

women, now is the time international actors can facilitate a social dialogue that addresses difficult issues between and within different groups. International actors can also assist in the creation of new alliances and new institutions required for the strengthening of civil society.

5. The Roundtable recommends that the International Development and Research Centre (IDRC) through its participation in the United Nations' War Torn Societies Project on Guatemala, request, in the project's work on the key issue of "social and economic development," that the WSP prepare an analysis of land issues and alternatives for land reform in Guatemala so as to develop specific proposals for land tenure and productive land use for implementation under the Accord on Socio-economic Aspects and the Agrarian Situation. The Project should also be encouraged to develop alternative macro-economic policies which are in harmony with peace implementation for consideration by the Guatemalan government.

6. Canadians should note that municipal and regional level political participation are a high priority for Guatemalan civil society. The reconstruction of the social fabric through the empowerment of local authorities and local communities will do much to support the welcome proposals for the decentralization and democratization of political participation. Important steps have already been taken in some regions which have led to the strengthening of local and regional coordinations which often include local authorities, grassroots organizations (Mayas, women, youth, unions etc), NGOs and other entities. Material and technical resources are required to deepen and consolidate these positive, but mostly incipient, experiences. A number of Guatemalan NGOs and grass roots organizations have indicated the need for adequate resources to be able to hire professionally competent staff.

7. There is an opportunity to further the link between the peace building network in Canada and other actors in the NGO community. The peace building concepts raised in the Roundtable were new and very useful for many of the participants, both Guatemalan and Canadian. At the same time, the peace building network could also learn from the accumulated experience the NGO community has acquired from working in Guatemala. Opportunities to pursue avenues for collaborative and mutual support should be pursued. The **Peace-Building Fund** is a new space which may allow for the development of creative pilot projects in Guatemala.

8. Similarly, it would be useful to amplify the relations and linkages between indigenous people in Canada and Guatemala. It is important to note the similarities between the struggles of indigenous people in Guatemala and Canada. These communities would likely learn much from one and other, such as strategies for dealing with the state, especially concerning issues of land claims, educational reform and autonomy.