)
- 1st Preparatory Roots Meeting³ (06-12 April 2003)
- 2nd Preparatory Roots Meeting⁴ (02-04 Dec 2003)

All activities aimed

- to encourage dialogue between children and adults
- that adults listen to children's wishes and concerns
- that adults respond to children's needs as well as their rights
- at efforts to formalise cooperation with local authorities so that they can effectively support children's needs.

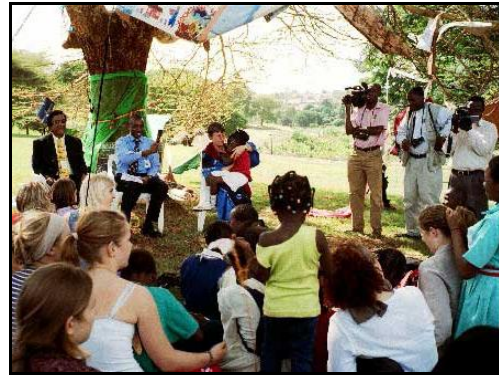
² Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place, UN, Nairobi (nr.2001-09-001).

³ Report First Preparatory Roots Meeting (nr. 2003-04-002)

⁴ 2nd Preparatory Roots Meeting (nr. 2003-11-001)



September 2001.



April 2003.



November 2003.



November 2004.

4.2 Events of Significance in 2003 and 2004

4.2.1 First Preparatory Roots Meeting, Nairobi (April 2003)

Mayors from 6 cities in the Lake Victoria Region and from 5 cities/municipalities of Sweden participated for three days in the Mayor's Meeting and the dialogue between children and mayors set. Guests of Honour and especially invited were: Prof. Wangari Maathai, Assistant Minister for the Environment of Kenya, Mr. Bo Göransson, The Ambassador of Sweden, Dr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP, Ms. Anna Tibaijuka and Executive Director of UN Habitat. H.W. Mayor Stephen Kabuye, Uganda invited children and councillors of Entebbe City Council for the inauguration of a Children's Meeting Place close to the City Hall.

4.2.2 Second Preparatory Roots Meeting (Nov 2003)

In the Second Prep. Roots Meeting (Theme: Children's Meeting Place and Networking in the Lake Victoria Region), members of the Board of LVRLAC and Mayor from six cities were very much involved in creating the joint program and they organised activities:

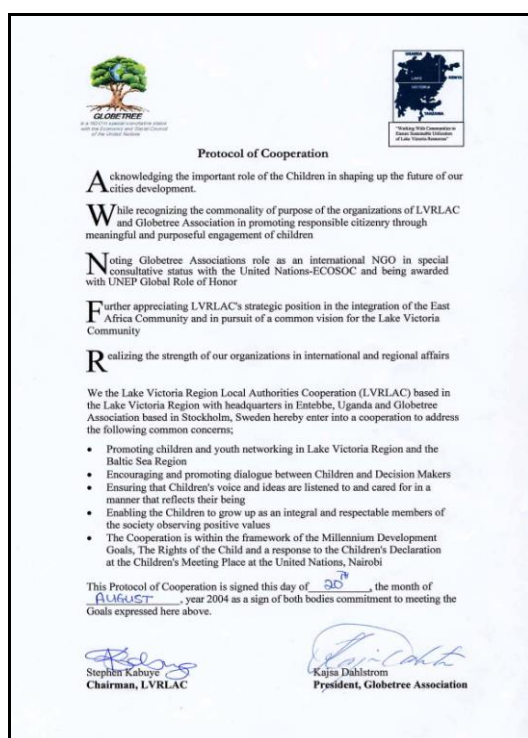
- to inaugurate five new Children's Meeting Places as part of the network in 7 cities in East Africa. The inaugural celebrations were organized and hosted by the respective City Councils and the Mayors of each city
- to select schools for Swedish delegates to visit
- to organise a 3-day seminar-workshop in Entebbe
- to strengthen the program with the Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network (LVCYN), a study-tour was organized for East African delegates, which also

included attendance to the conference “Young Voices of the Baltic Sea” (Kalmar, Sweden; May 2003)

- a 14 days study-tour and different activities for 16 Swedish delegates in Kisumu in Kenya, Mwanza in Tanzania and Busia, Entebbe, Kampala, Mukono in Uganda.

4.2.3 Signing the Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC-Globetree

August 20th of 2004 was an important day when the President of LVRLAC, H.W. the Mayor of Entebbe, Mr. Stephen Kabuye and the President of Globetree Kajsa B. Dahlström signed the Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC-Globetree⁵ to promote children and youth networking in Lake Victoria Region and the Baltic Sea Region. This agreement formalised some 3 years of past activities and will pave the way for joint activities for children in the future between countries around the Baltic Sea and countries of the Lake Victoria region. The International Roots Meeting (Nairobi, Nov 2004) is one such activity that brought African stakeholders (children, youth and elders) to meet their partners from Sweden in Nairobi to establish a plan of action.



The Protocol of cooperation..



The signing of the Protocol.

4.3 Table of Events, meetings and Activities (2001-2004)

The table below provides an overview of the many events, meetings and activities (2001-2004) that concerned the Children's Meeting Place and that contributed to the preparation of the International Roots Meeting.

⁵ Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC-Globetree (nr. 2004-08-001)

Year / Month	Event	Participants	Comments
2001 / February	18th Session of Human Settlements, Nairobi, Kenya	223 participants from Nairobi representing all walks of life from 9 children centres.	Globetree's leadership in Opening Ceremony of Habitats. Guest of Honour: The President of Kenya, Daniel T. Arap Moi - received the children's Our Uniting Water.
2001 / March / April	Future Vessel Event, Nairobi 27th March – 4th April	Groups: City councillors, teachers, experts, children and youth 189 Kenyan participants from 9 children centres 25 participants from 3 Swedish municipalities.	In collaboration with UNEP & Habitat
2001 / April	Initiation of Pillars of Hope	10 persons from 10 children centres/ schools/ institutions in Nairobi	cooperation started in February 2001
2001/ May	Preparation for a children's meeting place.	Participants: 14 children/ youth and 12 adults from 3 Swedish Municipalities meet 126 children and 24 adults from 8 school centres in Nairobi.	Seminars and workshop on ideas how to create a children's meeting place. Location UN and Aborteum, Nairobi.
2001 / August	Stockholm Water Symposium	H.W. Mayor of Entebbe, Mr. Stephen Kabuye (Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation - LVRLAC)	First meeting with LVRLAC
2001 / September	Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at Gigiri, Nairobi 19-21 September	Groups: City councillors, teachers, experts, children and youth 111 African participants from 17 children centres (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia) 12 participants from 6 Swedish Municipalities and Åland/Finland	
2002 / June	Future Vessel, Stockholm Globe Arena; Golden Key Ceremony	2000 participants	The Mayor of Entebbe, Uganda received the Golden Key together with 25 Swedish Mayors/Municipal Commissioners

2002 / October	Water Education for African Cities – Globetree Globe Day	100 children and youth.	Mr. Kalyan Ray, Habitat Nairobi, Chief Infrastructure Section gave a lecture at the Globe Day, the Sida Lecture Hall Mr. Ray met the Mayor of Stockholm at the Stockholm City Hall participated in the creation of a Future Vessel with children and youth
2003 / April	First Preparatory Roots Meeting	Mayors, project leaders, teachers and pupils from Entebbe, Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Kisumu and Mwanza participate at Globetree's Roots Meeting, UN Nairobi 125 African participants from 20 children centres (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania) 47 Swedish participants from 13 Municipalities	Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place – follow up: The Globetree is invited by the Mayors of Mwanza, Kisumu, Busia, Mukono, Kampala and Entebbe to discuss the inauguration programs of the Children's Meeting Place in each city.
2003 / April	Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at the City Hall of Entebbe	1100 participants with representatives from local authorities and all schools in Entebbe	Hosted by Mayor of Entebbe with Mayor of Kampala and President of Globetree as the Guests of Honour
2003 / May	Study Tour to Sweden; Youth representatives from lake Victoria Region 10/5 – 21/5	Youth representatives from 5 African cities were invited to a study tour in Sweden for 11 days.	Cities/municipalities visited: Strängnäs, Kalmar, Haninge, Värmdö, Borlänge
2003 / May	Conference on "Young Voices of the Baltic Sea"	Youth representatives from 5 African cities were invited by the City of Kalmar.	At Globetree, Stockholm, the 'Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network' are established.
2003 / June	Globetree, UNEP and The City of Stockholm Cooperation	UNEP Deputy Exec.Dir. Shafquat Kakakhel visits Globetree	Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson discussed the development of the Children's Meeting Place at UNON and the planned World Championship in Cooperation (2006).

2003 / November	Second Prep. Roots Meeting, Nairobi	Groups: Mayors, Deputy Mayors, councillors, experts, teachers, children and youth 110 African participants from Entebbe, Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Kisumu & Mwanza 15 Swedish participants from Municipality of Stockholm, Falun, Borlänge, Strängnäs, Haninge, Kalmar & Ekerö	field visits made by Swedish participants to Children's Garden Center.
2003 / November	Seminar/workshops in Entebbe, Uganda	Groups: Mayors, councillors, organisations, experts, teachers, artists, pupils and others	1 day lectures session - participants discussed and made project proposals
2003 / November	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Places in Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Mwanza	Kampala : 1200 participants Mukono : 1500 participants Busia : 2000 participants Mwanza : 700 participants	Field visits made by Swedish participants to various schools
2003 / Nov	Communication facility to the Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network	Support provided in the form of assistance in transport of 5 Computers are delivered to the Municipality of Busia and Pillars of Hope, Nairobi	
2003 / December	Christmas celebration at the Children's Meeting Place, UN, Nairobi, Kenya	The Pillars of Hope Network invites 50 children from 5 children centres for a Christmas Celebration.	The children compose their invitation to Kofi Annan to come to their tree. Common concern: "We want to make Kofi Annan happy!"
2004 / February	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Place, Homa Bay, Kenya	Representatives from Local Authorities and schools in Homa Bay and from Kisumu, Busia and the Pillars of Hope Network. Total: 800 participants	Follow up meetings at the City Council, Kisumu, Kenya with City councillors and youth representatives
2004 / April / May 26/4 – 11/5	Twining of Municipalities, Sweden	Mayor of Mukono and Busia, Uganda on a 10-day Study Tour in Sweden together with two teachers from Pillars of Hope and a child with experiences of living on the streets, Nairobi.	Lord Mayor of Stockholm Barry Andersson met the Mayors of Mukono and Busia together with children of Skärholmen

		The City of Mukono is twined with Municipality of Strängnäs	Dialogues with mayors, teachers, children and youth also in the following municipalities: Borlänge, Haninge, Värmdö, Kalmar and Stockholm.
		The City of Busia prepare its twining with the Municipality of Robertsfors	Visit to the Swedish Association of Local Authorities Meeting at Sida Lake Victoria Directorate, Dir. Lars Ekengren and Helen Lindqvist
2004 / May	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Place, Strängnäs - 6th – 7th of May	The Mayors and Kenyan representatives visit Swedish schools and municipalities Borlänge, Kalmar, Robertsfors, Strängnäs and Värmdö	
2004 / June	Preparation for Roots Meeting at UNEP Globetree plans the Roots Meeting with Youth and Sports Program Officer UNEP Theodore E.A. Oben	President of Globetree in Nairobi	
2004 / Aug	Communication facility to the Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network	Support of 60 computers delivered to the Municipalities of Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Mwanza and Pillars of Hope, Nairobi in cooperation with IDEAL, Uppsala.	
2004 / August	Signing the Protocol of Cooperation between LVRLAC and Globetree	The Board of Directors of LVRLAC meet with Globetree during the Stockholm Water Week for signing Protocol of Cooperation	Discussions at the Globetree on a common Way Forward.
2004 / September	seminar on 'Sweden, Baltic Sea and Lake Victoria Region' organized by the Municipality of Saku, Estonia.	representatives of the Municipality of Strängnäs and Globetree	Established contact with the Mayors and the local authorities to discuss the Baltic Sea – Sweden – Lake Victoria cooperation
2004 / Nov-Dec	International Roots Meeting, Nairobi		

4.4 Documents

- Why Children's Meeting Place at UN in Nairobi, Kenya⁶
- Summary of school participation from Kenya (May 2001) by Christina Bodén, The Municipality of Värmdö⁷
- Framtidsskeppet i Kenya 1-8 maj 2001(in Swedish) Värmdö delegation to Nairobi⁸
- First Prep. Roots Meeting April 2003 With additional reports in Swedish(Swedish+English 87 pages)⁹
- First Prep. Roots Meeting April 2003 A prestudy to an exchange program between Lake Victoria Region and Swedish Municipalities connected to the Baltic Sea. (English 57 pages) (6th - 12th of April)¹⁰
- Second Preparatory Roots Meeting Nov 2003. A pre-study to develop projects in and between the Lake Victoria Region and Swedish Municipalities connected to the Baltic Sea¹¹.
- Seminar participants: Children's Meeting Place and Networking in Lake Victoria and the Baltic Sea Region, 2-4 December 2003, Entebbe, Uganda¹²
- The Kisumu Children Meeting Place. Second Preparatory Roots Meeting Entebbe, Uganda. 1-4 December 2003 and the Inauguration of "The Children's Meeting Place" Jamhuri Park- Kisumu, Kenya. 8-9 December 2003 by Bernard O. Obera, Ag. Deputy Director¹³
- The Homa Bay Children Meeting Place. A report on the Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place Homa Bay and the Stakeholders Workshop at the Town Hall, Homa Bay, Kenya, 26-27 February, 2004 by Bernard O. Obera, Ag. Deputy Director¹⁴
- Celebert besök från Afrika 2004-05-04 (Swedish) Mayors from Uganda and teachers from Kenya visits Värmdö Municipality¹⁵
- Barnens dokumentation (Swedish) May 2004 Mayors from Uganda and teachers from Kenya visit to the inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place in the Municipality of Strängnäs.¹⁶
- Lake Victoria Strategy, 2004-2006 (power-point presentation by Per Karlsson on Swedish support to the Lake Victoria Region, 2004-2006)¹⁷
- Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC-Globetree, signed by President of LVRLAC, H.W. the Mayor of Entebbe, Mr. Stephen Kabuye and the President of Globetree Kajsa B. Dahlström¹⁸

⁶ Background to the Children's Meeting Place (nr.2004-11-035)

⁷ Summary of school participation UN, Nairobi (nr. 2001-02-001)

⁸ Värmdö delegation i Nairobi (Swedish) (nr.2001-05-001)

⁹ Report first Preparatory Roots Meeting 2003 (English+Swedish 87 pages) (nr.2003-04-001)

¹⁰ Report first Preparatory Roots Meeting 2003 (English 57pages) (nr.2003-04-002)

¹¹ Second Preparatory Roots Meeting Nov.2003 (nr. 2003-11-001)

¹² List of Seminar Participants from Second Preparatory Meeting (nr. 2003-11-003)

¹³ Report of Kisumu Children's Meeting Place (nr. 2003-11-012)

¹⁴ Report Homa Bay Children's Meeting Place (nr. 2004-02-001)

¹⁵ Uganda Mayors besöker Värmdö (nr. 2004-05-001)

¹⁶ Framtidsskeppet Strängnäs (nr. 2004-05-002)

¹⁷ Lake Victoria Strategy 20004-2006 Powerpoint presentation (nr. 2005-01-002)

¹⁸ Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC - Globetree (nr. 2004-08-001)

5.0. Preparation of the International Roots Meeting

1. Accommodation
2. Preparation of various Special Activities
3. Participants
4. What to bring to Nairobi
5. Documents

The experiences gained from the inaugural meeting in 2001 and the 1st and 2nd Preparatory Roots Meetings in April and Nov of 2003 were extremely useful for the preparations of the International Roots Meeting. In all three earlier cases, the use of different venues at the United Nations Office Nairobi, National Museums of Kenya¹⁹ www.unon.org and Bomas of Kenya also enabled participants to visit these 3 unique places in Nairobi. The local NGO called 'Pillars of Hope' was Globetree's the primary contact and the coordinator for local logistic arrangements.

5.1 Accommodation

Children and adults were accommodated either at the YMCA Central Hostel or at Olive Gardens. Mayors and other honored guests stayed at Boulevard Hotel. Considerations were given to facilitate discussions/planning of projects in the evening/breakfast time.

5.2 Preparation of various Special Activities



Preparations for the "Seven Stone Ceremony"



Package to Kofi Annan

5.3 Participants

290 participants from Kenya²⁰, Sweden²¹, Tanzania²² and Uganda²³ attended the International Roots Meeting.

