



**INSTITUTE OF SECURITY STUDIES – AFRICAN HUMAN SECURITY INITIATIVE,  
AMANI FORUM and HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION**

**Concept Note for Proposed Workshop on Capacity Building for Members of  
Parliament in Kenya**

**Sarova White Sands Hotel, Mombasa  
3-4<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

***[NB: Attendance is by Invitation only]***

In 1994, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)<sup>1</sup> defined the concept of Human Security as consisting of seven inter-related dimensions: economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security. Human security is an emerging paradigm in understanding the concept of security in the post cold war era. It focuses on individual security with emphasis on protection of individual citizens from various threats to human life thus enabling them to realize their full potential.

It is thus important to understand the mutual relationship between Human Security and State Security as fundamental to guaranteeing human dignity and development. The recent post election crisis in Kenya as well as constant threats from militia groups have not only exposed the challenges associated with over-emphasis on State Security over Human Security but also strengthened the notion that guaranteeing Human Security is a process which is not a monopoly of the Government.

There has been a noticeable shift by civil society groups and parliamentarians amongst others in exercising their citizenship rights through carving out space for themselves to review and monitor their respective states' security sectors and this is a deviation from the notion that security policies are a preserve of those with the technical competence in terms of articulating, strategizing and implementing policies. Strengthening democratic governance is one of the key objectives of the Millennium Development Goals and parliaments do have a central role to play in ensuring that necessary conditions for development are present. Peacemaking and conflict

---

<sup>1</sup> UNDP, *Human Development Report* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994)

management are two areas that have been outside the domain of many capacity building programmes.

The current parliament of Kenya is a nucleus of the diversity of the Kenyan citizens and it should thus be deliberately designed and empowered to effectively involve and benefit the ordinary public in the articulation, formulation and implementation of national security policies and programmes. The recent spate of violence surrounding the 2007 elections clearly require the shift from a rubber stamping parliament to a transformative one that is well positioned and adequately informed to amend existing as well as propose and enact new legislation that will make the country more secure. Security governance is one such area where parliamentarians can play a role in strengthening democracy, managing constituent conflicts and relations, lawmaking and oversight.

It is a well known fact that campaigns do not necessarily reflect the members of parliaments' knowledge of the roles of a parliamentarian. Ad-hoc training programmes cannot exhaust the vast areas that ought to fill in the knowledge gaps that exist amongst the parliamentarians. This proposed workshop partly aims to fill in the gap by using a structured methodology and will hopefully create a sustainable approach to building capacity so that parliamentarians can perform their roles more effectively.

The workshop is designed to be participatory and will take place over a period of one and half days on the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 2008. It is envisaged that at least 15 MPs from all parties in the governing coalition will attend the workshop. AMANI Forum will mobilise the attendants through its vast network. Experts will be identified to present thematic papers that will serve as a guide for both group and plenary discussions.

The specific objectives of the workshop are to:

- a. enhance the capacity of parliamentarians to effectively and efficiently identify human security threats to their constituents, articulate the public problems and propose and harmonise such relevant laws to contain the problems, as well as monitor and track implementation of these policies;
- b. promote the effective use of Parliamentary Committees to promote human security;
- c. encourage the compilation of security threats to the various constituents and use this database to monitor security threats and trends, and in this way, it would be possible to have some sort of early warning system for likely trigger events;
- d. encourage local networking of MPs to counter security threats, manage conflicts and build peace- and to encourage connection to broader regional networks such as Parlianet.

The workshop aims to produce the following:

- a. at least 1 module on human security threats that cut across all the constituencies and how these can be contained;
- b. develop an action plan for parliamentary engagement on human security issues at the local level;
- c. a workshop report documenting the proceedings so that training gaps can be identified

## Tentative Programme<sup>2</sup>

### Day one

#### Session 1 -

##### Chair: MP

Opening remarks: Dr. Wolf Krug: *Hans Seidel Foundation*

Keynote Speech: Hon. Min/Asst Minister Defence and Security

Parliamentary Capacity building efforts in Kenya:

Hon. Ekwe Ethuro, Chairman, AMANI Forum Kenya Chapter

*Presentation by SUNY*

##### Tea break

##### Chair: MP

#### ***Contextual Background***

History of Democracy and Governance in Kenya

Defining and understanding Human security threats in Kenya and the Horn

##### Lunch Break

##### Chair: MP

#### ***General Framework of Analysis:***

Democracy, Oversight and the Security Sector - ISS

How is Parliamentary oversight exercised in the security arena in Kenya?

*Committee on Administration, National Security and Local Authorities*

The Role of Civil Society in Security Governance in Kenya - ISS

#### **Cross-cutting issues**

Cross-border crime: The issue of arms control in Kenya - ISS/SaferWorld

The impact of Corruption and Bandit Economies on Human Security

Summary of day's proceedings – AMANI Forum

---

<sup>2</sup> This is a Parliamentary Meeting and the MPs need to own the process and outcomes. Their participation can be greatly enhanced if they are actively engaged in the programme. They should moderate/chair all the sessions. One or two should also make presentations. Through this, we will move from academic perspective to practical issues that are known to MPs and also integrate not only their participation, but also their leadership into the process

**7:00-9:00 Dinner- cocktail- Formal Dress**

**Day 2 Chair: MP.**

Group work assignments

Group Report Back

**Tea Break**

Plenary discussion

Summary of proceedings - *AMANI Forum*

Recommendations and way forward – (*AMANI Forum (MP)*)

Closing remarks: *ISS and AMANI Forum (MP)*