measures to strengthen and solidify peace by building a sustainable infrastructure of human security." He continues: "I see peacebuilding as casting a life line to foundering societies struggling to end the cycle of violence, restore civility and get back on their feet."47

Necla Tschirgi, reminds us that peacebuilding is an internationally-coined and promoted concept that "refers primarily to the international community's response to violent conflict, threats of violent conflict or the aftermath of such conflicts." "Peacebuilding, then," she writes, "is the point of intersection between local realities and international response, what one observer has called the meeting point of 'two anarchies'." For the most part she relies on the definitions of peacebuilding provided in former UN Secretary General Boutros Ghali's An Agenda for Peace, though she cites others who would expand the concept. One of these is Gareth Evans who defines peacebuilding as a set of strategies which aim to ensure that disputes, armed conflicts and other major crises do not arise in the first place -- and if they do arise that they do not subsequently recur.49

Clearly these perspectives, though slightly different one from the other, are hardly conflicting and in many senses are wholly compatible and even complementary. They also place the activities of most of today's PSOs squarely within the parameters of what is commonly understood as peacebuilding.

ANNEX II Peacebuilding in Recent UN PSOs

Necla Tschirgi, Defining Peace building. Ottawa: International Development Research Centre, unpublished paper (1997), p. 1.

Lloyd Axworthy, Speech....

See: Gareth Evans, Cooperating for Peace: The Global Agenda for the 1990s and Beyond. Australia: Allen and Unwin (1993).