In the preparation for a budget for the delegation from Lake Victoria Region the plan was to invite 14 persons (6 adults and 8 children/youth) from each of the 7 cities - Kampala, Entebbe, Mukono, Busia, Kisumu, Homa Bay and Mwanza.

¹⁹ See <http://www.unon.org/>

²⁰ Participants from Kenya (nr. 2004-11-022)

²¹ Participants from Sweden (nr. 2004-11-021)

²² Participants from Tanzania (nr. 2004-11-023)

²³ Participants from Uganda (nr. 2004-11-024)

The criteria for local selection of 14 persons were:

- 6 Adults
 - The Mayor
 - 1 Councillor concerned with children issues or education/social issues
 - 1 Leader of the delegation
 - 3 Teachers/children leaders
- 8 Children/Youth
 - 2 from the Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network (1 girl and 1 boy)
 - 2 or 3 children/youth with personal experiences of HIV/Aids, living working on the streets, from poor areas and or children with handicap.
 - 3 or 4 other children/youth

Number of Participants (Total 290)

Kenya	129
Homa Bay	15
Kisumu	16
Nairobi	97
Siaya	1
Uganda	73
Entebbe	27
Kampala	17
Mukono	14
Busia	15
Sweden	61
Tanzania	27
Mwanza	23
Simanjiro	4

Gender Grouping (Total 290)

Adults	119
Sweden	38
Lake Victoria	56
Nairobi	25
Youth	171
Sweden	23
Lake Victoria	76
Nairobi	72
Male	126
Sweden	18
Lake Victoria	62
Nairobi	46
Female	164
Sweden	43
Lake Victoria	70
Nairobi	51

18 Mayors, councillors, Woman's Network and experts

5.4 What to bring to Nairobi

- A small container of water. You shall transport the water in a bottle (not glass!) but for the ceremony maybe you can bring a container which has significance for your area – maybe a small calabash or any other container. Note: The water is only for the young participants.
- A handful of soil. Note: The soil is only for the young participants.
- A small stone from places you care for. What size of the stone? - one that you can hold the stone in your hand you shall be able to embrace it. Note: The stone is for ALL participants – also adults! When you travel together to the Roots Meeting – please tell one another about the stones you bring. Why did you bring this particular stone? What does the stone mean to you – what message does it bring?
- Please bring something symbolizing what you really care for! At the Children's Meeting Place we will have a small ceremony when we unite symbols representing what we care for. The symbol you bring can be anything; maybe a photo of a person you love, a book, a toy, a poem on a piece of paper, a pen (because you love to write!), a seed (because you love nature)...each one of us will know what to bring!
- Questions to the Mayors. We will meet under the Children's Tree and ask questions to the Mayors from 7 cities of the Lake Victoria Region and from Sweden and Norway.
- Please prepare questions to the mayors! We suggest you invite many children in your area to reflect on questions you would like to be asked. When you invite the children to this session, please prepare for a safe atmosphere to make all children feel comfortable to ask questions that really matters to them. Children are often very loyal to adults and ask questions they think adults wish to hear. We wish to know what children really are concerned about! Please also give all children a piece of paper and give them the opportunity to write their questions or make a drawing of their concerns. Please tell the children they don't need to sign their writing/drawings if they don't want to. After you have received the questions we ask you to form small group looking at all questions/contributions and select 5 – 7 questions/ contributions to be brought forward. Please make notes of ALL questions which are presented and please bring ALL contributions (also the ones you get on paper) to the Roots Meeting! At the Roots Meeting we will have a working group which will select about 16 questions which will be asked to the Mayors at the Children's Meeting Place. (The children will also have the opportunity to meet the Mayors in smaller groups and ask more than the 16 selected questions).
- Presentation of the concerns. After reading the questions from the children you will have an idea what is of concern for children/youth in your city.
- Stage performance. Please ask the children coming to the Roots Meeting to make a stage performance based on the questions/concerns of the children/youth. IMPORTANT: The presentation shall not be longer than 3 – 4 minutes! The presentation can be any way the children/youth prefer; they can use any expressions of art, drama, music, songs, poetry, masks, visual materials, etc. The presentations will be presented at the Museum or Bomas or at the Children's Meeting Place. Only one program per city! We will not have time for more! If children/youth are selected from different school the preparations for the

program can give a good opportunity for all to meet and agree on the common concern from your city.

- A Banner for the Children's Tree. The Children's Meeting Place – The Mother Tree is an area around a big Acacia Tree. Please invite children/youth of your city/municipality to make the Banner with messages the children and youth of your city wish to share with the world. Make sure the name of your city/municipality is mentioned on the Banner/sign boards. The Banner can be of any material! You can also make a signboard out of harder material, which will last for years and be seen in the Children's Tree for many years to come. Make sure the Banner or sign board has ropes or anything else which makes it possible to hang it in the branches.
- Your Paper for the Roots Meeting. Please make a summary of your preparations and your wishes for a Way Forward on paper! Your paper shall have sections showing which part is from children, youth and adults. Please make the paper reflect the many aspects of the children's contributions and of course the reflections of adults! The paper will be handed over to the persons in charge of reporting and will form the foundation of the Way Forward. In your paper please include as attachments;
 - all questions to the Mayors
 - describe what is said on the banner/other presentations for the Tree – (maybe add a photo)
 - a description of the (art)program presented
 - the children bring water and soil – why did they choose that place?
 - when you travel together and present the stone to one another – please make notes and add to the attachments! (It's OK with scribbles!)
- List of participants. Please send a list of all participants by email to Globetree (peroy@globetree.org) In your list of participants please include: Family name, first and middle name (please be clear and consequent to write the names in that order!), Female/Male, age, title (children can be pupil/student), name of working place (for children name of school), city, e-mail. If you use Microsoft Word, please use the tabs to separate the different columns. Or preferably Microsoft Excel - then each part can easily be separated. Please make a note of the Group Leader. Please bring 3 copies of your participation list! We will need the lists when entering the United Nations. The security is very strict these days – without a list of persons entering United Nations you might not get entry – so please make sure the list is up to date – and 3 copies! Thanks!
- Newcomers. Some of you have participated in Globetree programs – some are newcomers. It's important that newcomers read the background material! (a) The Children's Meeting Place / Children's Declaration which was the result of the inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place/ United Nations Nairobi <http://www.globetree.org/pdf/ChildrensMeetingPlace.pdf> (b) The reports from the First Preparatory Roots Meeting http://www.globetree.org/pdf/report-rootsmeeting_1285_english_only.pdf (c) Second Preparatory Roots Meeting <http://www.globetree.org/afrika/lakevictorianetwork2003nov/2ndpreprootsmeeing.pdf> (d) Be aware of the two UN-documents, Convention of the Rights of the Child and Agenda 21. A short version of the two documents called CREA 21 (the creative union of the Rights of the Child and Agenda 21) can be found at http://www.globetree.org/infomaterial/e_bra21.html.

5.5 Documents

Preparations and Materials for ALL Participants

- Preparations for Roots Meeting²⁴
- Background information to Invitation²⁵
- International Roots Meeting²⁶
- Practical information for Roots Meeting²⁷
- Program Masai Mara²⁸
- Seminar Program²⁹
- Program International Roots Meeting³⁰
- Program Mayors Meeting³¹

6.0 Children's Dialogue with Mayors and Councillors

1. Objective and Background
2. Questions by children and Responses
3. Documents

6.1 Objective and Background

The objective was to enable children and youth to present questions of their concerns that they have discussed in children's workshops directly to elders (Mayors, councillors, decision-makers and special guests) The elders responded directly to the children. In these dialogues, elders have been surprised at how much children know, that it can be difficult to respond to children's questions even though the questions look simple, and that elders can also learn from children. These dialogues allow elders and children to discuss public issues from the children's perspectives.



²⁴ Preparations Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-015)
²⁵ Background information to invitation (nr. 2004-11-035)
²⁶ International Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-011)
²⁷ Practical information for Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-017)
²⁸ Program Masai Mara (nr. 2004-11-016)
²⁹ Seminar Program (nr. 2004-11-019)
³⁰ Program International Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-020)
³¹ Program Mayors Meeting (nr. 2004-11-018)

Some of the common concerns of children in April 2003 and their questions³² were:

- Where will we get wood if we can't cut trees?
- How will you see to it that all children get food?
- How will you see to it that all children get education?
- What are decision makers going to do to stop circumcision?
- What are the measures to make sure that every child has education, food, water and possibilities to influence the society?
- How can you STOP child abuse

6.2. Questions by children and Responses

Below are some responses to specific questions that children asked during the dialogues.



Mayors and children in dialogue. (Please note that pictures do not indicate the persons asked the questions or responded to them)

Q1: How do you know that the decision you make for children are the right ones?

Answers:

The one that make decisions has one time been a child. Also we need the children's reflections of today on different issues. This meeting bring real peace. This is the way to do it. Not to sit in big hotels and talk about peace which is actually war. These children will work for peace. The friendship between the mayors is crucial for peace.

I have also been a child and I reflect over my own past. I also talk with the child's voice inside of me

Q2: How can we make sure that the street children's rights are secured and not violated ?

Answers:

In the orphanage you have to secure that they will have a family. The people who work there should also function as a family.

³² Questions of the Children to their Mayors (nr. 2004-11-007)

For the ones that have run away you should speak to their parents. Give them a safe home and education.

Sometimes when you end up on the street, maybe you couldn't find the way back home.

Keep in mind that it is not simple to create security and safety.

Work on how to reach cultures still using this initiation thing for going in to adulthood.

"Everything that is back in the culture should be replaced with new initiation rites.

We must clear up the streets; create homes, support families and health services.

Children that have run away from home have probably been badly treated. We must discuss these issues with the families.

Educate parents also, a joint action. Involve the private sector and not only the police.

There are also a lot of NGO's that earn money on street children by letting the children be on the streets and misuse the system.

Another perspective! There are different reasons for becoming a street child. Maybe you have a home but you are abused. We must look at the role of men. We men must become more understanding and emotional to our children. We must work hard against unemployment as that creates a lot of frustration which also often hits the children.

More and more children are becoming street children. Please children, be polite to your parents and if you cannot stay at home with them look for a good relative but keep of the streets.

Modernization adds greed to our materialized world. Children are often neglected and abused

How can we keep good traditions alive? We must find new ways of communication. and negotiation.

One child I know of took its parents to court.

One boy I know of had very high school marks before his parents died. His uncle who took care of him afterwards did not take any time for him. Life did not go well for him.

When we talk about the Child's Rights we also have to talk about how to implement the rights.

Q3. How can you see that the right of the street children is not violated?

Answers:

We must clear up the streets; create homes, support families and health services.

Children that have run away from home have probably been badly treated. We must discuss these issues with the families.

Educate parents also, a joint action. Involve the private sector and not only the police.

There are also a lot of NGO's that earn money on street children by letting the children be on the streets and misuse the system.

Another perspective! There are different reasons for becoming a street child. Maybe you have a home but you are abused. We must look at the role of men. We men must become more understanding and emotional to our children. We must work hard against unemployment as that creates a lot of frustration which also often hits the children.

More and more children are becoming street children. Please children, be polite to your parents and if you cannot stay at home with them look for a good relative but keep off the streets.

Modernization adds greed to our materialized world. Children are often neglected and abused

How can we keep good traditions alive?

We must find new ways of communication. Negotiation.

One child I know of took its parents to court.

One boy I know of had very high school marks before his parents died. His uncle who took care of him afterwards did not take any time for him. Life did not go well for him.

When we talk about the Child's Rights we also have to talk about how to implement the rights. Rights and obligations.

Q4. How can you see that all children have their rights?

Answers:

The right to education, protection, a roof over our heads and protection against outrage.

Food, health, and aids are expensive

Q5: What are you doing to prevent children become street children?

Answers:

We try to take them of the street by providing education for the children and thereby keep them of the street. It's essential that the parents understand that education is important.

It was said two years ago that all education is free so now even the poor can get an education.

Poverty and welfare for children and youths. Children need homes, take them to a orphanage and give them job, education and trying to make them undependable. We get wives for them.

Q6: What social facilities have you put in place to ensure that children and youth have a chance to use their leisure time well?

Answers:

A place for leisure, amusement park for the children. Benches for leaders and people from the government are there to answer questions. We need more "toys".

Q7: What are you doing about equal distribution of resources especially on education?

Answers:

It's right that all have the same opportunities in life regardless of who you are. Girls have received an extra resource to prevent them from staying home and clean. This has also been given to children with special needs. No child is left behind.

Q8: What are you doing to ensure that every child is enjoying the benefits of children's rights?

Answers:

In year 2000 there was a law that you had to ensure children's rights. It's supplemented in all questions.

Inform about their rights and responsibilities. Parents abuse because they do not know. Mothers are targets for the information and so are schools. Teachers must know the rights of the children.

Create youth councils, student councils etc. Let it influence every school.

Laws of children's rights. We have an officer who makes it happen.

Q9: What can you do to make a better life for the people with disabilities?

Answers:

Disabled people in the government, so that they can talk about the needs. It needs more than just removing stairs.

Presentation in parliament.

Free education.

Q10: What can you do to ensure that all children can afford to go to school?

Answers:

Schools are without fees now. Because of this the government force the parents to send their children to school. All schools including higher levels are free, first and second level in school.

The school is compulsory and it's criminal if they do not go to school. The children who are clever can continue for free and as for the University you will be able to borrow money.

Q11: What are you doing about the unemployment of the young people?

Answers:

Unemployment is hard. We are trying to invite them to start their own private companies to reduce unemployment. But still education is important. Also they can work after school.

Those who are serious, no problems. You just have to tell them to do something about their unemployment, otherwise they are just lazy.

Start training centres to learn skills.

Five hundred thousand new jobs and mature people will receive jobs.

Q12: What are you doing to prevent AIDS/HIV?**Answers:**

We have to change our behaviour. Social life keeps you away from making romance. Plain sex. Do not go to the ghettos.

If you do not educate women this problem will not have a solution. Some families might have AIDS; we give them a home and help them out.

A B C, Awareness. Do not have sex before your married and avoid adultery

Q13: How far have you gone to involve children and youth in decision-making?**Answers:**

Children take part in all the decisions that take place in every question. We are trying to improve.

Local councils and children meetings, to make it possible for the youth to take part. Children can say what they want at our meetings.

Q14: What can you do to reduce the gap between the poor and the rich?**Answers:**

We adopt a "Robin Hood" economy; tax the rich more and the poor less.

Pay taxes so we can reduce the gap

Education, avoid group influence.

A lot has been done. "Micro finance", if you put money in the bank and ask somebody to certify what you want to do and then you can borrow money. Start your own business.

The leaders are very engaged in this question but the needs are very big so it will take time.

The elders also responded that

free education is of essential importance to all children and they should make full use of it.

school is an important place where we can meet children and youth.

Children and Youth units at city council should be established and to facilitate their participation in Children and Youth Cabinets e.g. as already available in the Nairobi City council.

Children are not only a part of the future; they are an important part of today.

6.2. Documents

- Questions and answers (pdf; see pages 42-44)³³

³³ Questions of Children to their Mayors (nr. 2004-11-007)

7.0. Children and Youth Workshops

1. Preparation and Organization of Workshops
2. Discussion Sessions
3. Recommendations and special evaluations
4. Documents

7.1. Preparation and Organization of Workshops

Children and Youth Workshop activities were designed to enable them to voice and share their needs and concerns with others so that they have a special bonding amongst their group. Their expressions of their concerns were also made in the form of art and drama that were presented in different social events and places. The workshops ensured that their concerns were heard by the elders. These enhanced greater awareness of adults on what the children's concerns and needs are. They will also be very useful to enable development of future projects that will respond to childrens' concerns.

In preparation of the discussion sessions, delegation coordinators from each city were asked to involve children and youth networks to help prepare the delegates with the following materials:

Questions to the Mayors. invite many children in your area to reflect on questions you would like to be asked the Mayors. When you invite the children to this session, please prepare for a safe atmosphere to make all children feel comfortable to ask questions that really matters to them. Children are often very loyal to adults and ask questions they think adults wish to hear. We wish to know what children really are concerned about! Please also give all children a piece of paper and give them the opportunity to write their questions or make a drawing of their concerns. Please tell the children they don't need to sign their writing/drawings if they don't want to. After you have received the questions we ask you to form small group looking at all questions/contributions and select 5 – 7 questions/ contributions to be brought forward. Please make notes of ALL questions which are presented and please bring ALL contributions (also the ones you get on paper) to the Roots Meeting! At the Roots Meeting we will have a working group which will select about 16 questions which will be asked to the Mayors at the Children's Meeting Place. (The children will also have the opportunity to meet the Mayors in smaller groups and ask more than the 16 selected questions).

