New High Commissioner for Human Rights Speaks at VOICE/UN Round Table

On the occasion of the annual Brussels Launch of the UN Consolidated Appeals for Humanitarian Assistance (CAP), for 2003 in Sudan, DRC and Somalia, VOICE, for the second year running, organized a very successful Round Table on 19 November 2002.

CAP is an important planning and fundraising tool for UN and other humanitarian actors, creating global strategies for different countries each year. The theme of the event this year was “Hope for the Future” – which means humanitarian assistance with a view to the long-term improvement of local situations.

Sergio Vieira de Mello, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, whose background includes long experience in the humanitarian sector, presented his programme:

- Focus on the erosion of the rule of international law in relation to human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, and remind governments of their obligations
- Integrate human rights into peace agreements, not only by monitoring them but also by following their implementation – this could also be done through civil society actors such as NGOs

In response to VOICE’s request to address the issues of humanitarian access and security for aid workers, de Mello stressed:
The role of the Security Council for ensuring the responsibility of the international community
- The dissuasive or persuasive role of international field presence for reporting and denouncing violations
- The role of the International Criminal Court (ICC) for holding perpetrators accountable
- The military, which can play a role in ensuring access and security.

Representatives of VOICE members Action Aid, Médecins du Monde Belgium and DanChurchAid gave presentations together with UN staff from DRC, Sudan and Somalia. The discussion brought together a wide range of humanitarian actors from the NGO community, the UN, the EC, and governments.

The Round Table, hosted by the Belgian Government, followed the official CAP Launch in the morning, which also involved the participation of Mrs. Adinolfi, Director of ECHO. In her statement, Mrs. Adinolfi spoke of the EC’s partnership with the UN, currently receiving some 26% of ECHO funds, as well as the need for linkages between relief and longer-term development activities. She also stressed that as humanitarian actors we must not choose to do what we can do in place of what we should do. Beneficiaries, she said, have a right to “quality aid”. And she stressed that humanitarian assistance must remain impartial, not seen as “a simple tool of foreign policy or of crisis management and even, more alarmingly, as an adjunct to military action.”

For further documentation from this meeting, contact the VOICE secretariat: information@ngovoice.org

VOICE Participates in Informal HAC

On 24 and 25 October 2002, VOICE participated for the first time participated in the Informal HAC Meeting in Copenhagen. The HAC (Humanitarian Aid Committee), consisting of representatives of all EU member states, meets about monthly in a formal context to approve ECHO decisions. In addition each EU presidency usually holds an “Informal HAC”, to which other humanitarian actors may be invited, where policy issues are discussed in more detail. VOICE, ICVA, the Red Cross and OCHA all participated this time.

The first day of the Danish meeting focused on Civilian and Humanitarian Aspects of Crisis Management. The aim of this theme was to raise awareness about the issue, and the future role of civil protection organisations in the implementation of humanitarian aid. A further purpose of the discussion was to explore the risk of jeopardising the humanitarian principles of neutrality and impartiality and the respect of international humanitarian mandates if EU humanitarian assistance were to become a part of the CFSP. The VOICE/World Vision Briefing on this issue was very well received.

The second day’s theme was Monitoring and Lessons Learned from Evaluations of Humanitarian Agencies, which followed up on the Belgian Informal HAC. NGO networks ALNAP and HAP (Humanitarian Accountability Project), which work on quality issues, gave input to this debate.

Several Member States have been involved in an ad-hoc working group on NGOs over the last months. Behind closed doors, this group presented their ideas about the criteria and registration for NGOs, and Member State funding for non-national NGOs.

For further documentation from this meeting, contact the VOICE secretariat: information@ngovoice.org

Working Group on LRRD

VOICE has recently revived the Working Group on Linking Relief with Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD). More than 15 VOICE members participated on November 6; the group benefited from the insights of Mr. Billing from ECHO 4, approved terms of reference and exchanged views on the current state of play of LRRD both in the EC and the field. Members of the group prepared a statement on LRRD for a dialogue meeting between Commissioner Nielson and Brussels based NGDO networks, which took place on November 22. The group will meet again in January for the presentation of a study ActionAid is currently undertaking on LRRD.

On the occasion of the meeting a list of relevant LRRD documents and background papers has been made available on VOICE’s webpage.

