

**THE CENTRE FOR MINORITY RIGHTS
DEVELOPMENT (CEMIRIDE).**

REPORT

THE KENYA PASTORALISTS' WEEK 2004

Held On 29TH November-3rd December 2004

Theme: *Engaging Economic, Social and Cultural Opportunities for
Sustainable Livelihoods*

JANUARY 2005

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Thank you all.

Executive Summary

The Kenya Pastoralists Week 2004, whose theme was “*Engaging Social, Economic and Cultural Opportunities for Sustainable Livelihoods*” was conceived as a result of a comprehensive evaluation process that incorporated donors, pastoralists civil society, Pastoralists Parliamentary Group (PPG) and other critical actors, including the Government of Kenya (GOK). At all these meetings and evaluation processes, participants unanimously endorsed the need for a second and indeed an annualised Kenya Pastoralists Week. Consequently, CEMIRIDE was charged with the responsibility of developing a workable KPW 2004 Concept and generally steering the process. To this end, the National Steering Team (NST) comprising of twelve representatives from the donors, civil society, private sector and GOK was formed. NST was the main governing body for Kenya Pastoralists Week (KPW).

The main objective of staging the 2nd Kenya Pastoralist Week was to sustain continued advocacy on the role of pastoralism not only to Kenya, but also to the region’s socio-economic livelihood. This was based on the view that it would serve to help highlight the opportunities that exist for the realisation of development in pastoral areas.

The forum therefore sought to voice the challenges of pastoralists by creating a forum for pastoralist communities, pastoralists’ partners, and the public to share experiences, cultures, and histories and build a common understanding and appreciation of each other. Unlike the previous year’s KPW, KPW 2004 incorporated a human rights theme to coincide with the International Human Rights 16 days of activism.

A number of activities were planned as part of the Week’s activities including *Media Breakfast Briefings, a Corporate Dinner, The Tegla Loroupe Peace Race, Indigenous Livestock Parade, The Great Trek Road Campaign, a Consultative Donor Roundtable, Children’s Symposium and Art Exhibition, Pastoralists’ Products Exhibition, Thematic Workshops, Greater Horn Africa Regional Forum and Launch of ‘Pastoralism in the Margins’ Report and a Gala Night*. All the planned activities took place with great success except the indigenous livestock parade and the donors’ roundtable.

Four Cabinet Ministers and a number of Assistant Ministers, MPs and Permanent Secretaries attended the occasion. An estimated 30,000 people attended the varied activities of the Week. For the first time, the Week attracted high-level participation from the Region with six MPs from the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and over 15 representatives of pastoral civil society in the region. The Children’s Symposium and the Cultural and Commercial Exhibitions at KICC were a big attraction to the members of the public. The Thematic Workshops were quite professional and produced very useful material and recommendations.

Buoyed by the experience of hosting the inaugural KPW in 2003, CEMIRIDE and its partners ensured that the event met the objectives for which it was planned. It achieved the following specific progress areas:

- Mobilization of all the major pastoralist groups in Kenya to participate throughout the six days.

- Achieving nearly 100% attendance by the senior government invitees, including Cabinet Ministers, Assistant Ministers and government officials. Almost all the 41 pastoralist Members of Parliament attended and participated.
- Substantive commitments from government to ensure enhanced public sector support on pastoralists development priorities
- ‘Envoicing’ pastoralists communities to articulate issues of priority to them
- Interesting the private sector in pastoralists’ development issues
- Making key actionable recommendations to various state organs
- Good, consistent and positive media coverage
- Profiling pastoralists’ products and enabling market linkages.

This overview report will seek to capture the spirit and the process of the week, including key activities thereof, as well as the Week’s recommendations leaving finer details of activities to reports of those specific activities.

1.0 BACKGROUND

For a long time now, pastoralism has been viewed as a fundamentally flawed way of life with predictable results¹. Pastoralists have suffered prejudicial treatment reinforced by discriminatory laws and state policies.² Indeed, development interventions in pastoral areas have been characterised by general ignorance about pastoralists and the pastoral systems. Many “development” projects have failed because of the stereotypical attitude held by government officials, development agencies, NGOs and Civil Society Organisations (CSO). Pastoralists themselves were hardly given the opportunity to exercise influence over what was being done in their name. It is for this reason “...that pastoralists areas today are characterised by poverty, lack of economic opportunities, intractable conflicts, low education rates and poor infrastructure”³ – a situation that has greatly undermined pastoralism as a livelihood.