Presentation of the concerns. After reading the questions from the children you will have an idea what is of concern for children/youth in your city.

Stage performance. Please ask the children coming to the Roots Meeting to make a stage performance based on the questions/concerns of the children/youth.

IMPORTANT: The presentation shall not be longer than 3 – 4 minutes! The presentation can be any way the children/youth prefer; they can use any expressions of art, drama, music, songs, poetry, masks, visual materials, etc. The presentations will be presented at the Museum or Bomas or at the Children's Meeting Place. Only one program per city! We will not have time for more! If children/youth are selected from different school the preparations for the program can give a good opportunity for all to meet and agree on the common concern from your city.

A Banner for the Children's Tree. The Children's Meeting Place – The Mother Tree is an area around a big Acacia Tree. Please invite children/youth of your city/municipality to make the Banner with messages the children and youth of your city wish to share

with the world. Make sure the name of your city/municipality is mentioned on the Banner/sign boards. The Banner can be of any material! You can also make a signboard out of harder material, which will last for years and be seen in the Children's Tree for many years to come. Make sure the Banner or sign board has ropes or anything else which makes it possible to hang it in the branches.

Your Paper for the Roots Meeting. Please make a summary of your preparations and your wishes for a Way Forward on paper! Your paper shall have sections showing which part is from children, youth and adults. Please make the paper reflect the many aspects of the children's contributions and of course the reflections of adults! The paper will be handed over to the persons in charge of reporting and will form the foundation of the Way Forward. In your paper please include as attachments;

- all questions to the Mayors
- describe what is said on the banner/other presentations for the Tree – (maybe add a photo)
- a description of the (art)program presented
- the children bring water and soil – why did they choose that place?
- when you travel together and present the stone to one another – please make notes and add to the attachments! (It's OK with scribbles!)

There were two discussion sessions during the International Roots Meeting - (a) at Olive Garden and (b) at the National Museums of Kenya



7.2. Discussion Sessions

Children and Youth Workshop (17th Nov. at Olive Gardens).

The workshops provide a three set of questions (Group I, II, III). Each group was then divided into two, a youth group and a children group.

The questions for the 3 groups are:

Group I: What can bring us together?

What do we like doing?

What can we do together?

How frequently should this be?

How can we use this to change our lives and the world?

How do we get the funding?

What is the Way Forward? How do we present this?

Group II: How do we relate?

with each other ?

with the teachers

with our parents

with our leaders

what is the Way Forward - How do we present this ?

Group III :

What are the problems affecting us?

What can we do about AIDS?

What can we do about our city environments? Clean cities?

How do we get the funding?

What is the way forward?

Responses to the Group I questions: What can bring us together?

Group I.a

1. What do we like doing?

Eating, swimming, education, meeting new friends, playing, singing, reading, music, games, praying, freedom

2. What can we do together?

Reading

Learning from one another

Music

Touring

3. How frequently should this be?

Free time – do it once not to get bored

4. How can we use this to change our lives and the world?

Singing help sensitize on issues like AIDS

When we read we prepare a better future.

5. How do we get the funding?

Government support

From the parents

From the public

From the relatives

From some NGO's

6. What is the Way Forward? How do we present this?

Through singing to the public

Go to the satellite

Do good work at home in cleaning the home

Politely ask support from your parents. Then our parents can help us to talk to the top authority

Group I.b

1. What do we like doing?

Learning, eating, playing, praying, swimming, take care of environment, helping the ones that are in need, traveling, staying with friends

2. What can we do together?

Playing together

Staying together

Learning together

Helping each other

Take care of environment

Praying

3. How frequently should this be?

Always

Sometimes

Free time

4. How can we use this to change our lives and the world?

Education

5. How do we get the funding?

Government funds.

NGO funds.

Questions asked by children of Kisumu during their meetings and responses.

Q1: Why is the Kenyan law not consistent when it comes to punishing those defiling/raping - children? (girl child)

Serious offenders have been given light sentences.

Even those defiling animals get higher sentences than those defiling children.

This has led to children's forming a right's group (for children) a UNI-SCOPE to ? with FIDA/KEFEADO to echo children's concern. This will address issues like AIDS, orphans, abortion, and street children.

Q2: How do we intend to appreciate and reward children's involvement and achievement?

Their concern is to know how can Globetree community reward children achievers.

This led to the Kisumu team pledging to inaugurate (2005) the Globetree Awards. The first one to be sponsored by Silas to reward the best history student (associated to ROOTS). Other sponsors have been approached to take other sponsorships.

Q3. How do punishments correct/rectify children's mistakes?

Children's concern was drawn to the fact that corporal punishment was to be reintroduced in schools (crusades are now going on in Kenya). But they detest this as initially it had been abused and it is even inhumane.

7.3. Recommendations and special evaluations

The Children and Youth have raised numerous issues and concerns and also made several suggestions. In general, their recommendations fall into four themes:

all of them are keen to make new friends and therefore seek opportunities to meet others in the same city, as well as from other cities in Africa and from abroad. They also seek the opportunity to visit other children.

they have a strong need to communicate and want to have access to computers so that they can send and receive emails and have e-penpals. They are keen to contribute to a newsletter to inform others about their activities.

All of them have a positive reaction to actions that can assist less fortunate and disadvantaged children, reduce child abuse, increase awareness and access to information on the Rights of the Child and HIV/AIDS, to receive good education and to improve the environment.

Children and Youth seek to have or to create a place for extracurricular activities where they can do things, learn new skills as well as to play and have fun with others in a safe place.

Children want to be engaged in the processes to will facilitate all these things to happen. Unless adults who want to have a break from work, children and youth are eager to have more fun things to do.

7.4. Documents

- List of Concerns from East African Children and Youth³⁴
- Children and Art³⁵ by Märta Velander (Photo Gallery)

8.0. CHILDREN's MESSAGES

1. Stage Presentations
2. Children's gift and messages to Kofi Annan
3. Decorating the Mother Tree
4. Documents

³⁴ List of Concerns from East African Children and Youth (nr. 2004-11-005)

³⁵ Children and Art by Märta Velander (nr. 2004-11-008)

8.1 Stage Presentations

Children express and convey their needs, concerns, emotions, worries and happiness in many different ways. The International Root's Meeting has enabled and facilitated for the children to present and perform their messages through various activities.



Performing of the Swedish Lucia tradition



Roots Meeting participants dancing at the Bomas of Nairobi..

The children had 6 different arenas where they were invited to share their presentations:

- The National Museums of Kenya - both in the Auditorium and outdoors at the Children's Meeting Place by the Tree.
- Bomas of Kenya (a Cultural Center just outside Nairobi) – in the performance hall.
- Children's Meeting Place at the United Nations, Nairobi - by the Mother Tree.
- Children's Garden. - A school in one of the Dagoretti slum area of Nairobi
- YMCA and Olive Garden. The two hostels where the participants stayed during the International Roots Meeting.

Apart from the above-mentioned arenas, children and youth found space for interactions wherever they moved around. This is worth recognizing for us adults; the children's natural, non-formal way of knowing how to transform any space to suite their needs; their unique skills to create meaningful meeting-places.

The children gave around 30 presentations at the six different stages mentioned above. More than 70 children were involved in the stage presentations and they came from all the different countries, cities and schools that participated in the Root's Meeting.

Titles of their presentations and descriptions of themes and their feelings are:

- The Tree – the importance of giving spirit to the tree and care for its growth)
- Burning Souls – poem on child abuse)

- 'JOY' – step dance and gymnastics as a tribute to the importance of joy – received and shared joy in all activities
- Lucia – we need light in the dark night
- Mobbing at the bus stop – drama
- My Parent's Joint Venture – on parent's and grown up's responsibility towards their children
- Rights – comedy on the Rights of the Child
- Welcome song – traditional song to make us all feel welcomed.
- Growth and development – poem on sowing seeds, clothing and food
- Enough is enough – make the Rights of the Child real life – not only words
- Generation – song about the devastating results of war, HIV/Aids and – hope
- Untouchable – poem about AIDS
- I am your angel - song
- Upp och ut och gå (Up and out and walk) – how to continue when we get back home



Moment of silence at the Children's Tree, UN



Traditional dancing at the National Museum



Let us join! Singing together under the tree.



This is important! The Children's Declaration

My Parent's Joint Venture.

by School children from Homa Bay, Kenya

Father, Mother

You worked together to bring me into this world

You have to look after me as your child.

You did not pick me from a dustbin,

But you treat me as you did just that

It's my right to get good food and education.

Parents,

Protect, provide and exercise parental responsibility

You should cater for our interests.

Responsibility cannot be surrendered

Or transferred to another individual

Dear Parents

help avoid child abuses,

Sexual abuse, physical violence and

Denial of basic human needs.

Please!

Provide a balanced diet, good health, shelter and clothing

Remember knowledge is the key to success.

Take us to school

Listen Father, Mother

Don't treat your child as a stranger

Today I am your child, tomorrow otherwise

Be it your biological child or an adopted child.

As the wise ones say, a child is a child.

8.2 Children's gift and messages to Kofi Annan

The children of the Globetree from East Africa and Sweden have written to United Nations' Secretary General Kofi Annan on various occasions.



The first was in September 2001 when children from the streets, with HIV/Aids, blind and orphans, physically handicapped and also those from private and public schools meet decision makers under 'The Mother Tree' at the UN grounds in Gigiri, Nairobi. They received a very nice and encouraging letter from Kofi Annan. This gave them a very special bonding to the UN, and especially from someone who is also from Africa.

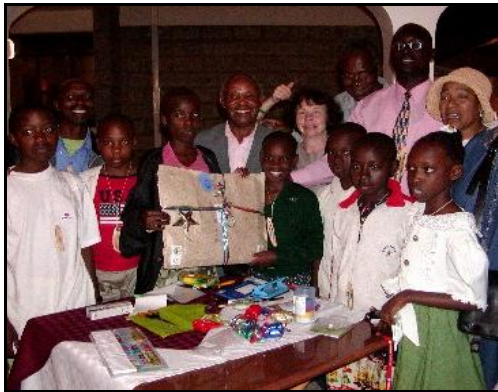
On Christmas Eve 2003 Globetree invited children from Children's Garden Center in the Dagoretti slum area to celebrate Christmas together under the Mother Tree again. The children who were in the 2001 inaugural ceremony remembered Kofi Annan and they wanted to invite Secretary General Kofi Annan to come and meet them under their tree in Nov 2004. The children said: -

“Kofi Annan must be very sad when so many bad things happen in the world. We can help him to be happy and get new ideas!”

Some 100 children took paper and pens and wrote their welcome messages to Kofi Annan. The children told Kofi Annan they were preparing for a Roots Meeting 2004 and invited him to come and play under the Mother Tree. The letters were put into a hand-made wooden file and when Kofi Annan was in Stockholm, a security police helped as a carrier to give it to him at the Grand Hotel since it was not possible to meet him.

In Nov 2004, all the children were so thrilled to hear that Kofi Annan was in Nairobi during the days of the International Roots Meeting (15-20 Nov) by the Mother Tree. But again, for security reasons at the United Nations Nairobi we had to be postponed our meeting till after Security Council Meeting. An attempt by Dr. Toepfer (director of UNEP) that a few children to meet Kofi Annan also failed and the children never got to

“You can count on us!”



The children's package with their messages, drawings and paintings were then given to UNEP to be delivered to Kofi Annan. These children and especially the disadvantaged children have developed a great admiration for Kofi Annan and for them; to be a part of and a contributor to the package to go to him will be something that these children can remember for the rest of their lives. A few sentences unite the children's messages::

To:
OUR FRIEND
Kofi ANAN.
From Nairobi deafblind children / Friends church epist



We Love And Preserve:
1. Our African Culture.
2. Our Environment.
Our Motto: "Disability is not inability."

FROM KISumu CITY
KOFFI ANNAN.

- Children of the world are Singing.
- Mothers are Singing.
- A new day has dawned on us.
- Our faces are beaming.
- Just because of you,
- You have made us happy.
- Koffi Annan, may God bless you.
- We cherish you,
- We love you,
- We welcome you.
- Long live Koffi Annan!

UNI-SCOPE

FROM KUSUMU CITY

Ques: KOFFI ANNAN

Day and night,
You have toiled,
Place to place,
You have walked,
Just to give children a future,
A hope to life,
Koffi Annan, may God bless you!

Our hearts were broken,
But you picked up the pieces,
Our souls were dry and thirsty,
But you quenched the thirst,
Our tears were flowing,
But you dried them up,
Koffi Annan, May God bless you!

By
UNI-SCOPE



8.3. Decorating the Mother Tree

A parade with banners of the different participating organisations has become a 'tradition' when participants meet at UNON. After that, posters and banners decorate the Tree to show children's achievements and continued concerns over some persistent issues. The boys can show how agile they are when climbing up trees and sometimes even without the ladder. They help the girls put up their special posters.



The Acacia tree at the Children's Meeting Place also referred to as the Mother Tree..

The messages

There is a strong desire among the children and youth to express themselves, make oneself visible, share what is of importance in your own life, need to dialogue your problems, dreams and concerns with others.

Burning questions and needs are: How can we continue to meet? How can we continue to work together?

There were some differences in the chosen themes between the African and the Swedish children/youths and some shared concerns. The African children spoke up about HIV/AIDS, sexual abuse, physical punishment, need for food and their need for education and caring parents.

The Swedes expressed the need of finding your own inner strength, how to fit in a group, how to become confident, dare to stand up for your opinions, tackle mobbing situations

Common themes among the African and Swedish children/youth:

- A good environment,
- clean water,
- a sustainable development,
- the wish to share your own concern with others,
- friendship,
- music,
- love,
- peace,
- the need to have a continuous meeting with one another,
- a need to be listened to,
- the willingness to participate in common goals,
- to work together and
- to take responsibility for the future

The lawn of the UNON has ample space for everyone to play football and Mayors and councillors take this rare opportunity to play with children, girls and boys.



Making New Friends





Getting children to demonstrate what they can do in social and cultural activities is an important process of socialising and for making friends. Such events get children and adults to talk facilitating the exchange of concerns; as well as to make new friends.



Children and adults prepare for common ceremonies.

8.4 Documents

- Thank you Message from Nane Annan³⁶, wife of UN Secr. Gen. Kofi Annan.

³⁶ Message from Nane Annan (nr. 2004-11-034)

9.0 Teachers Workshops

1. Workshop themes
2. Discussions on general issues
3. What is the way forward?
4. Documents

9.1 Workshop themes

Teachers focused primarily at two main areas in their workshops.



(A) identify and discuss general issues of concerns that they share as teachers with others from the Baltic Sea countries and what they can do together, e.g.

- How do we improve our capacities in teaching?
- How do we widen the web to cover areas not included now?
- How do we relate Agenda 21, Rights of Children and our syllabus/curriculum?
- How to bring out the rights of children

(B) what is the Way Forward to the teachers and what needed to be considered and could be done.

9.2 Discussions on general issues

The teachers were divided into three groups to tackle some issue areas under the leadership of Helena Edvinson (Sweden), Chris (Tanzania) and Koile (Kisumu Kenya). Each group was given a theme for discussion.

- Group 1: How do we improve our capacities in teaching?
- Group 2: How do we widen the web to cover areas not included now?
- Group 3: How do we relate agenda 21, rights of children and our syllabus/curriculum?

Group 1: How do we improve our capacities in teaching?

This group tackled the question on how to improve the capacities of teachers in carrying out their teaching work. The teachers shared their experiences looking at the problems they meet in the day-to-day teaching life and the possible solutions. Local action to improve their teaching capacities was suggested and they included the following:

- form teachers' associations
- organize symposiums, seminars and workshops for the members.
- set up of a local committee to work out a timetable and action plan
- acquire communication machinery like projectors, computers and have access to the internet, etc.

On the involvement of children, they suggested

- children's involvement in the decision making process for projects development
- field trips,
- initiate child centred activities,
- form links between schools,
- inter-twining programs for schools
- creation of an environment conducive for bringing out their talents.