For more details about the LRRD Working Group, contact information@ngovoice.org.
VOICE Visits Members

During the autumn, the Secretariat made trips to members in several Member States. In September, VOICE visited the UK. Meetings were held in Oxford and in London, where the meeting was hosted by the DEC. In October, the Secretariat presented VOICE to the Humanitarian Working Group of the German NGO platform, VENRO. In connection with the conference on Forgotten Crises (see below), VOICE met with Danish members. A meeting with Swedish Members and ECHO partners is planned for the beginning of December in Stockholm. VOICE members are always welcome to visit the Secretariat in Brussels.

Tufts University: Humanitarian Political Economy Research

Ian Smillie, a researcher from Tufts University in Massachusetts, USA, recently interviewed VOICE as part of “Action Research on the Political Economy of the Humanitarian Enterprise.”

The “Humanitarianism and War Project” has been studying the effectiveness of the international humanitarian response to major complex emergencies for the past decade. The current research incorporates a review of donor behaviour, which is one of three elements in a multi-donor study of global financing of humanitarian assistance; the other two are on humanitarian assistance flows and on needs assessment in practice. Outputs will include a policy-oriented report on donor behaviour, including recommendations, for the global financing study, to be completed by April 2003.

For information, contact Humanitarianism and War Project: e-mail: h&w@tufts.edu, or their website http://hwproject.tufts.edu.

2. ECHO/EU NEWS

Call for proposals for the first DIPECHO action plan in Central Asia - Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan et Turkmenistan

The overarching objective of this DIPECHO Action Plan is to increase the awareness of local communities about potential natural disasters and to foster appropriate and sustainable preparedness, mitigation and prevention activities that can be easily replicated in other parts of the region and beyond.

The programme aims to do this primarily by:

- targeting the most vulnerable communities using wherever possible bottom-up participatory methods and relevant materials that can be replicated in other projects; and
- promoting the sustainable strengthening of the local physical and human resources that are required to respond to likely natural disasters.

Although the Central Asian region comprises five countries, priority will be given to the three most vulnerable countries (in terms of disasters and ability to respond) Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan (in that order).

The global indicative amount available under the present call for proposals is €3,000,000. Individual grants will normally range between €50,000 and €500,000.

The deadline for this call for proposals is 20 December 2002. Complete information is available at http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/echo/img_echo/pdf/call_2002_1_en.pdf. Contact person: Peter Taylor in ECHO-2, Tel: (32-2) 296.72.87, Email: peter-david.taylor@cec.eu.int.

DRC Global Strategy: From “Forgotten Crisis” to “Forgotten Needs”

ECHO held a Workshop on its Global Plan for DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) on 22 October. VOICE and many of its members attended the meeting, together with other NGOs, some UN representatives, and others. DRC will be ECHO’s second biggest client (after Afghanistan) in 2003. The 2003 Global Plan will be implemented from 1 January.

Accessibility has always been the main problem of aid delivery in DRC. The mortality rate remains high, and this is at least partly due to the fact that physical access to healthcare remains unsatisfactory. While before, ECHO funds were oriented towards the Congolese health care structures, the new strategy is to use
a more people-oriented, community health approach.

ECHO’s priority areas are conflict zones and health zones (zones de santé), and the most needy areas are the northeast and the so-called “front-line” areas. ECHO is phasing out in other areas, and it is felt that ECHO should not be active in the parts of DRC under governmental control. As intervention sectors, priority will be given to health, food and nutrition, and special mandates.

Overall, stress was placed on the need for creativity in the implementation tools used in DRC humanitarian assistance in the coming year. In relation to access, ECHO would welcome accessibility studies by its partners in the next year.

For more information contact the DRC Desk Officer: Richard.Hands@cec.eu.int.

EC Financial Regulation

The EC’s new Financial Regulation was approved in June. The implementation rules are still to be approved before the end of the year. It will come into force on 1 January 2003. The new financial regulation will apply to all contracts with the EC.

Although the following is most relevant for development NGOs, it may also be useful for humanitarian NGOs to be aware of: EuropeAid has put English and French “Info Guides for ‘Cofinancing with NGO and decentralized cooperation’ projects” on its web site. It deals with how to prepare and submit projects and reports.