Historical antecedents have created the impression to the general Kenyan psyche that pastoralism and “modernity” fall on the opposite extremes of human development and that they are mutually inhibiting. Whereas “modernity” supposedly represents civilization, pastoralism symbolizes barbarism. To the sceptics, civilization begins where pastoralism ends. This view was well exemplified in Kenya by *Sessional Paper number 10 of 1965 on African Socialism*, which underplayed all other modes of production for economic development, except cash crop farming that utilized individual land leasehold system or ownership.⁴

The so-called Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs), where pastoralists are mainly found, were regarded as incapable of sustaining pastoralist communities. It has also been held that these areas are unable to contribute substantially to the national economy. The situation in the

¹ Pastoralists in Kenya currently inhabit 21 districts, a total landmass of 80% percent, with a 20% of Kenya’s population. This group holds 60% of Kenya natural resources, contributes about 20% percent GDP to the national economy, sustains 80% percent of tourism and contribute 90% cultural capital. In contrast, annual public sector resources allocated to areas occupied by pastoralists is less than 10% percent. The pastoralists regions have illiteracy levels of about 60%, 15% higher than the national average, absolute poverty of about 78%, non-existent infrastructural facilities and access to health and justice remains a distant dream

² Paul Goldsmith, Paper on “Perceptions of Pastoralists in Kenya”

³ Ekuam, D.E., unpublished paper “Conflicts, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding: The Role of Pastoralists Women”, 2004.

⁴ GOK; *Sessional Paper number 10 of 1965 on African Socialism*

other countries in the region was more or less the same. The focus was for the government to put its resources to the 'high potential' areas where the returns were regarded as higher. In essence, pastoralism has always lacked support at the highest level of governance and policy design, and has rarely, if ever, benefited from institutional frameworks designed explicitly for its promotion as a viable livelihood system.

However, in the last three to four years, pastoralism and pastoral issues have received a resurgence of interest from the government agencies, local donor organisations and international agencies. A number of CSOs, and other development organisations are increasingly beginning to appreciate the socio-economic and political significance and contribution of pastoralism to national development. Indeed, the Kenyan Government today agrees that pastoralism is key to meeting its Millennium Development Goals (MDG).⁵ Studies on the economic significance of pastoralism conducted recently by the Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE) reveal that pastoralism contributes close to 16% to Kenya's GDP.⁶

According to the 4th Draft of the National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASAL) in Kenya, the government concedes that past policy statements against pastoralism have been based on little understanding of the livelihood strategies and systems of the rangelands and pastoralism itself. "In fact, many of the developed parts of the world are surprisingly dry: Australia, the Great Plains of North America, and major cities like New Delhi and Mexico," notes the draft policy. The admission by the government, early in 2003, that that it had, over the years, contributed a great deal in the declining pastoral economy and especially the historical injustices meted out on the pastoral communities due to too many unfavourable government interventions if not pronounced exclusion from development processes⁷, is reason enough to bring some hope to the hitherto hopeless pastoralists.

Governments are made of politicians. It is one thing to make rosy policy statements as above and it's another thing to implement them. At any rate, the government has in the past made a number of unimplemented "paper commitments" to pastoralists. Furthermore, pastoralists really need the goodwill of the rest of Kenyans in order to realise their aspirations. So far, the level of negativity and general ignorance obtaining in mainstream Kenya over pastoralists and pastoralism as a livelihood is quite enormous. To alter the perception of Kenyans and East Africans on pastoral livelihood and viability of the pastoral economy requires intense, well focussed and an unrelenting advocacy strategy. In the past, different actors who have attempted to push for some favourable policy recognition and legal support for pastoralism as a way of life using different interventions, have not achieved much, probably because of relying more on "boardroom" advocacy as opposed to raising the *visibility* of pastoral issues and making them a public concern.

It is against this backdrop that the idea of hosting a national forward-looking advocacy event through which pastoralists could interact with policy makers, professionals, politicians and

⁵ GOK; National *Draft Policy on Sustainable Development in ASAL areas of Kenya*, 2004.

⁶ Ced Hesse and Michael Ochieng Odhiambo's Discussion Paper, *In Search of a vision for the future of Pastoralism in East Africa: Developing an Alliance and Strategy in Support of Pastoral Self-determination*, May 2002.