They further expressed the need that teachers and adults should act as role models for the stewardship of or to care for the environment. There was a further need for sensitization of the people on the importance of the environment and that environmental clubs could assist in the sensitization exercise. School environmental programs need to be developed and as such activities will involve large numbers of children, a program that involves teachers, family school clubs, the neighbourhood and districts etc. would be need so that activities can be organized throughout the year. Public funds, donations, fund-raising and income generation activities would be needed. Projects in schools could be tree nursery, poultry farming, etc.

On the teacher-to-teacher relationships, they suggested visits for bench marking, and the creation and enhancement of team work among them. They were also to start teacher welfare groups to bring them closer and a communication or chart site under Globetree to reach the rest. The members would then form creation of subject panels to address issues raised by the members. The suggestion for a teacher environmental resource centre was put forth.

To further improve their capacity, they suggested short field trips for both the teachers and the pupils. They could include competition at different levels on tree planting, dances, school gardens and drama among pupils/students in every school. These would concretize the theories taught in class hence give the children a better learning experience.

Group 2: How do we widen the web to cover areas not included now?

This group discussed how the other schools and teachers who are not in the Meeting could also be involved and to benefit from their efforts. It was suggested that there was a need for an outreach program and to train trainers who will be able to reach them. There was a need for the development of instruction manuals to enhance learning among the teachers as well as the children. There was also a need for regular workshops and seminars for the teachers to harmonise their knowledge. Having a network of grassroots, the community Based organization network could be contacted to make it easier to reach more schools within a short time. Training could therefore be done for three schools who would train others.

The leaders of a town, e.g. Mayors, could contact other Mayors and use administrative powers to relay the work to other districts and areas. The power of the mass media could be utilized to spread the information about LVRLAC and the teachers' and children's activities in the region. Other forms of publicity like posters and pamphlets could be used. There was a need for creation of resource centres to support the teachers and children.

On the question as to how to relate with the Swedish teachers/teachers in the Lake Region and the Baltic Sea region, several suggestions were put forth and passed. These included the communication through the Internet, ordinary postal system, and visitation in an exchange program from both sides. It was important to have sister schools between the two regions to intensify the communication exchange. Exchange of videos on children's work, literature and papers could be necessary in enhancing further understanding of each other's cultures and personalities. There could also be an exchange of cultures, music and traditions through the same channels. It was realized that the teachers from the Union of the Baltic Cities were not represented, hence the need to bring them to the fold to complete the triple Seven cities triangle.

There was a need to develop strategies for communication and set up activities for children/students and instruct them. Could also study the sea shore on a harbour for one hour and note activities, boats, people animals and birds take pictures and exchange this work with other schools in other continents and across the sea. They could also establish the state of the sea; students could also study fish and pollution by doing observations and making enquiries from the government, for concerted action.

On the World championship in Stockholm in 2006, the teachers felt the need to establish contacts between sister schools and commence the work described above and discuss with the students different angles to the issue. This work would then be evaluated and presented at the world championship in 2006. There was a proposal to have regular meetings in order to ensure continuity in all quarters of relation. They also proposed that the theme for the world championship be stated early. It could be used for competition

Group 3 : How do we relate agenda 21, rights of children and our syllabus/curriculum? How to bring out the rights of children

The teachers started by looking at ways they could bring out the rights of children in the day-to-day teaching. A suggestion was through "Parent-Teacher" organizations (often known as PTA) to first bridge the gap between the teachers and the parents. Other suggestions included:

- recruit environment inspectors to ensure that socio-economic processes do have any adverse effects on the environment
- enforcing the rights of the children by the Government and that these rights are notified at national level.
- governments need to pass legislation that ensures every children's right to education.
- inform teachers to ensure that the rights of the disabled and the sick (HIV positive) children were to be respected.
- increase the aware of children's rights though music dance and theatre.
- look into cultural hindrance that hinder children from enjoying these rights e.g. early marriage and school drop out.
- educate teachers on ways of managing discipline in schools without the use of corporal punishment.
- ensure some element of quality control to make teachers patient enough to educate even the students that have most problems in learning.

At the community level, children could be ambassadors of good news, informing the community about AIDS and environmental issues. They could hold open seminars on the child's right and rights to the society in which they live in. We could as well set up a youth council which could meet the political leaders on a regular basis, to pass to them their views, which could be incorporated in the decision making process and feed back on regular basis. Children could also run their own magazine where they address issues close to their heart. At the national level, the members of parliament needed to first understand these issues so as to be able to pass policies favourable to the children's course.

Integrating children's ideas in teaching was found to be a useful teaching method. This could influence our teaching hence enhance learning. Students could be involved in lesson planning meetings and encouraging them to share what they know before starting to teach. The school could also invest in a suggestion box so that the children could always offer their anonymous suggestions on the schools management. However, in order to build them further, there was a need for mentor teachers who students can regularly engage in an individual conversation to facilitate the building of character. In the cases where it was impossible to do so, parents or other adults could be relied upon to provide this support to the children. The school could also have a peer counselling system where the children can address their own problems.

To develop their talents in various fields, the school could facilitate the formation of children writers' club where they can write down messages to specific adults, as well as to the society in general. This was a powerful communication tool as noted during the writing of messages to the secretary general to the UN. The school could also develop work groups comprising of students to address the various issues affecting the society.

The above cannot be successful if there is no listening ear from both at home and the school. The teachers therefore felt that there was a need for parental cooperation, support from the head teacher and the local politicians to be successful. Parental support was important, as it could assist in dealing with the discipline problems noted in several schools, since some of these originate from the home.



The Tanzanian teachers were able to raise pertinent questions affecting their children back home. The following questions were raised but no answers were given

- Why is there an increase of street children in different cities?
- What should we do to stop child labour?
- Is it not important to have playing grounds for children and sports gears?
- Can we empower the children parliament?

These questions could imply that the problems needed concerted effort to solve them. They needed help.

The Kenyan teachers thought of first creating awareness of about Globe tree so as to have a national outlook. This they said could be done through:

- Use of mass media, write ups, bulletins brochures and newsletters and seminars

- Formulation of Globetree club and setting up a day to observe the Globetree
- Setting up committees from the local level- for the coordination of all activities
- Identification of a unifying factor e.g. dressing code for different levels
- Strengthen the Globetree exchange programme locally, regionally and internationally- for adults and children
- Immediate implementation of the issues raised e.g. the formation of Globetree clubs in schools
- Setting up priorities for action

These suggestions seemed to go against the very basic fabric of the whole meeting as they tended to focus more on the external impression than offering real solutions to real challenges.

9.3 What is the way forward?

As a way forward, the group 1 agreed on the following:

- Availability of the Internet in our schools
- Creation of teachers' resource centre with all materials on environment.
- Create a forum on the Globetree home page where they can share many ideas globally.
- The teachers should be motivated towards love for their environment and include environmental studies incorporated in all subjects like HIV/AIDS
- Having an environment minister, environment day in each school.
- Planting a tree on students/teacher's birthdays
- Invite an influential guest speaker on environmental issues
- Recognize best environmental pupils/students and award them.
- Create a newsletter, children's books; give coverage through television etc.

At a plenary discussion, the members agreed on the need to make environmental education easier for the pupils and students, so that it is not seen as an extra burden to the students. They agreed on the formation of teacher manual which would assist the teachers in teaching environmental studies. They were advised to make environmental studies applicable in all subjects, e.g. the use of a tree to teach for example the changes one undergoes in adolescence.

Teachers recommended the following

- Create an international plan for these topics.
- Having more international meetings to share experiences and where this is not possible
- Use modern technology (internet etc) to create meetings

The Swedish teachers' felt that they needed to have a twin city from Africa (one in Africa and one in Sweden). To do this, there was a need to draw the guidelines (terms of reference/memorandum of understanding) for the twin city cooperation. There was a need to find cities with commonalities/issues. The strategy for the cooperation also needed to be designed to enable the cooperation. However, there was a need to make personal contacts first, and then identify schools that could cooperate.

At the student level, a good way to start cooperating was for the Swedish students to make things that are of real use to for African pupils e.g. fabric bags for African

students to use as school bags. There would also be a need for exchange visits through a comprehensive exchange programme. However this called for funds to be able to make actual meetings between the schools through student exchange programmes.

The teachers could identify common platforms for environmental work. The Swedish teachers and students had a lot to learn, while working with the developing country teachers, as they would realize that their ways of life was not sustainable and therefore hopefully will bring about a change in attitude concerning the consumption in Swedish society.

With regards to Globetree, it was important to formulate the goals then make the strategies very clear to the whole family. This would include a clear organization structure so that it will keep on working even without individuals currently there. The question of how to reach the young adults with the idea of the Globetree arose. The teachers suggested that there was a need for clear goals and strategies to be able to reach out to new people (as in the song of the raindrops that unite with the wind....)

9.4 Documents

- Teachers workshop at Olive Gardens³⁷
- Teachers proposals of activities and suggestions for the Way Forward³⁸
- Teachers workshop (18 Nov)³⁹

10.0 Mayors Meeting

1. Preparatory Phase (2003-2004)
2. Country reports
3. Brick-Stone exchange between Stockholm and Kampala Twin Cities
4. Development of a Plan of Action towards the Way Forward
5. Recommendations and Plan of Action
6. Documents

The Mayors Meeting was organized into two sessions, one at the National Museum of Nairobi and the second was at the Bomas of Kenya. It had three primary activities.

1. reporting of activities by city councils and key partners
2. discussion on the Way Forward, its future activities
3. Swedish experts gave lectures on water issues (Prof. Gunnel Dahlhammar, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm and Ms. Elisabet Idermark, Information Officer, GIWA, Kalmar)

10.1 Preparatory Phase

The idea of having an International Roots Meeting was suggested in 2001 during the inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at the United Nations Office Nairobi (UNON) in Gigiri, Nairobi. Though preparations for organizing the International Roots

³⁷ Teachers workshop at Olive Gardens (nr. 2004-11-013)

³⁸ Teachers proposals for the Way Forward (nr. 2004-11-004)

³⁹ Teachers workshop (nr. 2004-11-006)

Meeting were launched in 2003, various activities of the Globetree on children provided opportunities for Mayors to meet with Globetree:

- 18th Session of Human Settlements, Nairobi, Kenya (2001, Feb)
- Future Vessel Event, Nairobi (27th March – 4th April 2001)
- Stockholm Water Symposium (Aug 2001)
- Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at UNON (Nairobi, 19-21 September, 2001)
- Future Vessel (Stockholm, June 2002)
- Golden Key Ceremony (Stockholm, June 2002)
- Water Education for African Cities – Globetree Globe Day (Oct 2002)

When the preparations of the International Roots Meeting were launched, the following events and meetings were of key importance to involve Mayors and representatives of the local governments.

Year / Month	Event	Comments
2003 / April	First Preparatory Roots Meeting, Nairobi	Mayors met at Entebbe, Kampala for a 2 day-seminar The Globetree is invited by the Mayors of Mwanza, Kisumu, Busia, Mukono, Kampala and Entebbe to discuss the inauguration programs of the Children's Meeting Place in each city.
2003 / April	Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place at the City Hall of Entebbe, Uganda	Hosted by Mayor of Entebbe with Mayor of Kampala and President of Globetree as the Guests of Honour
2003 / June	Globetree, UNEP and The City of Stockholm Cooperation (Stockholm)	UNEP Deputy Exec.Dir. Shafquat Kakakhel visits Globetree Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson discussed the development of the Children's Meeting Place at UNON and the planned World Championship in Cooperation (2006)
2003 / Nov	Second Prep. Roots Meeting, Nairobi	Meetings with Mayors and councillors from Entebbe, Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Kisumu & Mwanza
2003 / Nov	Seminar/workshops in Entebbe, Uganda	Groups: Mayors, councillors, organisations, experts, teachers, artists, pupils and others Mayors and councillors met to discuss and develop project proposals
2003 / Nov	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Places in Uganda (Kampala, Mukono, Busia) and Tanzania (Mwanza)	A unique opportunity where Mayors demonstrated their full engagement and commitment to children and activities

2003 / Nov	Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network	Support provided in the form of assistance in transport of 5 Computers are delivered to the Municipality of Busia and Pillars of Hope, Nairobi
2004 / Feb	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Place, Homa Bay, Kenya	Representatives from Local Authorities and schools in Homa Bay and from Kisumu, Busia and the Pillars of Hope Network. Follow up meetings at the City Council, Kisumu, Kenya with City councillors and youth representatives
2004 / April / May 26/4 – 11/5	Twinning of Municipalities, Sweden	Mayor of Mukono and Mayor of Busia, Uganda were invited to a 10-day Study Tour in Sweden together with two representatives of Pillars of Hope, Nairobi and a child with experiences of living and working on the streets, Nairobi. The City of Mukono is twined with Municipality of Strängnäs The City of Busia prepare its twining with the Municipality of Robertsfors Lord Mayor of Stockholm Barry Andersson met the Mayors of Mukono and Busia together with children of Skärholmen. Dialogues with mayors, teachers, children and youth also in the following municipalities: Borlänge, Haninge, Värmdö, Kalmar and Stockholm. Host: Mr. Peter Wenster, Head of Environment/Sustainable Development at The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) Visit to the Swedish Association of Local Authorities Meeting at Sida's Lake Victoria Directorate, Dir. Lars Ekengren and Program Officer Helen Lindqvist
2004 / 6–7 May	Inauguration of Children's Meeting Place, Strängnäs (Sweden)	The Mayors and Kenyan representatives participate in the Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place in Strängnäs
2004 / Aug	Communication facility to the Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network	Support provided in the form of assistance in transport of 60 computers delivered to the Municipalities of Kampala, Mukono, Busia, Kisumu, Mwanza and Pillars of Hope, Nairobi in cooperation with the NGO IDEAL, Uppsala.

2004 / Aug	Signing the Protocol of Cooperation between LVRLAC and Globetree	The Board of Directors of LVRLAC meets with Globetree during the Stockholm Water Symposium for signing Protocol of Cooperation. Discussions at the Globetree on a common Way Forward.
2004 / Sept	Seminar on 'Sweden, Baltic Sea and Lake Victoria Region' organized by the Municipality of Saku, Estonia.	representatives of the Municipality of Strängnäs and Globetree established contact with the Mayors and the local authorities to discuss the Baltic Sea – Sweden – Lake Victoria cooperation
2004 / Oct.	Stockholm City Hall	Lord Mayor of Stockholm presented an authentic brick of 1911 from the City Hall to Globetree.
2004 / Nov	International Roots Meeting, Nairobi	A gathering of 290 participants

10.2. Country reports and Lectures

The following country/organization reports were made.

Country / City	Reports from Organization	Presented by Name (position)
Kenya / Kisumu	Kisumu City Council	Mr. Simba Opepo (Councillor)
Kenya / Homa Bay	Homa Bay City Council	H.W. Ms Monica Afuodi (Deputy Mayor)
Tanzania / Mwanza	Mwanza City Council	Ms. Illuminata Mwita (Councillor)
Tanzania / Simanjiro	Simanjiro City Council	Lucas Ole Mukusi (District Councillor Chairman)
Sweden / Stockholm	Globetree	Kajsa Dahlström (President)
Sweden / Strängnäs	Municipality of Strängnäs	Ms Helena Edvinsson (Project leader)
Sweden / Kalmar	Municipality of Kalmar	Ms Sara Persson (Kalmar's youth representative)
Sweden / Robertsfors	Municipality of Robertsfors	Tori Carlsson (A-net Youthforum)
Sweden / Värmdö	Municipality of Värmdö	Mr. Jan Johansson (Rector)
Uganda / LVRLAC	Women's Network of LVRLAC	Ms. Illuminata Mwita (Natl representative)
Uganda / Kampala	Kampala City Council	H.W. Mr. H Takuba Kabuye (Deputy Mayor)
Uganda / Busia	Busia City Council	H.W. Mr. Michael Mugeni (Mayor)
Uganda / Mukuno	Mukuno City Council	H.W. Mr. Johnson Muyanja Senyonga (Mayor)

10.3. Brick-Stone exchange between Stockholm and Kampala Twin Cities

At the opening of the yearly Globedays, Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Mr Barry Andersson presented one of the authentic brick from 1911 to 1923 that was used for the construction of the Stockholm City Hall where a number of famous events take place, such as the Nobel Price Awards Ceremonies. The building was designed by architect

Ragnar Östberg, and built with eight million red bricks. This special stone was then presented to the Mayor of Kampala at the International Roots Meeting who also gave Stockholm City a stone from Uganda.



Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Barry Andersson..



Stockholm City Hall.