ECHO Partner’s Conference Round Up

Some 200 ECHO partners attended the ECHO Partner’s Meeting on 14 and 15 October 2002. Commissioner Nielson’s speech focused on the relationship between humanitarian aid and crisis management. Humanitarian aid is in a risk zone to become another instrument for EU foreign policy interests.

One of the main reasons for insisting on the special character of humanitarian aid is neutrality, in order to deal with the problem of access. He stressed that humanitarian aid is not a crisis management tool.

Nielson also stressed that co-ordination among ECHO, UN-agencies, and humanitarian NGOs has improved.

Mrs Adinolfi stated in her address that the new FPA would be a more flexible tool, focused more on the results than on input, and more focus on monitoring during project implementation. She discussed quality issues and commented on the role of the European Parliament.

Concerning the strategy for 2003, it will include the following components:

1. Forgotten Crises
2. Forgotten Needs
3. Presence in unstable transitions
4. Geographical focus on Africa, the Afghan area and the Middle East

As to the follow-up of the working groups on Quality, Human Resources and IT tools, this will be discussed at ECHO’s Annual Strategic Programming Dialogue Meeting with NGOs to be held on November 29. VOICE is currently preparing its input, also including horizontal issues.

Nielson’s speech can be found at http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/gui esten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=SPEECH/02/487|0|RAPID&lg=EN&display=

Convention on the Future of Europe

In a 15 October statement to the European Convention’s Working Group on External Action, Commissioner Poul Nielson highlighted the importance of humanitarian assistance in the future of Europe. He stated, “the Union’s development cooperation and humanitarian aid has developed into a core activity” and called its humanitarian aid “a true success” and a “demonstration of global solidarity to people in need.”

Nielson declared the principle of impartiality in humanitarian aid distribution “the cornerstone in the effort of securing the necessary access for delivering humanitarian aid.” He went on to say that the EU’s legal basis for this activity is adequate as it stands. Finally, the Commissioner commented on the importance of humanitarian aid staying out of crisis prevention and crisis management mechanisms.
Also concerning the Convention, EUROSTEP organised a round table meeting on 13 November. One major concern with the reorganization of Europe is where humanitarian assistance will fit, and so far the future treaty says little about development cooperation, and nothing about humanitarian assistance at all.

In an attempt to draw attention to this problem, VOICE presented a statement demanding, among others, reference in the treaty to humanitarian aid, the independence of humanitarian assistance from EU foreign policy, and the recognition of the importance of LRRD.

The Statement can be found on the VOICE website, www.ngovoice.org

European Parliament reviews EU Humanitarian Assistance in 2000 and 2001

The European Parliament's Committee on Development Cooperation is currently discussing the Annual reports on humanitarian aid for 2000 and 2001. In a 11 November meeting, the rapporteur, Marie-Arlette Carlotti, highlighted 5 points in her report by way of presentation:

1) Financial means
2) ECHO's competence
3) Prevention, preparation and risk reduction (in natural disasters)
4) Security of humanitarian personnel
5) ECHO's Communication strategy

The Report asks that ECHO’s budget not be cut, and cites the negative trend of systematic recourse to the reserve. It praises ECHO for adhering to its core mandate, but notes that forgotten crises must be taken into account, and that a clarification of responsibilities for LRRD is needed. The report and adjoining resolution took into account input submitted by VOICE earlier this year.

3. MEMBER NEWS

ACF sets up an emergency Nutrition Center in Paris

On the occasion of the World Food Day this year (15 October 2002), VOICE member Action Contre la Faim (ACF) mobilized to remind Parisians that hunger touches millions of women, men and children every day, and that concrete measures to fight hunger are available.

To symbolize the struggle, ACF reconstructed a nutrition center in front of Paris' Gare de Montparnasse. Throughout the day, the public was invited to tour a nutrition center in seven stages (registration tent, care stations, etc.). The objective was to show Parisians, and especially children, how it is possible to save severely under-nourished children. Naturally, this emergency humanitarian intervention was funded by ECHO.

For more information about this initiative, contact ACF at acf@acf.imaginet.fr, or view their website at www.acf-fr.org.

CARE International in Afghanistan: Policy Brief

CARE International has recently released a policy brief responding with recommendations to five key findings.