⁷ The then Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development Kipruto Arap Kirwa in his Keynote speech while officially opening the a meeting of the hosted for the Pastoralists Parliamentary Group (PPG) by the Centre for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE), and the Minority Rights Group International in April 2003

other Kenya with a view to addressing the crisis confronting pastoralism in a coordinated and rationalised manner emerged.

1.1 Objectives

The main goal of The KPW 2004 was to build on the gains of the inaugural event by sustaining and deepening pro pastoralists' policy advocacy and exposing economic, social and cultural opportunities obtaining in Kenya and the GHA region which could be taken advantage of for the realisation of development in pastoral areas.

The specific objectives of the Week were to:

- i. Create visibility of issues pertinent to pastoral communities in Kenya and within the GHA region;
- ii. Influence attitudes of media, policy makers, development actors and mainstream Kenyan, and regional groups with regard to pastoral livelihood with a view to eliminating negative stereotyping associated with it.
- iii. Reflect the dynamism, diversity, and resilience and viability of the pastoral livelihood.
- iv. Develop strategies for information sharing and monitoring of policies and development programmes in or having impact upon pastoralism
- v. Advocate for a rights centred development programming and implementation in pastoral areas including the role of the private sector.
- vi. Address the question of pastoral conflicts and discourse on peace building.
- vii. Push for greater public and private sector support for pastoralists development
- viii. Dramatize the place of women and children in the pastoral society.
- ix. Identify and create transboundary linkages in the pursuit for sustainable pastoralist development.

2.0 THE CONCEPTUAL PROCESS

Two processes informed the concept of KPW 2004 as implemented:

The consultative evaluation processes of the inaugural KPW in early February to April 2004⁸ provided the vision for the second KPW, namely, the need to ensure enhanced grassroots participation by developing sub-regional specific events and the need to develop mechanisms for greater ownership of the KPW events by more actors apart from CEMIRIDE

One of the key issues emerging from the Inaugural KPW was the need to ensure complementary programming on the part of development actors with a view to eliminating duplication of projects within the pastoralists sector. This was to hence effective utilization of resources. Arising out of this, CEMIRIDE commenced consultations with UNDP in early 2004, which agreed to convene an information sharing roundtable among key development actors in Kenya's ASALs. These consultations gave rise to the development of a database on various areas of support for development processes in ASALs by both the government and key development actors⁹.

⁸ The reports for these consultations are available on request

⁹ Among the development actors that participated in this process included USAID, CORDAID, SNV, TROCAIRE, IIRR, MOL&FD and UNDP as convener. CEMIRIDE was part of this process as CSO representative.

The above processes therefore influenced both the design and implementation framework for the project including the choice of events and the Project's governance structure¹⁰

2.1 THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

The implementation of KPW 2004 was co-ordinated by a Project Co-ordinator under the guidance of the National Steering Team (NST). The Donor Working Group (DWG), Project Thematic Group (PTG) and the KPW Secretariat (KPWS) constituted the NST. NST had a Chairman appointed by members at their first sitting, A representative each from SNV, TROCAIRE, IIRR, CORDAID, USAID, UNDP, Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation (TLPF) and Nation Media Group, CEMIRIDE Director, 2 PPG representatives, and 3 representatives of pastoralists Associations. The Project Co-ordinator and KPW Consultant were Ex-Officio members of the NST.

The PTG (sub committees) comprised the Publicity [convened by Nation Media Group], Private sector [convened by Cordaid], thematic papers [convened by SNV], Exhibitions and Facilitation [both convened by CEMIRIDE] subcommittees. Each sub- committee was tasked with specific terms of references and constantly reported to the NST through the project Coordinator. The preparatory events of KPW 2004- The Tegla Loroupe Peace Run and the Great Trek Campaign- had independent committees coordinating the same.

3.0 ACTIVITIES OF THE KPW 2004

KPW 2004 was implemented in two distinct but interrelated phases; the preparatory and the actual Week the activities of which fed into and complemented each other.

3.1 The Preparatory Phase

a) The Tegla Loroupe Peace Marathon [TLPR]

The second TLPR race was held on 20th of November 2004 at Makutano, West Pokot. It sought to build on the gains of the inaugural race by widening the participation to include more ex-combatants from pastoralists' conflicts-prone areas in Kenya, Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa. The diplomatic fraternity led by the deputy British High Commissioner **Ray Kyles**, and the Swedish ambassador attended the function, which was launched by the Speaker of the National Assembly **Hon Francis Ole Kaparo** in the presence of the deputy president of IAAF, **Prof Helmut Hegel**, three cabinet ministers from Kenya and several members of parliament from Kenya and Uganda.