Document: Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson⁴⁰

10.4 Development of a Plan of Action towards the Way Forward

Discussion session was conducted on 19 Nov. at the Bomas of Kenya. The summaries below also included the continued discussions of unfinished business after the Mayors Meeting

10.4.1 Twinning of Cities and Networking

This title provided a broad basis for cooperation and development of activities and particular as a platform for dialogue by children and youth and other stakeholders. Many issues were raised and commented by several participants.

- The first was the question to the Mayors on "What can Mayors do to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor?". This led to the discussion on indicators of poverty, basic needs (medical facilities, education, water and water resources, micro loans, infrastructure and public services for the poor, development of slums, street children, etc. etc.), North-South gap and reasons for it, rich and poor in a local context, transparencies/fairness in operations, twinning of schools and cities, a central issue of concern was "how are we going to intervene", etc.
- Kajsa Dahlstrom indicated that Globetree cannot solve all the problems of LVB cities and would need to focus on what it is good at, i.e. listening to children and youth and responding to their questions and their needs.
- Anders Sundvall shared his experiences on networking of youth groups, twinning of schools in Sweden and also indicated that there is often a lack of realistic and concrete projects.

Proposal 1

- Mayor Johnson explained that the terms 'twinning' and 'networking' should be used with more careful consideration as earlier 'twinning' projects have created a 'hands out' partnership where project initiators see it as a mechanism for asking for aid and assistance, rather than focusing on learning from one another. Mayor Johnson also noted that continuity of projects is very important and new

⁴⁰ Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm (nr. 2004-11-026)

faces may also indicate that voluntary help also has a negative side. Twinning can also be between two African cities.

Proposal 2

- Globetree should and can play an important role as an international lobbyist to raise issues of concern that demands greater attention from East African governments as well as by international organizations.

10.4.2 Newsletters and Calendar of Events/Activities

Proposal 1:

- The proposal by Ms. Aida Lubwana (Education Officer, Entebbe City Council) to publish a 'Newsletter' and especially to provide a calendar of events/activities was adopted by the group.

Comments:

- Kajsa informed the group that Globetree publishes a newsletter (a few issues per year) on the web (www.globetree.org).
- Ms Lubwana indicated that access to the web newsletter will be poor from readers in LVB because of the lack of Internet access by most children and youth. She stressed the need for a printed Newsletter that can be distributed to all children and youth organizations as well as libraries of schools.
- The proposal will enable Globetree also focus its efforts when assisting delivery of computers to LVB to organizations that will in future contribute actively to the production of the Newsletter and calendar of events.

10.4.3 Childrens' Participation at the International Water Symposium, Aug 2005, Stockholm

Proposal 1

- Kajsa Dahlstrom (President, Globetree) conveyed the invitation of the Mayor of Stockholm City to the 7 Mayors of Lake Victoria Basin (LVB) cities for a 'Mayor's Meeting' in August 2005. Stockholm will host the annual International Water Symposium in August 2005 and it will have a central focus on 'Children and Youth'. Globetree plans to invite children and youth from LVB cities to participate in the Water Symposium and also to prepare for the World Championship Award for Cooperation (2006).

Comments:

- Mayor Johnson of Mukono reminded everyone of the difficulties in the preparation of activities for the current International Roots Meeting (15-19 Nov) where very short notices from Globetree did not permit children and youth of LVB cities and organizations to prepare adequately for the occasion.
- Mayor Johnson further suggested that an LVB organizing committee(s) be set up to ensure selecting children and youth with the best presentations to Stockholm.

Agreement

- that Globetree will provide adequate time for LVB cities and organizations to prepare for their presentations in Stockholm
- that LVB will establish their organizing committees once they hear from Globetree

10.4.4 Children and Youth units and LVRLAC Standing Committee on Children and Youth

Proposal 1:

- Mayor Johnson (Mukono city) stressed the need to establish a 'children and youth affairs' department in every city councils and municipalities. Several participants provided information of their experiences at their local authorities.

Comments:

- Children and Youth units already exists in Kisumu,

Agreement

- The group agreed that action would be taken.

Proposal 2:

- Mr. Michael Mugeni (Mayor of Busia) proposed a standing committee within LVRLAC for children and youth.
- Dr. Odhiambo Agulloh (Mayor of Homa Bay) in his letter⁴¹ to the Organizing Committee of the Roots Meeting, proposed the establishment of a new standing committee for Children and Youth within LVRLAC.

Comments:

- Jacky Foo supported the idea as it would also facilitate the process of grant applications through the right channels, e.g. UBC-LVRLAC cooperation
- Dr. Kabuye (deputy-Mayor, Kampala) informed that the establishment of a separate standing committee on Children and Youth is a long process.
- Judith Auma Omondi indicated that it took almost 2 years to establish the Standing committee for the Women's Network of LVRLAC. She also indicated that the AGM of LVRLAC has approved the request that Globetree is a partner within the Women's Network, which resulted from discussions in Stockholm in Aug 2004. Judith further recommended a two step approach; (a) establish a sub-Standing Committee on Children and Youth within the Women's Network first and then (b) a standing committee on Children and Youth can be proposed after it has demonstrated itself and in need of a separate standing committee.

Agreement:

- that Women's Network proceeds to establish the sub-standing committee on Children and Youth.

10.5 Recommendations and Plan of Action

1. that Globetree plays the important role of a lobbyist to facilitate the development of children and youth network projects and the twinning of cities
2. that a newsletter (print and web-based) be created so that everyone can be informed of network activities
3. that more time be given to East African invitees who will attend the International Water Symposium in August 2005 (and in general) so that they can prepare and rehearse their presentations and exhibitions.

⁴¹ Message from Dr. Odhiambo Agulloh, Mayor of Homa Bay (nr. 2004-11-033)

4. that the Women's Network of LVRLAC proceeds to establish the sub-standing committee on Children and Youth within its Standing Committee.

10.6 Documents

- Mayors Meeting Program ⁴²(old version)
- Minutes and notes from the Mayors meeting ⁴³ (Nov 2004)
- Message from Robertsfors City Hall, ⁴⁴ Robertsfors, Sweden
- Message from Kalmar ⁴⁵
- Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson ⁴⁶
- Message from Värmdö Municipality ⁴⁷
- Message from Strängnäs, ⁴⁸ Anders Svensson, Chairman of City Council in the Municipality of Strängnäs
- Message from Kisumu City Council, ⁴⁹ Kisumu, Kenya
- Message Dr. Odhiambo Agulloh, H W Mayor of Homa Bay, ⁵⁰ Kenya.
- Way Forward by Margaret Odhiambo ⁵¹(Homa Bay, Kenya)

11.0 Field Visits

1. Safari to Masai Mara National Reserve, Kenya
2. National Museums of Kenya
3. National Museums of Kenya, Botanical Garden
4. Bomas of Kenya
5. Children's Garden Center
6. Muslim Primary School
7. Kilimani Primary School
8. Ndururua Primary School
9. Dagoretti Children's Centre and Special School

11.1 Safari to Masai Mara National Reserve, Kenya

A Safari Tour to the Masai Mara National Reserve has been a popular pre-Roots meeting activity which Swedish delegates take as a unique opportunity to visit Kenya's natural heritage of wildlife, an exposure to the Masai way of life, their village and culture as well as the many occasions for souvenir shopping. For most of them, the Roots Meeting provides a rare adventure tour which many can only view in front of TV. It is also an ice-breaker activity where delegates get to know one another better.

⁴² Program Mayors (nr. 2004-11-018)

⁴³ Minutes and Notes from the Mayors meeting (nr. 2004-11-002)

⁴⁴ Message from Robertsfors City Hall (nr. 2004-11-027)

⁴⁵ Message Kalmar (nr 2004-11-028)

⁴⁶ Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm (nr.2004-11-026)

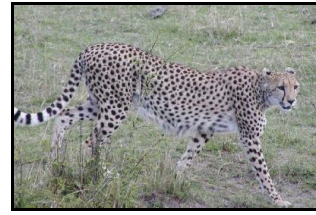
⁴⁷ Message Värmdö Municipality (nr.2004-11-030)

⁴⁸ Message from Strängnäs Municipality (nr.2004-11-031)

⁴⁹ Message from Kisumu City Council (nr. 2004-11-032)

⁵⁰ Message from Homa Bay (nr. 2004-11-033)

⁵¹ Way Forward, Margaret Odhiambo, Homa Bay (nr. 2004-11-010)



Meetings and interactions at the Masai Mara National Reserve.

11.2 National Museums of Kenya

Children had the unique opportunity with a guided tour around the National Museums of Kenya which has about 16 regional Museums, many sites and monuments across the country. It was founded in 1910 by the East African Natural History Society in 1910 and grew into a multi-disciplinary institution of both regional and international importance. The museum has become a leading centre of excellence, housing the finest museum collections and exhibits in the world.



Its mission is to collect, preserve, study, document and present Kenya's past and present cultural and national heritage. The Research and Scientific Affairs Division undertakes collection management and documentation of scientific, culture and historic interest. It also hosts the Institute of Primate Research which is a World Health Organization collaboration centre to conduct Biomedical Research conservation and ecology and laboratory animal welfare using non-human primates.

11.3 National Museums of Kenya - Botanical Garden



During earlier preparatory Roots Meetings of 2003 as well as the International Roots Meeting, Globetree has had the honour and permission to use the National Botanic Garden for social gatherings, having discussions under several of the trees, and games in the open grounds. The garden has quiet parks with lawns, flowers, shady trees, and ponds and has over 30,000 species of plants. This is now a rare site particularly for urban street children who look at a tree as a source of firewood. The Botanical Garden also has a Children's Garden which is landscaped with an amphitheatre that overlooks the Nairobi River and much efforts have been put into the general design of the Botanical Garden to create an environment that is friendly to children.



All children have a right to tell their concern under the Children's Tree.

11.4. Bomas of Kenya

Bomas of Kenya is a cultural center with a rural setting ('bomas' means villages) and a living museum of indigenous Kenyan life. In its huge and very impressive architectural indoor auditorium with a central and circular stage for cultural programs, visitors can view colorful performances of traditional dances on events occurring in the lives of different tribes. Bomas of Kenya displays tribal villages representing the country's 16

ethnic groups with replicas of their traditional homes and demonstration of their traditional lifestyles.

Globetree had the opportunity to use the circular stage for its children's drama and the dance troupe of the Children's Garden Center was allowed to perform with the other professional groups to several thousands of guests. This is a fantastic achievement of the Globetree through the Children's Garden Center in Nairobi that has trained street children to perform with professionals at the Kenya's National tourist center.



Performance at Bomas of Kenya

11.5 Children's Garden Center

Children's Garden Centre is a non profit making charitable organization established in 2001 to promote child welfare by offering informal education coupled with environmental programs. It is a rescue program with specific tasks of alleviating suffering of orphans street children, child abuse and those from very poor families. Resources: Shelter as classroom and minimal facilities; 1000m2 hired lands as plant nursery, pit toilet.



Children from Children Garden Center get maize porridge outside their informal school (background)



School with one single classroom.



Plant nursery.



Performance at the Children's Garden.

Documents (to view goto Globetree website click 'Afrika'>>'Children's Garden')

- My journey to a flower in the slum by Kajsa Dahlström
- Facts and Figures by Moses Ndungu
- Pictures of the children at Children's Garden
- Children's Garden Football Team by Moses Ndungu

11.6 Muslim Primary School

This is one of the oldest city council schools in Nairobi and started in 1920 for the Islamic children since other schools did not accepted Muslims. It is a public school run by the Nairobi City Council. We however teach a general curriculum set by the Ministry of Education. There are 8 classrooms for Class 1 to 8. Currently, it has 629 children, 75% are Muslims. It is unique because it caters for Somali and Ethiopian Children who are refugees. Some of them have no parents and they look after themselves and their younger siblings. Others come mainly from two big slums called Majengo and Mathare.

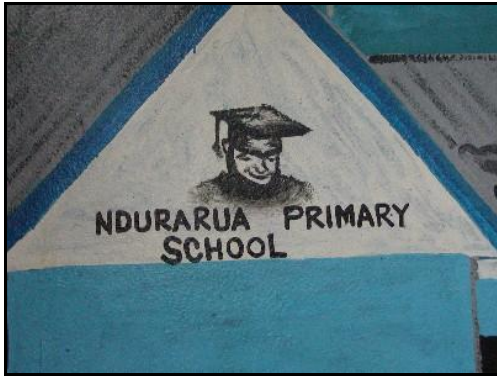
Children and staff were very happy to have received visitors from Sweden in November 2004. It is a needy school because of its diversity, however there is a lot of love and care. It is in Muslim that Globetree has found a place for 2 children who were formally from the streets and they have found a place to grow, learn and hide from the police when they are being sort for.

11.7 Kilimani Primary School



Kilimani Primary School.

11.8 Ndurarua Primary School



All pictures from Ndurarua Primary School

11.9 Dagoretti Children's Centre and Special School

The Centre has more than 200 children and is a multi-disability institution for all the disabilities. The African family is often embarrassed to let the public know that they have a disabled child and therefore tends to confine the child indoors. This makes the Centre's efforts to resettle disabled children back into their families very difficult. Most parents prefer that their children remain at the centre, even when they have become adults. Most of the children eventually get 'abandoned'. The children plead with the centre to let them stay on indefinitely as some want nothing to do with their parents. Another objective of the centre is to prepare the children and adults for life outside as a sizeable number of children who have been at the Centre for more than 20 years. Vocational skills are provided so that they can assimilate back into the community, particularly for those who are deaf and mute. For others, training aims to enable a disabled person to be self-reliant to do their own work (wash, iron, bathe and cook) without necessarily focusing on employment.



'Dagoretti' also has Special School for education. It is managed as a city council school. The physically handicapped and integrated department caters for the physically and other health-impaired children. They are taught on the basis of the regular Kenya schools curriculum, but with special adaptations based on each child's ability and condition. The hearing-impaired children are catered for in the unit for the hearing-impaired and are later transferred to full-fledged special schools for the deaf. There is also a special unit for the mentally handicapped. Children come from all over the country and are referred to to the centre from Educational Assessment and Resource Centre, the Children's Department, and the Juvenile Courts. None of the children pays fees or any funds, and the school depends on goodwill, including donations for text books and other facilities. The school has about 20 teachers – all being specially train and appointed by the Teachers Service Commission. In 2001, the top candidate in Kenya for Certificate of Primary Education was from Dagoretti Special School.

12.0 SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

1. Uniting Water and Soil Ceremony
2. Seven Stones Ceremony
3. Participants and their Stones
4. A 'Despachos' Ceremony
5. Fire Place Ceremony
6. The Talking Drum and Story Telling
7. Seminar and Lectures

12.1 Uniting Water and Soil Ceremony

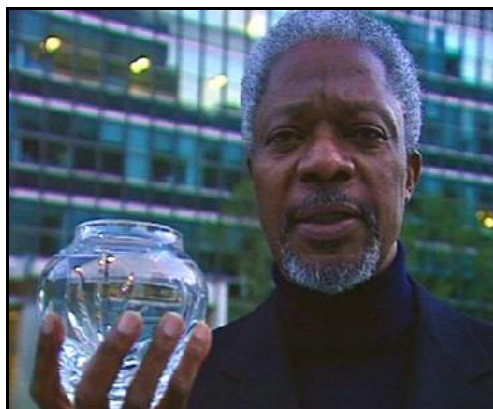
On the last day Nov 20, 2004 of the International Roots Meeting, more than 300 children and adults from Kenya, Sweden, Tanzania and Uganda gathered around the Mother Tree to participate in Our Uniting Water and Soil Ceremony. This ceremony inaugurated The Children's Meeting Place - The Mother Tree in September 2001.



Preparing for the Water and Soil Ceremony..

Our Uniting Water Ceremony was created in 1990.

Children are invited to bring a cup of water from a place they care for and present it to the ceremony. The water is united with water from other places of the world in a crystal bowl. The ceremony calls for people to take care of their water. Once the water is in the bowl the children read a special Water message to the adults at the meeting. The children's ceremony and their message have since 1990 proved to be an effective way to convey a global concern for water.



"It is a great pleasure for me to join so many children from all over the world to celebrate water as a symbol of life." UN Secr. Gen. Kofi Annan at ' Our Uniting Water Ceremony', Stockholm Globe Arena, UN Day - 1998

Water Ceremonies at Children's Meeting Places (2001-2004)



2003: Busia Uganda.



2003: Mukono, Uganda.



2003: Kampala, Uganda.



2003: Kisumu, Kenya.



2003: Kisumu, Kenya.



2003: Busia Town Council, Uganda.