The recommendations were:

1. Major donors should pledge and deliver at least US$ 10 billion over the next five years for reconstruction in Afghanistan.
2. Funds for both emergency work and reconstruction should be made available with urgency so that Afghans are not forced to choose between the two.
3. Firm commitments should be made now to increase funding each year over the next five years.
4. Donors should build the capacity of the Afghan authorities to assume strategic leadership for the country's reconstruction.
5. Donors should articulate and agree upon a clear plan for ensuring adequate security in Afghanistan, and then provide the necessary financial support.

For the full report, see: www.careusa.org/newsroom/specialreports/afghanistan/09302002_policybrief.pdf

Humanitarian and Development NGOs Lobby towards EU Cooperation in the Balkans

VOICE members CARE International, Handicap International, IRC, MPDL, and World Vision have taken the initiative to lobby for NGO consultation with DG Relex on Balkans policy. As a result, DG Relex will involve EuropeAid and NGOs in a
structured dialogue in the form of quarterly meetings. The group’s objectives are:

- To engage the EC to share information on policies and programs, by providing input for EC strategy documents;
- To request more transparency and intensify the dialogue on programmatic and contractual issues related to CARDS and other EU programs in the Balkans;
- To promote better coordination by creating a forum for field and headquarters concerns and by ensuring consistency in the implementation of aid programs.

In light of the earlier strong presence of VOICE member organisations in the Balkans, VOICE participated in the first meeting. But just as ECHO is now phasing out its Balkans activities in favor of longer-term Commission services, VOICE’s activities in this Balkans lobbying group will likewise be taken up by the CLONG in the future.

Organisations interested in joining the dialogue should contact Farida Chapman, IRC Belgium, Tel.: +32/2/7438787, fax: +32/2/7321934, e-mail: farida@theIRC.org

Brussels Coalition on Child Soldiers
The Brussels Coalition on Child Soldiers, which includes VOICE members Save the Children, World Vision and the IRC, will meet with Olara Otunnu, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, on 25 November. The group is involved in lobbying the EU and other actors in relation to children in conflict on European and international levels. VOICE is following the activities of the Brussels Coalition in relation to ECHO activities in this area.

In related news, the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict has a new website, at www.un.org/children/conflict.

Forgotten Crises Conference
A one-day conference, organized by the Danish VOICE members and funded by the European Commission (ECHO) in connection with the Danish EU Presidency, took place in Copenhagen on 23 October.

The conference focused on the inequality and irregularity in media and donor response to crises in places like Sudan, Angola, Serbia, Chechnya, Tajikistan, and North Korea. Selected silent and marginalised emergencies were examined in order to explain the complex dynamics and interactions between public opinion, news criteria, humanitarian motives, geopolitical agendas, and resource allocation.

The objective was to inspire the main players to reflect upon their own roles, and ultimately to raise public awareness about forgotten humanitarian crises. The conference venue itself was transformed into an audio-visual exhibition, adding a tangible dimension to the topics discussed.

Information on the outcomes of the conference is available at www.forgottencrises.dk.

4. OPPORTUNITIES

The Sphere Project Training of Trainers
From 5-13 January, The Sphere Project will hold a Training of Trainers course, designed to produce "change agents" who will help agencies implement the Sphere standards. The course, held in English in Geneva, will be 8 days long, for 20 people, with 3 trainers. The instruction and materials are free. Agencies are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

The deadline for applications is 10 November. For more details, consult www.sphereproject.org.

Euro-Burma Office
The Euro-Burma Office is carrying out an international awareness campaign on Burma (IDPs, women and children rights, health and education problem in the refugee camps). Each 6 months they hold a meeting in one of the EU countries of NGOs working on Burma. The next meetings will be held in Greece and Italy.

For more information, interested NGOs may directly contact Margherita Bebi at the Euro-Burma Office Liaison with EU.
5. REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Ban Mines Newsletter
The latest issue (No. 8, October 2002) of the Belgian Campaign to Ban Landmines’ newsletter, prepared by VOICE member Handicap International, focuses on the Landmine Monitor Report 2002 and on the perspective of a war in Iraq. The newsletter reports the 10 major findings of the Landmine Monitor Report for 2002. It also describes the challenges particularly related to NATO and its mine problem, including the use of cluster bombs. The front-page Editorial presents the possibility that a NATO member state – the US - would use anti-personnel landmines in case of a war in Iraq, not to mention the use of cluster munitions, which typically leave long-lasting unexploded ordinance.