The race galvanized the attention of local and international press and demonstrated the role of sports in community mobilization and as a tool for peace building. The Kenya pastoralists Week project played the role of linking the event to mainstream policy developments in the area of conflict and community based policing. The KPW 2004 project also hosted a corporate dinner with the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation, the hosts of the race, presided over by the **Hon. Moody Awori**, Vice President of the republic of Kenya, whose purpose was to interest the private sector in supporting pastoral development projects. The participation of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance in the activities of the Week, kick started

¹⁰ KPW 2004 concept note sets out the governance structures of the Project.

current consultations with the private sector aimed at developing strategies and mechanisms for encouraging private sector investment in pastoralists areas.

b) The Great Trek Campaign

The Great Trek Campaign was a month long advocacy event aimed at lobbying the GOK and persuading key donors in the roads sector to support and prioritise the bitumization /tarmacking of the Isiolo-Moyale road, a key road linking Kenya to the Ethiopian market. Over 64 men, women and youth of covered 510 kilometres, braving the hostile terrain, mud and gravel of the dry Northern Kenya frontier.

The campaign was a first among many efforts aimed at ‘en-voicing the voiceless’ and raising the ‘civic competence’ of pastoralists’ and many minority communities. Under the theme “*opening Kenya to Kenya*”, the first phase of the Great trek campaign was essentially an exercise in raising the road agenda into the national consciousness (prioritisation) where budgetary decisions are made and practically address poverty in the north. Specifically, the campaign sought to

- Practically deal with **voice poverty** through coalescing popular voices with a common agenda and collective solidarity;
- Raise the Isiolo – Moyale roads’ agenda into the national consciousness and open discourse on development issues in the region with a view to advocate for an increase in resource allocation to pastoralists’ communities by engaging with Kenyan Government, donor community, development partners and private sector;
- Focus media and national attention to issues of development and public sector investments, human rights violations, marginalisation, and social – cultural challenges facing the pastoralists from Northern Kenya.

The Great Trek campaign for tarmacking Isiolo- Moyale road was flagged off as scheduled on Monday November 8th 2004. The caravan had reached Marsabit by November 17th, where the communities resident received it with jubilation. The procession was lastly received in Isiolo on the 27th November 2004 to a spectacular reception and on November 29th at the launch of Kenya Pastoralists Week. The ‘road delegates’ submitted a petition to the Minister for Special Programmes who received it on behalf of Government. In all, the campaign received overwhelming support from Pastoralists Members of Parliament, ten of them were constantly at hand to receive the trekkers at various rest points.

The campaign brought together about 6 national and donor organizations and 41 local and district level organizations thus demonstrating that communities in the north could coordinate, organize and rally around an issue contrary to prevailing perceptions. The participation of every district in coordinating activities within their jurisdictions and generating linkages to national coordination structures was impressive. This laid a strong foundation for the next phase of the campaign – influencing budgetary allocation. Through

the 21 days of the campaign, which coincided with the 16 days of human rights activism, the region received unprecedented media coverage, local, national and international¹¹

Key achievements of the first phase of the Great trek campaign include

- Strengthening the capacity of pastoralists in Northern Kenya to articulate their issues;
- Creating a unified voice and vision amongst communities, CSO's and Pastoralist Parliamentarians;
- Enhancing networking amongst CSO players in the sub-region and across the nation;
- Huge media coverage which ensured that the road campaign acquired national significance
- Government pledge to tarmac the road [Isiolo-Merille section, a distance of 160 Kms] during the next financial year made¹²

3.2 The Actual Week's Events

I) THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF KPW 2004, 29TH NOVEMBER 2004, HILTON HOTEL, NAIROBI

The Kenya Pastoralists Week (KPW) was officially launched by **Hon Njenga Karume**, Minister in the Office of the President in charge of Special Programmes. The Chair and secretary General of PPG, **Hon. Ali Wario** and **Hon Ekwee Ethuro** and several other members of the PPG attended the launch. The Minister, while paying tribute to the organisers, said the government recognised KPW as an apt national advocacy forum for pastoralists in Kenya. He noted that the government was aware of the plight of pastoralist people and was working towards supporting sustainable pastoralism as articulated in the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation and as demonstrated through projects like the Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP), under the Office of the President.

