

or not incorporated in the reconstruction of a society and the results of different models of economic and social reconstruction. Therefore, it was recommended that Canada initiate some research into different models of peace-building, and how women have both been supportive of and supported by a particular set of arrangements, to see which may work in future negotiations.

Conclusion:

The roundtable provided each one of us with the opportunity to address the central question: How can women support peace-building and how can peace-building support women, in post-conflict situations? A number of recommendations emerged as a result of our discussions, as discussed above. First and foremost is the need to find a universal definition of peace-building which is able somehow to capture what is happening on the ground, the extent to which peace is actually being built rather than counting beans in Ottawa. Secondly, peace-building must address the needs of both men and women. This means, in concrete terms, women from the country concerned must be at the table in any negotiations, women must be part of the peace-building team from Canada, and a gender analysis must be done to understand both the violence and insecurity experienced by women and their specific needs. These general recommendations are reflected in each of the specific areas of analysis that we looked at as a group, from political reconstruction to strengthening of democratic institutions, to the transformation of a society from conflict to civil peace. Peace-building, as has been demonstrated in a country like Guatemala, can provide a unique opportunity to harness the strength of women in any given country to rebuild a peaceful world, while simultaneously using the process to empower women and bring all people into the building process of these newly emerging democracies.