For a copy of this newsletter or information about Handicap International, contact koen.baetens@handicap.be, or see www.handicapinternational.be.

Sphere Project Lessons Learned Document
The Sphere project team has recently prepared a report on the lessons learned in the implementation of the Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards from 2000-2002. The paper aims to represent the experiences and perceptions of the key actors in the Sphere process. The findings are based on a series of visits to 102 pilot agency field offices in Central America, East Africa and South Asia conducted late in 2001, together with the input of participants of Sphere training workshops over the last two years. The lessons learned described in the report deal with awareness of Sphere; gaps between awareness and application; effective Sphere application; enhancement through Sphere of quality and accountability; Sphere training; Sphere outreach; and Sphere translations.

For more information contact sphere@ifrc.org, phone +41/22/7304501, fax +41/22/7304905, or visit the Sphere website at www.sphereproject.org.

ICRC, “War and Displacement” (IDP) Information kit
In September 2002 the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) released an information kit on internally displaced persons entitled “War and Displacement”. It consists of a folder containing information sheets summarizing the ICRC’s position on and approach to this issue, as well as specific information on ICRC and Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement action on behalf of IDPs, and an overview of the protection granted to IDPs by international humanitarian law. It also includes a bibliography and information page.

Available in English, French and Spanish. To order dc_com_pmd.gva@icrc.org

“Afghanistan Monitor”
“Afghanistan Monitor” is a new, independent humanitarian accountability news journal produced by Media Action International (a Geneva-based foundation) and London-based Crosslines Publications. Published fortnightly, the Monitor will cover international recovery, peacekeeping and security operations in a critical and balanced manner. The journal intends to ensure the effectiveness of the reconstruction effort by encouraging accountability and improving dialogue among the various national and international actors. An independent and credible forum for the discussion of issues surrounding the humanitarian and peacekeeping effort in Afghanistan. The pilot issue, September 2002, is available online at www.afghanmonitor.org.

3 Publications from International Alert
International Alert’s Development and Peacebuilding Programme has recently released three new publications, forming part of a project on humanitarian activity in conflict areas:

1. “Afghanistan Since the Bonn Agreement. Tasks, Opportunities and Barriers for Peacebuilding”
2. “More than Implementers: Civil Society in Complex Emergencies”
FEWER, International Alert and Saferworld develop resource manual on Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment

A new resource manual on Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA), which aims to collect relevant experiences, approaches, tools and frameworks on PCIA, is currently in development. The PCIA project is a two-year programme implemented by a consortium of Northern and Southern organisations in an attempt to integrate conflict-sensitive tools and practice into development, humanitarian and peace-building activities. It aims to enhance capacities for effective conflict prevention among international and local civil society groups, as well as local government.

For more information, contact Celine Moyroud of Saferworld Conflict Prevention Programme: Tel. +44/2078819290; e-mail: cmoyroud@saferworld.org.uk

6. RECENTLY GRANTED AID

Commission provides €448,000 in emergency aid for victims of volcanic eruption in Ecuador

Brussels, 8 November 2002

The European Commission is providing humanitarian assistance worth €448,000 for relief efforts in the region of Ecuador affected by the eruption of the “El Reventador” volcano. The aid is being channelled through ECHO, where the funding decision was taken under the “primary emergency procedure” for immediate delivery.

7,000 vulnerable families will receive special kits containing various relief supplies. The aid package also covers distribution of drinking water and water purification equipment. ECHO’s partners responsible for implementing these operations are the Spanish Red Cross and the Italian NGO and VOICE member, COOPI. ECHO is currently considering making further funds available for this crisis, particularly for crop loss. (Source: IP/02/1637)

Commission provides humanitarian aid worth EUR 3.7 million in East Asia

Brussels, 5 November 2002

The European Commission has recently taken humanitarian aid decisions for North Korea, the Bhutanese refugees in Nepal and the Burmese refugees in Thailand, to be channelled through ECHO.