The official launch was preceded by a presentation of the CEMIRIDE/SNV KPW 2004 Position Paper dubbed **The State of pastoralists Affairs 2004** by **Ms Allyce Kureiya** of SNV. The Paper provided an overview of the situation in Kenya's pastoralist areas, and a commentary on the status of pastoralist development. It proceeded to address several domains: policy and economic progress; civil society and institutions; conflict and peace building; gender and family issues; and development dynamics within the greater regional frame influencing pastoralist affairs in Kenya. The presenter underscored the need for NARC government to recognise and fully integrate pastoralism in policy formulation by moving away from piece meal and minimalist approaches to pastoralist policy issues and concerns and adopting a participatory and inclusive policy formulation and implementation approach.

Most importantly, it was noted that government policies should promote benefit sharing for resources among communities and the state. Indeed, policies should serve to strengthen traditional coping mechanisms for pastoralists in a fragile ecosystem and not undermine the same. The Paper called upon pastoralists to be proactive as far as facing the development

¹¹ Literally all FM radio stations and mainstream newspapers covered the event. CNN and Reuters also accorded the campaign an international viewership

¹² See the 'Great Trek Campaign' Position paper. The Minister for Roads and Public Works during the campaign period and after did confirm that funds had been procured from the African Development Bank to tarmac the said section of the road.

challenges in their areas is concerned. It urged them to play a greater and responsible role in the political, economic, social and cultural life of their communities and the nation.

The paper observed that at the present, Civil Society Organisations (CSO) that work with pastoralists were fragmented and thus worked in isolation. There was need therefore to reorganise and strategise together by harnessing the efforts and work of the CSOs working in pastoralist areas. It was also recommended that pastoralists should see development as a human right, and as such should demand it, even if it involved activism. This should bolster advocacy on issues relevant to their interests and in a more effective way.

During plenary, a number of issues/concerns were raised. Key among them were:

- The need to encourage greater consultation and participation of pastoralists communities in development processes
- The need by the government to provide basic services such as water, livestock marketing institutions such as Kenya Meat Commission, education, health care etc. and provision of infrastructure was underscored.
- On the political front most participants felt that the political leadership among the pastoralists was divided and pursued narrow selfish interests at the expense of their people. There was need for unity of purpose and concerted action in tackling pastoralists' developmental challenges. In this regard, MPs were strongly urged to be proactive in articulating and representing the pastoralist interests.
- The question of access to education as opposed to the cost element (which seems to be NARC government's emphasis) featured prominently during the plenary discussions. Participants felt that due to the mobile nature of pastoralists, poor infrastructural network and widespread poverty, many pastoralists areas continue to record the lowest school enrolment rates in the country. Special education programmes were recommended for the region for example mobile schools and boarding schools. It was also felt that the policy on education should take into account the pastoralist way of life.
- Other concerns regarded the tendency by successive governments to plunder pastoralists economic resources including the expropriation of pastoralists' lands for purposes that have no direct or immediate benefits for the local populations.
- Issues to do with the protection of minority communities within pastoralists' areas were also raised. Some pastoralists' districts have minority pastoralist groups that have been marginalized by fellow pastoralists. Cases in point include the Somali and Turkana resident in Isiolo District.
- Physical infrastructure such as roads was said to be important for access to markets. It was unanimously accepted that there was need to tarmac the Isiolo- Moyale road as a matter of priority. It was also thought necessary to establish satellite slaughterhouses and abattoirs in the pastoralists' areas.

The **KPW special documentary** was also presented during the afternoon of the launch, as were documentaries by SNV and ITDG.

II). THEMATIC PAPERS WORKSHOP, SILVER SPRING HOTEL, NAIROBI 30TH NOV-2ND DEC 2004

In line with the theme of KPW 2004, “**Engaging Social-Cultural and Economic Opportunities for sustainable livelihoods**”, the Thematic Papers workshops were interactive forums in which lead papers were developed by sector leaders and presented¹³. Each paper was subjected to a review panel before its key recommendations were adopted. To focus on specificities of this agenda, policy dialogues around the following specific sub-themes were pursued:

1. Social and cultural development in Pastoralists’ Areas :(Education and Cultural Development on the one hand & Health and Community Welfare on the other).
2. Economic development (livestock production and marketing, and tourism)
3. Conflict Management and Community Safety for Development of Pastoralist Areas
4. Gender issues in pastoralists areas