2004: Strängnäs, Sweden

12.2 Seven Stones Ceremony

The Seven Stones Ceremony was created the first time at its inaugural ceremony on the 20th Nov 2004. At this ceremony, seven stones from seven important mountains/places in the world were brought together at the Children's Meeting Place in Nairobi.

These seven stones have traditional significances to their respective places of origin and when placed at the Children's Meeting Place at UNON, it signifies a strengthening of friendship and dialogue between children and elders. The site at the UNON also reflects on our unified efforts to care for the environment and our habitat.

Ceremonies like Our Uniting Water and Soil Ceremony and the Seven Stones Ceremony will add to the essence of the Children's Meeting Place where children and concerned adults meet and where the adults will listen to the children. The site and ceremonies have already provided participants with new meanings in their lives.



Documents: About the Seven Stones ⁵²by Lucas K Ole Mukusi, (Tanzania).
Facing Mt Kenya ⁵³by Jane Wanjiku Ruvaga, Muslim Primary School, Nairobi.

⁵² About the Seven Stones (nr. 2004-11-001)

12.3 Participants and their Stones

All participants were informed before departure from their home that they should bring a stone. An activity was organized at the early part of the Meeting (at the National Museums of Kenya) and used as a 'stone-breaker'. The participant met one another by letting the stone tell where it came from. This created immediately lots of fun and fantastic stories and sometimes developed into philosophical reflections. The last day all participants placed their stones around the fireplace in The Seven Stone Ceremony.

The effect was truly significant as a child and an elder could meet to tell about their stone and what their stone meant to them making new realizations. Some of the dialogue between participants and their stories were put into writing.

Examples:

- A boy from Kisumu (Kenya) brought a special stone from the western province of Kenya. People of that area call these 'crying stones' because when the villagers leave the province, they would carry a stone with them to remember their homeland. As memories often brought tears to them, and as tears would drip on the stone that they hold, these stones became known as 'crying stones'. To this boy, the stone reminds him of his mum's homeland



Everyone came with a stone from a place they care for to the 7 Stones Fire Place Ceremony.

- A Swedish girl had a stone that she took from her dance school. She brought it because dancing is the joy in her life and she will always remember this school that gave her much joy in going to school. Read more stories about stones in 'Stenarna berättar' 'The stones speak' (in Swedish) ⁵⁴

⁵³ Facing Mount Kenya (nr. 2004-11-009)

⁵⁴ The Stones are telling (nr. 2004-11-036)

Participants place their stones around the Fireplace

The Seven Stone Ceremony also enabled participants to place their stones that they have brought with them around the 7 stones and in ceremonial site.

The act of bring a stone by a participant from their country is a process for a participant in preparing for her/his travel and involvement in the Meeting.

Documents:

Stenarna Berättar ⁵⁵'The Stones Speak' (in Swedish)

Maria-Conchita's Story ⁵⁶(English)

En annorlunda resa till Kenya... ⁵⁷by Maria Conchita (in Swedish)

Facing Mt Kenya by Jane Wanjiku Ruvaga, ⁵⁸ Muslim Primary School, Nairobi.

12.4 A 'Despachos Ceremony' and Wishes to the World

The Q'ero are the last of the Incas -- a small group of 600 who escaped the Spanish by seeking refuge in the sacred Apus at over 14,000 feet in elevation in the southern Andes. In hidden isolation for more than 500 years the Q'ero elders held the hope and sacred prophecy that predicted a time of a great change or "pachacuti" (in Quechua 'Pacha means' "earth" or "time" and 'cuti' means "to set things right"), in which they believed that harmony and order in their world would be restored, and chaos and disorder would ended. They believed that "munay" (love and compassion) will be the guiding force that can bring people together.



Many participated in the preparations of the Despacho – a ceremony from the Andes, South America

⁵⁵ The Stones are telling (nr. 2004-11-036)

⁵⁶ Maria Conchita Story (nr. 2004-11-037)

⁵⁷ Maria Conchita – En Annorlunda Resa (nr. 2004-11-038)

⁵⁸ Facing Mount Kenya by Jane Ruvaga (nr.2004-11-009)

A "despachos" is a ritualistic offering and traditionally in the form of flowers, prayers and wishes written on pieces of paper, or anything of personal spiritual importance or value, and some accompanied by sacred coca leaf.

A ceremony like this can be a way of peace and reflection on our heritage and the conditions in which we live.

Documents:

Part 3 in Maria-Conchita's Story ⁵⁹(English)

12.5 Fire Place Ceremony

The fire place in the kitchen of an African home has an important place in the house. It has a functional purpose where food is cooked and has many stories and traditions connected to it. The fire place is constructed using three stones where the pot can be placed. Two of the stones are large and sturdy. They also represent the mother and father. The third stone is moveable and adjusts itself to the size of the pot. This 3rd stone represents the child who will be moving around.



At the centre of the 7 Stones Fire Place were the three cooking stones from Mt. Kenya, Mt Elgon and Kilimanjaro.

In Tanzania, it is a tradition that that mother-in-law is the one who places the first stone of the fireplace in the kitchen of the new house. This stone is blessed by goat milk as symbolic to its significance in their life as it is the main food and important to the nutrition of the children. A fire ceremony is part of the birthday celebrations of a child.

In the Seven Stones Ceremony, the placing of the new stones for the Children's Meeting Place was done by 3 women from the 3 East African countries. The fire is made by the traditional Maasai way.

⁵⁹ Maria Conchita Story (nr. 2004-11-037)



The maasai made the first fire for the 7 Stones Fire Place and was received by children and woman from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda under the Children's Tree at the United Nations, Nairobi



Many witnessed the inauguration of the 7 Stones Fire Place at the United Nations, Nairobi

12.6 The Talking Drum and Story Telling

This important evening was unfortunately cancelled due to the abrupt holding of the Security Council Meeting at UNON. The original program of the International Roots Meeting at the UNON was planned to be held for two days and a special late evening for the talking drum and story telling program. So the event for sitting together around the fire was also cancelled. This would have been an opportunity to experience how the ceremony came about and meet questions and worries, while sitting together around the fire. Globetree invites people from around the world to unite symbols, inherited, spiritual and religious beliefs into new meaningful ceremonies. Our Uniting Water and Soil ceremony was inspired by Balinese and Swedish traditions. A new ceremony needs time for reflections and deeper understanding of differences and similarities of our common heritage.

12.7 Seminar and Lectures

A seminar was planned on 17th Nov but since 1 day was lost due to an emergency UN Security Meeting at UNON, the lectures were given in different places to interested groups of audiences instead. Information below provides changes made.

Lecture	Presented by
The Vision of the Roots Meeting	M/s Kajsa B. Dahlström, President Globetree presentation made during Mayors Meeting
Woman Network in the Lake Victoria Region. This is how we support one another!	M/s Rose Mary Tumusiime, LVRLAC Women Network, Uganda gave her talk at the National Museums of Kenya
The Rights of the Child and Agenda 21 – Two Hands Working Together	M/s Ann-Mari Vråmo initiator of the Children's Ombudsman, Växjö (Sweden)
Heart and Brain in Environmental Education for Sustainable Development.	M/s Eva Dessborn and M/r. Christian Wellton, Polhemsskolan, Lund (Sweden) presentation made during Teachers Working Session
Ancient Wisdom in Modern Education	Shri. Soenam T. Jamyangling, Swedish-Tibetan School- and Culture Association, Stockholm (Sweden) presentation made during the preparations of the 7 Stones Ceremony
Take care of the young and old roots! The Sami children and their heritage.	M/s Sigrid Stångberg, Teacher Sami School. Tärnaby (Sweden) cancelled travel due to illness
We have a lot in common! Similarities in expressions of art and culture	M/s Harriet Nordlund, Director Beaivvas Sami Theatre presentation made during the preparations of the 7 Stones Ceremony
The Inca Trail of Wisdom	M/r. Allen Holmquist, Santa Fe, New Mexico (USA) cancelled due to lack of travel funds
I learn from my young partners!	M/s Tori Carlsson, Director, International Youth Forum, Robertsfors Municipality (Sweden)
Children's Meeting Place, Kisumu City Hall	M/s Tori Carlsson, Director, International Youth Forum, Robertsfors Municipality (Sweden) presentation at the Mayor's Meeting – on behalf of the Municipal Commissioner Hans Lindgren
Young Voices – we can make a difference when we link up to one another!	M/s Anifa Amada, Youth Coordinator Mwanza, (Tanzania) presentation at the National Museums of Kenya M/s Winnie Odhiambo, Youth Coordinator Kisumu (Kenya) presentation at the National Museums of Kenya
Art is the language of children	M/r. Fumbuki S.M. Lubasa, Lecturer Butimba Teacher's College, Mwanza (Tanzania) presentation during the preparations of the 7 Stones Ceremony Peroy Kirchner, Globteatern/Globetree, Stockholm (Sweden) M/s Marta Velandar, Globetree, presented on behalf of Kirchner on 'Children and Art'
Reflections of the Roots Meeting Open Forum - Discussions	M/S Monica Atieno Afuodi, Deputy Mayor, Homa Bay (Kenya) presentation made at the National Museum of Kenya M/s Conchita Högborg (Sweden) presentation made during the preparations of the 7 Stones Ceremony

In addition, two special lectures were given by on water to highlight how Swedish children are involved in the discussion on water issues. The guests were Ms Elisabet Idermark (Information Officer at the Global International Waters Assessment, Kalmar) and Prof. Gunnel Dalhammar (Head of the Unit on Environmental Microbiology of the Department of Biotechnology at the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm).

At Kalmar, a university science centre set up a programme in collaboration with GIWA to discuss water stress and freshwater issues with Swedish school children between the age of 6 and 15. The programme looked at whether children are concerned over the excessive use of drinking water and if they cared about an International Year of Freshwater? School classes were invited to make experiments with water and to discuss water issues. Teachers were also involved to develop an interdisciplinary project on water. Children wrote poems, read novels and designed flags along with the more scientific studies of water. Suggestions on innovations and what they could do included the use of salt water to flush toilets, always take showers and never use bathtubs. The older children advocate the sharing of knowledge and involvement in technical development in the future with other countries.”

In Solna, the Department of Biotechnology operates a pilot plant that treats sewage in a 'living system' of green plants. This site has been an attraction to school children.



Prof. Gunnel Dalhammar presents the pilot plant that treats sewage in a living system of green plants

Documents:

Elisabet Idermark (2002) Swedish children discuss water stress.⁶⁰

GIWA invites youth to a project on Lake Victoria and Baltic Sea ⁶¹(2004)

Gunnel Dalhammar (2004) Save a drop of water today to safe water for everyone tomorrow.⁶²

⁶⁰ GIWA Article (nr. 2004-11-039)

13.0 Special messages

Invited guests who were unable to attend the Roots Meeting sent messages and greetings to the organizers as well as the participants. These messages were read on 18th Nov. under a tent at Bomas of Kenya.



Messages and greetings from Astronaut Loren Acton, Cosmonaut Dumitru Prunariu and mayors of Sweden are presented at common gathering at Bomas of Kenya

Special Messages read were from:

- Astronaut Prof. Loren Acton, Montana State University, Bozeman, USA⁶³
- Cosmonaut Dr. Dumitru-Dorin Prunariu, Ambassador of Romania in the Russian Federation⁶⁴
- Barry Andersson. Lord Mayor of the City of Stockholm⁶⁵

In addition to these messages, letters to Globetree, messages and speeches that were made during various activities of the International Roots Meeting or related to it are also available via these links below.

- Message from Robertsfors City Hall, Robertsfors, Sweden⁶⁶
- Message from Kalmar by Roland Karlsson, Chief executive officer, City of Kalmar⁶⁷
- Sammanställning av Värmdö kommuns deltagande i Globeträdets projekt "Framtidsskeppet" under åren 1992-2004 (in Swedish) by Ms. Annika Andersson (Ordf. Barn- och ungdomsnämnden) and Mr. Lars Bryntesson (Ordf. Kommunstyrelsen)⁶⁸
- Statement from the Municipality of Värmdö on the participation in the Globetree program "Future Meetings" 1992-2004. by Ms. Annika Andersson (Council of Children and Youth) and Mr. Lars Bryntesson (Chairman of the Municipality executive board)⁶⁹
- Message from Kisumu City Council, Councillor Simba Opepo, Kisumu City Council, Kisumu, Kenya⁷⁰

⁶¹ GIWA Article on Globetree (nr. 2004-11-040)

⁶² Roots Meeting Powerpoint av Gunnel Dalhammar, KTH (nr. 2004-11-041)

⁶³ Message Astronaut Loren Acton (nr. 2004-11-042)

⁶⁴ Message Cosmonaut Dorin Prunariu (nr. 2004-11-043)

⁶⁵ Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm (nr. 2004-11-026)

⁶⁶ Message from Robertsfors City Hall (nr. 2004-11-027)

⁶⁷ Message Kalmar (nr 2004-11-028)

⁶⁸ Budskap Värmdö Kommun (nr. 2004-11-029)

⁶⁹ Message from Värmdö Municipality (nr. 2004-11-030)

⁷⁰ Message from Kisumu City Council (nr. 2004-11-032)

- Message from Homa Bay, Kenya. Dr. Odhiambo Agulloh, H W Mayor of Homa Bay⁷¹
- Thank you message from Globetree at the closing session on the 20th of Nov., UNON, Nairobi⁷²
- Lucas Ole Mukusi. Council Chairman of Simanjiro District, Tanzania
- Thank you Message from Nane Annan, wife of UN Secr. General Kofi Annan and on his behalf⁷³



Preparing for working groups.

14.0 Post Roots Meeting Activities

1. Collection of digital images and videos from Participants
2. Special Reports from participants
3. Feedbacks from Swedish Participants (Stockholm, Jan 2005)

14.1 Collection of digital images and videos from Participants

Delegates to the Meeting donated pictures that they have taken to Globetree. A total of 4472 images (7,291 Gbytes) were collected and available in two DVDs.

Person	Nr of images
Ann-Mari Vråmo	285
Carl Bengtsson & Anita Becker	1754
Charlotte Aminoff	1383
Eva Dessborn	158
Jacky Foo	666
Kerstin Person	91
Mary Ohlanders	135
Total	4472

14.2 Special Reports on Roots Meeting

Special reports on the International Roots Meeting were written by some participants. These are

⁷¹ Message from Homa Bay (nr. 2004-11-033)

⁷² Thank you from Globetree (nr. 2004-11-044)

⁷³ Message from Nane Anan (nr. 2004-11-034)

- Report and impressions from travel and the Roots Meeting by Sofia Esbjörnsson, student (8 pages, in Swedish)⁷⁴
- Report on the Roots Meeting by Bernard Obera, Kisumu, Kenya (9 pages)⁷⁵
- Report by Charlotte Aminoff (5 pages, in Swedish)⁷⁶
- Response to questions by Moses Ndungu, Administrator of the Children's Garden Center, Kenya (2 pages)⁷⁷
- Children and Art by Märta Velander, Globetree (5 pages)⁷⁸

14.3 Feedbacks from Swedish Participants (Stockholm, Jan 2005)

A meeting was held at Globetree for all participants who have been a delegate to East Africa in any of Globetree's activities. This also gave newcomers who were interested in join the next travel study to meet others.

- Afrika-Återträff 29 jan. 2005 (Swedish)⁷⁹
- Frågor på återträffen den 29 januari 2005 (Swedish)⁸⁰
- Presentationer från Återträffen - Bestående minne från resan (Swedish)⁸¹.