Nepal - €2 million

The aim of this decision is to assist the 102,000 Bhutanese refugees who are living in camps in south-east Nepal and who rely almost entirely on rations provided by the World Food Programme (WFP). Last year, ECHO provided €1.9 million for the WFP operation and a further €2 million has now been allocated for this ongoing humanitarian action. The food supplies are purchased mainly on the local markets.

North Korea - €1.5 million

Winter-needs assistance is being provided for vulnerable groups in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The main focus of this decision is on renovation works designed to insulate public institution buildings, including schools and hospitals and on providing heating systems and stoves for the winter months. Blankets, mattresses and bed linen will also be supplied. The decision should benefit 95,000 people directly, including more than 60,000 children.

Thailand (Myanmar/Burma border) - €200,000

Emergency assistance is being provided to help Burmese refugees in Thailand following serious flooding in September 2002. The emergency aid will be used to reconstruct homes, medical centres, sanitation facilities and schools, as well as to provide food for those most in need.

(Source: IP/02/1608)

Commission provides over EUR 17 million extra in humanitarian aid for Afghanistan

Brussels, 30 October 2002

The European Commission has adopted a new humanitarian aid package worth €17.645. The decision focuses on former
refugees returning to Afghanistan from neighboring countries as well as on internally displaced people (IDPs) and other vulnerable and drought-affected populations.

The funding, channelled through ECHO, will cover the distribution of foodstuffs, seeds and fertilisers as well as non-food items such as blankets and fuel. Other components include "food for work" and income generating activities, the provision of shelters, medical support and water/sanitation actions. There is also funding for the protection of Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and returnees and IDPs in Afghanistan.

Over the last two years, ECHO has provided humanitarian aid to Afghanistan worth almost €120 million. This decision follows on from a €16.7 million package decided in August, bringing the total allocated for 2002 alone to almost €63 million.

(Source: IP/02/1580)

7. JOB VACANCIES

CARE International:
Team Leader
CARE, an international development organization, is seeking an exceptional individual for a possible long-term position managing a social protection education and training program. The individual would play a key role in the design, launching and management of a program through a combination of academic education, practical training, supervision and mentoring.

*Estimated Start Date:* Approximately a two-year assignment beginning likely in February/March 2003.

Please submit updated CVs/resumes by 30 November 2002.

*For full description or to apply, contact:* Ann Moffett moffethr@care.org and Dawn Wadlow wadlowd@care.org

ReliefWeb:
Managing Editor (2 posts)
ReliefWeb, a project of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is seeking a ReliefWeb Managing Editor (L-3) in the OCHA headquarters (New York) and in its project office in Geneva (2 posts).

*Duties:* Manages the daily update on ReliefWeb in the relevant duty station (New York or Geneva) to ensure the timely provision of relevant and reliable humanitarian information on emergencies and disasters to the international humanitarian community.

*Closing Date:* 14 Dec 2002

*For application instructions and form visit the ReliefWeb Vacancies section:* http://www.reliefweb.int/w/res.nsf/wDocs/F39F08E82330B643C1256C5900383464

European Coordination of International Cooperation NGOs:
Director
The European Coordination of International Cooperation NGOs, representing more than 1000 NGOs, organised in National Platforms and European Networks, active in international cooperation (including development, humanitarian aid, rehabilitation, etc.) is looking for a Director, based in Brussels.

*Responsibilities* include: achieving the implementation of the working plan of the European Coordination through collaborative action among Member Organisations; defending the interests of NGOs in the areas of EU international cooperation policies and funding; leading and managing the Secretariat (about 7 staff); undertaking high level representation at the European institutions; implementing and supervising the financial management and audit; etc.

*(see below for contact details)*

EU Development Senior Policy Officer
*Responsibilities* include research, monitoring and reporting on EU international cooperation policies; facilitating the working groups of the Coordination on these issues; liaising with members and EU decision makers; etc.

*Deadline for both positions:* 5 December 2002

*Aimed starting date:* 1 January 2003

*For a more detailed description of either job, or to send application letter and CV, contact:* Guido Dumon, Tel: +32 2 743 87 60; e-mail: Gdumon@clong.be, or Frans Polman, Tel: +32 235 03 98; e-mail: frans.polman@cordaid.nl.