Individual Feedbacks from:

- Mary Ohlanders, Järvsö , Sweden (Swedish)⁸²
- Sofia Esbjörnsson, Ljusdal, Sweden. (Swedish)⁸³
- Maria Conchita (Swedish, English)⁸⁴
- Ulla-Brit Forzelius-Norbe, Strängnäs, Sweden. (Swedish)⁸⁵
- Jan Johansson, Värmdö, Sweden. (Swedish)⁸⁶
- Anders Sundvall, Dalarna, Sweden. (Swedish)⁸⁷
- Eva Olin, Bergaviksskolan, Kalmar, Sweden. (Swedish)⁸⁸
- Ann Bergerlind⁸⁹
- Helena Edvisson, Strängnäs, Sweden. (Swedish)⁹⁰
- Ulla Herbert, Burlöv, Sweden. (Swedish)⁹¹
- Burlöv programkontoret, Burlöv, Sweden. (Swedish)⁹²

⁷⁴ Rapport Sofia Esbjörnsson (nr. 2004-11-045)

⁷⁵ Report Bernard Obera, Kisumu (nr. 2004-11-046)

⁷⁶ Rapport Charlotte Aminoff (nr. 2004-11-047)

⁷⁷ Report Moses Ndungu (nr. 2004-11-048)

⁷⁸ Children and Art by Märta Velander (nr. 2004-11-008)

⁷⁹ Afrika återträff (nr. 2005-01-003)

⁸⁰ Frågor på återträffen (nr. 2005-01-004)

⁸¹ Presentationer på återträffen (nr. 2005-01-005)

⁸² Rapport Mary Ohlander (nr. 2004-11-049)

⁸³ Rapport Sofia Esbjörnsson (nr. 2004-11-053)

⁸⁴ Rapport Maria Conchita – Annorlunda resa till Kenya (nr. 2004-11-038)

⁸⁵ Brev Ulla Brit Forzelius, Strängnäs (nr. 2004-11-050)

⁸⁶ Brev Jan Johansson, Värmdö (nr. 2004-11-051)

⁸⁷ Brev Anders Sundvall, Dalarna (nr. 2004-11-052)

⁸⁸ Brev Eva Olin, Kalmar (nr. 2004-11-054)

⁸⁹ Brev Ann Bergerlind (nr. 2004-11-055)

⁹⁰ Rapport Helena Edvisson, Strängnäs (nr. 2004-11-056)

⁹¹ Brev Ulla Herbert, Burlöv (nr. 2004-11-057)

⁹² Burlövs Programkontor (nr. 2004-11-058)

- Ann-Marie Vråmo, Sweden. (Swedish)⁹³
- Tori Carlsson, A-net Youthforum, Ånäset, Sweden (Swedish)⁹⁴
- Jessica Warringer, Calmare International School, Kalmar. Reflections from my journey to Africa, November 2003 (English)⁹⁵
- Polhemsskolan, Lund by Eva Dessborn, Christian Wellton (Swedish)⁹⁶

15.0 Results and Conclusions from the International Roots Meeting

1. Children and Youth Concerns and Needs
2. What can Teachers and Mayors do
3. Conclusions from Mayors Meeting

The primary goal of the Roots Meeting is to listen to children and youth and to assist them to create a better socio-cultural and greener environment where they can pursue their education and have lives without abuses and injustice and in harmony with society. Twenty one (21) Mayors will help them to that. Schools and NGOs will help the Mayors. Children and Youth Networks will help themselves.

15.1 Children and Youth Concerns and Needs

The target group is children and youth of ages between 5 and 25 from the Baltic Sea countries and Lake Victoria Basin countries. Their concerns and needs fall within these themes:

- ensuring their education and health
- alleviation of poverty and improvement of livelihoods
- reduction in the vulnerability for abuse and sexual harassment
- help street children and those who are sick, e.g. with HIV/AIDS
- improvement of children environment for recreation, safety and learning
- keep the city clean and green

Several projects for action have been identified and these are :

- increase awareness and practice of the Rights of the Child, democracy and governance at school
- enable children to participate in Children's Parliament and the Children's Crime Council.
- support the dialogue between children and decision makers and elders.
- create a children's fund and scholarships for secondary and higher education to ensure the education of the disadvantaged children
- foster cooperation of the Baltic Sea and Lake Victoria Children and Youth Networks in sharing of information, student and cultural exchanges
- support children's activities with more ideas for activities.

⁹³ Tankar från Ann-Marie Vråmo, Växjö (nr. 2004-11-059)

⁹⁴ Tankar från Tori Carlsson, Robertsfors (nr. 2004-11-060)

⁹⁵ Tankar från Jessica Warringer, Kalmar (nr. 2003-11-013)

⁹⁶ Rapport från Polhemsskolan, Lund (nr. 2004-11-061)

- create children's 'activity centers' and training for dance, music, theatre, traditional games, sports, etc.
- establish informal training in schools for handicrafts (textile, wood and metal)
- encourage cultural and student exchange between the two regions and between schools to foster better socio-cultural understanding and education.
- enable elders to meet with children to share knowledge of the past in traditional ways by story-telling, singing and music.
- increase children's awareness of the environment
- demonstrate appropriate technology to solve environmental problems.
- greening of the environment with timber, fruit trees and ornamental plants
- establish kitchen gardens in schools, community gardens in cities, raising small animals; producing food crops, herbs, etc.

Workshops on (a) What do children and youth want to do? and (b) What can elders and Government do? have yielded several suggestions. These items need to be acted upon in the Way Forward.

What do children and youth want to do ?

ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITIES

Plant tree with children from other countries

Exchange programs (culture, environment, education, visiting homes)

would like to visit their environmental sites in other countries.

cleaning the streets, campaign to familiarize the other youth.

Like here in Kenya - visit home programs. They can also do the fencing of the forests e.g. Aberdares

Our environment ministry should be involved.

FUND-RAISING/GENERATION ACTIVITIES

Find the ways of fund raising - e.g. charity walks, make cards, can donate from each ones country, save life fund support

Can have e.g. charity walks (campaigns) like here in Kenya whereby the funds collected will be donated to homes, street programs, orphans

The youth in Africa must come to Sweden when we have World Championship in Cooperation. Collect money to them.

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

would like to have counsellors whom they can approach and to talk to and private guidance

would like to be sharing with others from other countries about children rights and agendas.

Spread wide Children and Youth's Rights.

NETWORKING and COMMUNICATION

More forums like this, more frequently.

Start a website, exchange information, start a knowledge 'bank'/network

Interaction (e.g. with rewards) within our countries; sports, drama, athletics

Unite with other clubs, enlarge and open branch offices, create logos and trademarks for the youth

ARTS AND CULTURE

Involve more schools in setting up clubs.

Exchange programs

Offering community service to publicize

CIVIC SERVICE

In hospital – donate blood and visit the sick.

Use Kenyan dignitaries to publicize.

Continue with our dream till we achieve

Speak to our Mayors (Nairobi) for ex. Via Department of Youth.

Sensitize to children about the dangers of defilement.

Advise children from joining bad peer groups.

They should work under promotion of good and positive morals among the children.

To improve the environment in Lake Victoria and Baltic Sea region we youth can do a cooperation.

15.2 What can elders and Government do?

- The government should involve us more, youth councils, our children's parliament should involve us more.
- The government should make sure that children's rights are respected.
- Provide free medical services to children in wars
- Ensure protection of children in war.
- Provide basic needs for children in refugee camps
- Stop civil wars in order to prevent children from dying.
- Provide enough security for the children.
- To put a strict law of rapists, kidnappers and defiles.
- Advise parents on child neglect.
- Ensure free medical services to children of disabilities.
- Provide medical care for children with AIDS.
- Put a strict law on use of depending drugs.
- Provide more schools for the non privileged children
- Ensure provision of basic needs in homes to the children.

- Provide good facilities to UPE schools
- Build homes for orphans
- Put a strict law on parents to respond to UPE
- Protect children from early marriages.
- To encourage parents to develop a positive relationship with their children.
- Provide enough school services
- Ensure that all children go to school.
- Expose children to sex education

15.3 Conclusions from Mayors Meeting

There is a strong commitment and political will from the Mayors and councillors as demonstrated by the inauguration of children meeting places in their cities. The creation of Children and Youth units within the city councils is another important action. Recommendations for action in 2005 are of key importance to future activities in the Way Forward.

1. that Globetree plays the important role of a lobbyist to facilitate the development of children and youth network projects and the twinning of cities
2. that a newsletter (print and web-based) be created so that everyone can be informed of network activities
3. that more time be given to East African invitees who will attend the International Water Symposium in August 2005 (and in general) so that they can prepare and rehearse their presentations and exhibitions.
4. that the Women's Network of LVRLAC proceeds to establish the sub-standing committee on Children and Youth within its Standing Committee.

16.0 Recommendations for the Way Forward and Action Plan (2005-2006)

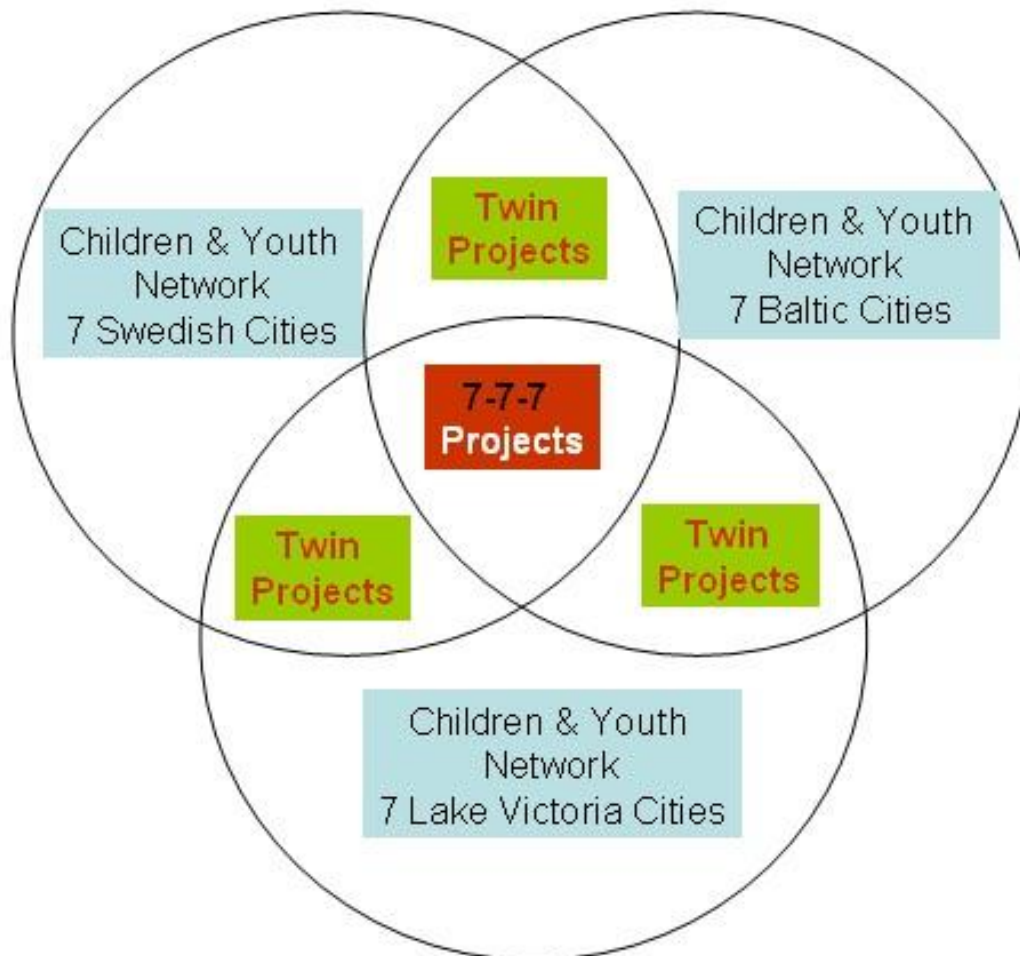
1. The Way Forward
2. Organization and Network Structure
3. Action Plan (2005-2006)
4. Twinning and Networking
5. Documents and Links

16.1 The Way Forward

The Way Forward will be the plan of action and a program for cooperation in 2005 and 2006 between countries around the Baltic Sea and the Lake Victoria. The stakeholders and beneficiaries are children and youth and the program ensures their interactions with adults via networks of schools, NGOs, professional institutions and local authorities. The program will give a special focus to disadvantaged children who are orphans, children from the poor families, street children, the handicapped children and the sick, e.g. with HIV/AIDS.

16.2 Organization and Network Structure

The core organisational structure is envisioned as a network of three Children and Youth networks in Sweden, Lake Victoria and Baltic Sea. Using these as their bases and operating from their schools, Children's Meeting Places and City Councils, these Networks will have the support of teachers, elders, community workers, culture workers/artists, and experts on rights of the child, environment, and decision makers at the local level as well as others at the national and international levels. The Way Forward will contain activities that children wish to do, activities in another twin city and joint activities that will involve other children from cities in Sweden, from the Lake Victoria and the Baltic Sea.



The support and civic groups will also have a key role to facilitate the development of inter-school and inter-city co-operations where children and youth can be involved. In 2003-2004, a functional organisational structure of 14 cities/communes in Sweden and in East Africa evolved out of the various activities organized. Future actions will be taken to strengthen this structure and also extend it to others in 7 Baltic Sea countries where children and youth have participated in earlier Globetree events e.g. Future Vessel 1998 and 2002.

The structure is also very flexible as it allows independent initiatives by children and youth through their schools, NGOs and City Councils that will foster actions and responses to children's concern and wishes.

16.3 Action Plan (2005-2006)

Children and youth wish to meet other children, communicate with them, share information via Internet and to learn and do things together. They have identified 4 main activities and themes for cooperation and action

- help their classmates stay in school, their education, training and extra-curricular activities
- create a better and cleaner environment
- increase awareness of the Rights of the Child, child abuse and labour
- help the disadvantaged and disabled children

The response to the concerns and wishes will be approached by all groups in the following manner:

- organize local gatherings that will bring children together so that they can jointly act and do things together. Globetree is involved in organizing three major activities that will bring children from different countries together in Stockholm. These are (a) 'Children's Water Ways' at the Stockholm Water Forum (Aug 2005) (b) 'Mayors-Children Dialogue' (suggested) Stockholm Water Forum (Aug 2005) and (c) the World Championship in Cooperation (Stockholm, May-June 2006. Kampala may host the World Environment Day 5th of June 2006.
- twinning of cities will bring local authorities into cooperation and design of cooperative projects should also involve children and youth
- Children and Youth Networks will develop projects together, e.g. publishing a newsletter on the web using the computer facilities that are currently being set up.
- Teachers and NGOs will develop local activities that will demonstrate and create a better and cleaner environment, increase awareness of the Rights of the Child, child abuse and health.

An overview of Globetree's tentative activities and events for 2005 and 2006 is given below and will be elaborated in a separate document for the Strategic and Action Plan. These activities are based on suggestions and discussions made during the International Roots Meeting in Nairobi as well as earlier meetings. The Way Forward will give a special attention to the World Championship in Co-operation Conference (planned for June 2006) where children and youth will meet to show local examples of their work that also respond to the Millennium Development Goals.

Overview of Globetree's Activities and Events (2005-2006)

2005	Activities and events
Jan - May 2005	Reporting of the International Roots Meeting. Initial Preparations for Swedish and Baltic cities municipalities to meet their counterparts at the Lake Victoria Region. Director of Division of Communications and Public Information, UNEP (Mr. Eric Falt) will come to Stockholm to formalize agreement of cooperation with Globetree.
June- July 2005	Travel mission by Swedes and Baltic Sea delegates in 'Twinning and Networking at the United Nations, Nairobi and the Lake Victoria Region' (11-21 June) Sharing of travel experiences with others and their preparation of the Stockholm Water Week

aug-05	<p>Children and Youth will participate at the Stockholm Water Week with their program on 'Children's Water Way'</p> <p>Children/Youth of Stockholm will host foreign participants</p> <p>City of Stockholm will host the Mayor's Meeting.</p> <p>Dialogues between children and Mayors during the Stockholm Water Week.</p> <p>Identify Partners for the Children's Water Way, e.g. LVRLAC, UBC, SIWI, GIWA and the City of Stockholm</p>
Sept/ Oct 2005	<p>Reporting on the Water Symposium</p> <p>Preparation for the annual Globe Days</p>
Oct 2005	<p>Annual Globe Days</p> <p>Preparations for the World Championship in Co-operation and an action plan will be worked out</p>
Nov/ Dec 2005	Children meet again under the Mother Tree at UNON (Nairobi)
2006	Activities and events
Jan - May 2006	Intensify preparations for the 'World Championship in Co-operation'
28 May-6 June	'World Championship in Cooperation' with an estimate of 7000 participants
June - Dec 2006	<p>Evaluation and reporting</p> <p>Stockholm Water Symposium (Aug)</p> <p>Annual Globe Days (Oct)</p> <p>Meeting in UN, Nairobi (Nov).</p>

16.4 Twinning and Networking

Twinning and networking will be important mechanisms for cooperation and partnership. The goal is to foster twinning between countries of the Baltic Sea and Lake Victoria with the involvement children and youth in the process. Opportunities for twinning between three cities will also be elaborated in the next 2 years.

Sweden	Lake Victoria Countries	Baltic Sea Countries
Kalmar	Entebbe (UG)	Kaliningrad (Russia)
Robertsfors	Busia (UG)	Aluksne (Lithuania)
Värmdö	Homa Bay	
Stockholm	Kampala (UG)	
Dalarna	Kisumu (KE)	
Strängnäs	Mukono (UG)	Kandave (Latvia)
Nacka	Mwanza (TZ)	

There is a travel programme ('Twinning and Networking in the Lake Victoria Region') in June 11-21, 2005 where contact persons from Swedish Municipalities can travel and meet their East Africa counterparts to develop and finalise proposals for joint projects.

Partners in Twinning of Cities: Status and Activities

Twin Cities	Contact Persons	Status and Activities
Kampala – Stockholm	<p>Kampala : Dep. Mayor G. Takuba Kabuye</p> <p>Stockholm : Lord Mayor Barry Andersson</p>	<p>Planning stage but there exists a lot of goodwill already: e.g.</p> <p>Suggested: organize Mayor's Meeting in August 2005 in conjunction with The Children's Water Way.</p> <p>Stockholm will host World Championship in Co-operation (May-June 2006)</p>

Kampala expressed a will to host World Environment Day 5th of June 2006.

Kampala expressed the wish to have a Children Park with a variety of activities (playground, environmental centre, children's garden, etc)

Entebbe – Kalmar	Entebbe: Aida Lubwana Education Officer Kalmar: Youth Advisor Sara Persson Kalmar	Twining program established
Mukono – Strängnäs	Mukono : Mayor Johnson Muyanja Senyonga Strängnäs : Mayor Anders Svensson Coordinator Youth Influence: Helena Edvinsson	planning stage and project activities to finalised in June 2005 Rights of the Child, Meetings with children, Tree planting, and others
Busia – Robertsfors	Busia : Mayor Michael Mugeni Robertsfors : Mayor Hans Lindgren International Youth Forum : Tori Carlsson	Planning stage and project activities to finalised in June 2005
Kisumu – Dalarna	Kisumu: Councillor Simba Opepo	Planning stage and project activities to finalised in June 2005
Homa Bay – Värmdö	Homa Bay : Mayor Stephen Peter Odhiambo Agullo Värmdö : Managing Director for Council of Children and Youth Elisabeth Fredell'	Planning stage and will consider activities related to - Keep the city clean, Mayors meet children, Construction of playground
Mwanza - Dalarna/ Nacka)	Mwanza : Dep. Mayor Maria Hewa Councillor : Illuminata Afuodi, Women's Network Nature Resource Centre NaturResursCentrum) : Falun Dalarna Managing Director Anders Sundvall. Nacka : Fältbiologerna (External partner).	Planning stage and will consider Schools cooperation on environmental education and awareness on drug, child abuse, reproductive and sexual health , HIV/AIDS Initiate fund-raising projects
Countries Baltic Sea Region		Establishment of contacts and cooperations will be elaborated during the Stockholm Water Forum (2005) and the World Championship in Cooperation (2006)

16.5 Documents and Links

- World Championship in Cooperation : Project description and time table⁹⁷
- Children and Youth Networks⁹⁸
- Children's Meeting Places (to be completed)
- Teachers and School Network (to be completed)
- Children's Meeting Place – A Network for Activity Development by Children and Youth in Countries of the Lake Victoria Basin and the Baltic Sea. Dec 2003.(project proposal)⁹⁹
- ICT Based Children's Cultural Activity Centre Project, Dec 2003 by the Uganda Society (project proposal)¹⁰⁰
- Story telling - with roots a treecrown (without roots no crown) by Eva Strombeck (2003)(project proposal)¹⁰¹
- “Children Garden” – A Vision of East African Children. Phase 1: Development and Initiation of the Children Garden Project in Eight Cities (Dec 2004)(project proposal)¹⁰²
- Children's Garden - A Children's Vision in East Africa (2004) (project proposal)¹⁰³
- Using biodegradable wastes as a resource in a biosystem for the development of livelihoods by the Urban Poor. (2004) (project proposal)¹⁰⁴
- Entourage Report - The board members of SSL-FA and representative of the municipality of Strängnäs with the People of Simanjiro in Bunda, Nagu, Uganda, Sudan and Simanjiro¹⁰⁵
- Speech from the chairman of Simanjiro district council by Hon. Lucas L. Ole Mukusi to the municipality council of Strängnäs¹⁰⁶

17.0 Appendices

1. Special Reports
2. Summaries and Notes from Workshops
3. Programs, Announcements and Participants
4. Special Messages

17.1 Special reports

- 2003. First Prep. Roots Meeting April 2003. Report (pdf) English + Swedish materials¹⁰⁷

⁹⁷ Backgrund World Championship in Cooperation (nr. 2004-12-01)

⁹⁸ LVRLAC youth group visit Sweden (nr. 2003-05-001)

⁹⁹ Childrens Meeting Place Proposal (nr. 2004-11-025)

¹⁰⁰ Childrens Cultural Activity Centre Project Uganda – Charles Twesigye (nr. 2004-01-001)

¹⁰¹ Story Telling by Eva Strömbeck (nr. 2003-11-014)

¹⁰² Children Garden Proposal – A Vision of East African Children (nr. 2003-12-001)

¹⁰³ Childrens Meeting Place – Network for Activity Development (nr. 2003-12-002)

¹⁰⁴ Proposal Biodegradable Waste – Mr. Eng Leong Foo (nr. 2004-06-001)

¹⁰⁵ Entourage Report – Simanjiro, Tanzania & Strängnäs, Sweden (nr. 2005-01-006)

¹⁰⁶ Speech by Chairman of Simanjiro District Council – Lucas Mukusi (nr. 2005-01-007)

¹⁰⁷ Report First Preparatory Roots Meeting 2003 (Eng. & Swed.) (nr. 2003-04-001)

- 2003. First Prep. Roots Meeting April 2003 A prestudy to an exchange program between Lake Victoria Region and Swedish Municipalities connected to the Baltic Sea. (6th - 12th of April) Report (pdf) with English materials only¹⁰⁸
- 2003. Second Prep. Roots Meeting. Nov 2003 The Children's Meeting Place and Networking in the Lake Victoria Region (23 November – 10 December 2003). Report (pdf)¹⁰⁹
- 2003. Report Lake Victoria Children/Youth Network Mwanza, Tanzania, by Anifa Amada, coordinator of Children and Youth Network, Mwanza¹¹⁰.
- 2003. Inauguration of Children's Meeting Place and Network in Mwanza, Tanzania¹¹¹
- 2003. The Kisumu Children Meeting Place. Second Preparatory Roots Meeting Entebbe, Uganda. 1st – 4th December 2003 and the Inauguration of "The Children's Meeting Place" Jamhuri Park- Kisumu, Kenya. 8–9 December 2003 by Bernard O. Obera, Ag. Deputy Director¹¹²
- 2004. Lake Victoria Strategy, 2004-2006 (power-point presentation by Per Karlsson on Swedish support to the Lake Victoria Region, 2004-2006)¹¹³
- 2004. Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC-Globetree, signed by President of LVRLAC, H.W. the Mayor of Entebbe, Mr. Stephen Kabuye and the President of Globetree Kajsa B. Dahlström¹¹⁴
- 2004. The Homa Bay Children Meeting Place. A report on the Inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place Homa Bay and the Stakeholders Workshop at the Town Hall, Homa Bay, Kenya, 26-27 February, 2004 by Bernard O. Obera, Ag. Deputy Director¹¹⁵
- 2004. About the Seven Stones by Lucas K Ole Mukusi, (Tanzania)¹¹⁶

17.2 Summaries and notes from workshops

- 2004. Minutes and notes from the Mayors meeting (Nov 2004)¹¹⁷
- 2004. Traditional Knowledge - Sukuma people¹¹⁸
- 2001. Framtidsskeppet i Kenya 1-8 maj 2001 (in Swedish) Värmdö delegation to Nairobi¹¹⁹
- 2004. Celebert besök från Afrika 2004-05-04 (Swedish) Mayors from Uganda and teachers from Kenya visits Värmdö Municipality¹²⁰

¹⁰⁸ Report First Preparatory Roots Meeting 2003 (Eng. only) (nr. 2003-04-002)

¹⁰⁹ Report Second Preparatory Roots Meeting 2003 (nr. 2003-11-001)

¹¹⁰ Report Lake Victoria Children and Youth Network – Anifa Amada (nr. 2003-11-010)

¹¹¹ Report Children's Meeting Place and Networking – Mwanza, Tanzania (nr. 2003-11-011)

¹¹² Report Kisumu Children's Meeting Place (nr. 2003-11-012)

¹¹³ Lake Victoria Strategy – SIDA Powerpoint presentation (nr. 2005-01-002)

¹¹⁴ Protocol of Cooperation LVRLAC and Globetree (nr. 2004-08-001)

¹¹⁵ Report Homa Bay Children's Meeting Place 27th February by Bernard O. Obera (nr. 2004-02-001)

¹¹⁶ About Seven Stones (nr. 2004-11-001)

¹¹⁷ Minutes and Notes from the Mayors Meeting (nr. 2004-11-002)

¹¹⁸ Traditional Knowledge - Sukuma People (nr. 2003-11-009)

¹¹⁹ Värmdö resa till FN (nr. 2001-05-001)

¹²⁰ Uganda Mayors visit Värmdö Municipality (nr. 2004-05-001)

- 2004. Barnens dokumentation (Swedish) May 2004 Mayors from Uganda and teachers from Kenya visit to the inauguration of the Children's Meeting Place in the Municipality of Strängnäs. (pdf)¹²¹
- 2004. Questions and answers from Dialogue between Children and Mayors. (Nov 2004)¹²²
- 2004. List of Concerns from East African Children and Youth(Nov 2004)¹²³
- 2004. Children and Art by Märta Velander (Nov 2004)(Photo Gallery)¹²⁴
- 2004. Teachers workshop at Olive Gardens (Nov 2004)¹²⁵
- 2004. Teachers proposals of activities and suggestions for the Way Forward (Nov 2004)¹²⁶
- 2004. Teachers workshop (18 Nov)¹²⁷
- 2004. Facing Mt Kenya by Jane Wanjiku Ruvaga, Muslim Primary School, Nairobi.¹²⁸
- 2004. Way Forward by Margaret Odhiambo (Homa Bay, Kenya)¹²⁹

17.3 Programs, announcements and participants

- 2003. General Program - Activities day by day for 23 Nov – 10 Dec.¹³⁰
- 2004. List of Seminar participants 2-4 December, Entebbe, Uganda¹³¹
- 2004. Seminar Program¹³²
- Preliminary List of Partners and Activities Lake Victoria - Baltic Sea¹³³
- International Roots Meeting – The Way Forward (15–20 Nov 2004), (for all participants)¹³⁴
- 2004. Mayors Meeting (18–20 Nov) (includes public and closed sessions for invited guests only)¹³⁵
- 2004: (17 Nov)¹³⁶
- 2004. Summary of material from Kenya¹³⁷
- Background to Children's Meeting Place at UN in Nairobi, Kenya¹³⁸
- 2001. Summary of school participation from Kenya (May 2001) by Christina Bodén, The Municipality of Värmdö¹³⁹

¹²¹ Framtidsskeppet Strängnäs (nr. 2004-05-002)

¹²² Questions and answers from Dialogue between Children and Mayors (nr. 2004-11-007)

¹²³ List of Concerns from East African Children and Youth (nr. 2004-11-005)

¹²⁴ Children and Art by Märta Velander (nr. 2004-11-008)

¹²⁵ Teachers workshop at Olive Gardens (nr. 2004-11-013)

¹²⁶ Teachers proposals of activities and suggestions for the Way Forward (nr. 2004-11-004)

¹²⁷ Teachers workshop (nr. 2004-11-006)

¹²⁸ Facing Mt Kenya by Jane Wanjiku Ruvaga, Muslim Primary School, Nairobi (nr. 2004-11-009)

¹²⁹ Way Forward by Margaret Odhiambo, Homa Bay, Kenya (nr. 2004-11-010)

¹³⁰ General Program - Activities day by day (nr. 2003-11-002)

¹³¹ List of Seminar participants 2-4 December, Entebbe, Uganda (nr. 2003-11-003)

¹³² Seminar Program (nr. 2003-11-004)

¹³³ Preliminary List of Partners and Activities Lake Victoria - Baltic Sea (nr. 2003-11-008)

¹³⁴ International Roots Meeting (15–20 Nov 2004), (for all participants) (nr. 2004-11-011)

¹³⁵ Mayors Meeting (18–20 Nov.) (nr. 2004-11-003)

¹³⁶ Introduction Roots Meeting - Seminar (nr. 2004-11-012)

¹³⁷ Summary of material from Kenya (nr. 2001-02-001)

¹³⁸ Background to Children's Meeting Place at UN in Nairobi, Kenya (nr. 2004-11-014)

¹³⁹ Summary of school participation from Kenya (nr. 2001-02-001)

- 2004. Preparations for Roots Meeting (ALL Participants)¹⁴⁰
- 2004. Background information to Invitation (Preparations ALL Participants)¹⁴¹
- 2004. Practical Information for Roots Meeting¹⁴²
- 2004. Program Masai Mara Program¹⁴³
- 2004. Seminar Program¹⁴⁴
- 2004. Program International Roots Meeting (pdf)¹⁴⁵
- 2004. Mayors Meeting program¹⁴⁶
- 2004. List of Participants from Sweden Nov 2004¹⁴⁷
- 2004. List of Participants from Uganda Nov 2004¹⁴⁸
- 2004. List of Participants from Tanzania Nov 2004¹⁴⁹
- 2004. List of Participants from Kenya Nov 2004¹⁵⁰
- 2004. Mayors Meeting Program (old version)¹⁵¹

17.4 Special messages

- 2004. Message from Robertsfors City Hall, Robertsfors, Sweden (Nov 2004)¹⁵²
- 2004. Message from Kalmar (Nov 2004)¹⁵³
- 2004. Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson (Nov 2004)¹⁵⁴
- 2004. Message from Värmdö Kommun (Swedish ; English)¹⁵⁵
- 2004. Message from Strängnäs, Anders Svensson, Chairman of City Council in the Municipality of Strängnäs¹⁵⁶
- 2004. Message from Kisumu City Council, Kisumu, Kenya¹⁵⁷
- 2004. Message by Dr. Odhiambo Agullo, H W Mayor of Homa Bay; Kenya¹⁵⁸
- 2004. Letters from the Municipality of Haninge and Strängnäs¹⁵⁹
- 2005. Thank you Message from Mrs. Nane Annan, wife of UN Secr. General Kofi Annan and on his behalf.¹⁶⁰

¹⁴⁰ Preparations for Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-015)

¹⁴¹ Background information to invitation (nr. 2004-11-014)

¹⁴² Practical Information for Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-017)

¹⁴³ Program Masai Mara (nr. 2004-11-016)

¹⁴⁴ Seminar Program (nr. 2004-11-019)

¹⁴⁵ Program International Roots Meeting (nr. 2004-11-020)

¹⁴⁶ Mayors Meeting program (nr. 2004-11-018)

¹⁴⁷ List of Participants from Sweden Nov 2004 (nr. 2004-11-021)

¹⁴⁸ List of Participants from Uganda Nov 2004 (nr. 2004-11-024)

¹⁴⁹ List of Participants from Tanzania Nov 2004 (nr. 2004-11-023)

¹⁵⁰ List of Participants from Kenya Nov 2004 (nr. 2004-11-022)

¹⁵¹ Program Mayors Meeting (old version) (nr. 2004-11-018)

¹⁵² Message from Robertsfors City Hall, Robertsfors, Sweden (nr. 2004-11-027)

¹⁵³ Message from Kalmar (Nov 2004) (nr. 2004-11-028)

¹⁵⁴ Message of the Lord Mayor of Stockholm, Mr. Barry Andersson (Nov 2004) (nr. 2004-11-026)

¹⁵⁵ Message from Värmdö Kommun (nr. 2004-11-030)

¹⁵⁶ Message from Strängnäs, Anders Svensson, Chairman of City Council Strängnäs (nr. 2004-11-031)

¹⁵⁷ Message from Kisumu City Council, Kisumu, Kenya (nr. 2004-11-032)

¹⁵⁸ Message from Homa Bay, Kenya. Dr. Odhiambo Agullo, H W Mayor of Homa Bay (2004-11-033)

¹⁵⁹ Letters from the Municipality of Haninge and Strängnäs (nr. 2003-11-007)

¹⁶⁰ Thank you Message from Mrs. Nane Annan (nr. 2004-11-034)