THEME 1: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Education

Chris Galgalo on behalf of **Elimu Yetu Coalition**¹⁴ presented the education sector paper. The members of the review panel included **Mrs. Nkaissery** [FAWE], **Koitammet Ole Kina** [Maasai Education Discovery- MED]¹⁵ and **Mary Adoyo** [Chair, Elimu Yetu Coalition]

The paper analysed the historical context of pastoralists education provision, noting that the disconnect in education provision was an extension of the broader economic exclusion of pastoralists’ regions. Traditional, institutional and technical barriers to accessing education by pastoralists were outlined and key recommendations made including the need for affirmative action for pastoralists, and in particular girls, to access higher learning institutions. The paper noted that in the absence of adequate education infrastructure, and the continued food insecurity and conflicts in pastoralists areas, the free education policy currently pursued by the government, did not translate to greater access to education.

The Panel supported the position of the paper and called for innovative models, such as the Maasai Girl Child education project by MED, and forward-looking approaches by pastoralists in the pursuit of education. The use of opportunities presented by the ICT revolution was also emphasised.

Discussions centred on the fact that the existing policy processes did not favour pastoral communities in resources allocation in the education sector because they do not take in to consideration, classroom allocation, the number of pupils in order to determine the number of classrooms; pupil to teacher ratio; and the mobility lifestyle of and especially nomadic pastoralists. In addition there was no policy on retention, recruitment and motivation of

¹³ The thematic papers workshops were ably facilitated by Ms. **Fenke Elskamp** and Mr. **Steve Osingo** both Advisors SNV and **Daudi Eddy Ekuam**, the KPW 2004 Project consultant.

¹⁴ Elimu Yetu Coalition is a network of civil society organisations that seeks to engage education issues with a view to ensuring that they are responsive to the needs of the children of this country.

¹⁵ MED is a development organisation working for the empowerment of the Maasai and pastoralists girl child. The tremendous work of the project based in Narok may be gleaned from their we site; www.maasaieducation.org

teachers in the pastoralist communities. This has been made worse by the lack of provision of security, food, and accommodation for both the teachers and pupils. The fact that the pastoralists do not adequately participate in policy formulation and the fact that the policies do not favour their cultural norms make them rebel against the policies most times

Key recommendations on education included the need for curriculum review to alter negative presentation of pastoralism in education materials, need for specific policy on mobile education, affirmative action and the call for a holistic approach to addressing pastoral development issues without which education access will continue being undermined.

B. Health Issues in ASALs

Ms. Sarah Bonaya, a Public Health expert with the Ministry of Health, presented key issues affecting pastoralists in relation to health. **Ms. Lucy Mulenkei**¹⁶, an expert on indigenous communities' health perspectives, critiqued the same. The presenter elaborated a number of factors, which still impeded the utilization of health facilities and services by pastoralist communities. Key among them were: traditional health management and coping strategies were still rampant and prevalent dependence on herbal treatment as opposed to improved western medicine and formal health care system leading to delay in appropriating mainstream health care services; low awareness levels among pastoralists' families of the existence of health services in the government facilities; drug supply in the pastoralists' areas is being very poor as is other equipment required for the provision of the health services; data bases with regard to disease prevalence in ASALs are scanty due to inadequate research; physical conditions make it difficult for most people to access health facilities as they have to travel long distances

She regretted that the phenomenon of HIV/AIDS was still not debated in public fora among pastoralists' communities where discussion of sexual matters was still considered taboo. Among pastoralist communities, stigmatization and discrimination of the mentally ill and those with HIV/AIDS is rampant.

It was noted during plenary discussions that in addition to limited health centers, poor public health education and information on sanitation, lack of adequate qualified personnel and insufficient supply of drugs, the infrastructure in the pastoralist area is poor and inaccessible thus making it more difficult. The non-recognition and lack of support for traditional health methods and practitioners were also identified policy gaps. In addition, the health messages in relation to HIV/AIDS that are developed by the different stakeholders are not tailored to the pastoralist to take into consideration the culture and life style and diversity in the different communities (the uniform packages are not relevant)

Key recommendations made included the need for increased state provision of mobile outreach clinics, improvement of water and sanitation services, recognition of traditional healers and the need for their incorporation in the formal health planning and policy as well as a multi-sectoral collaboration in the various facets of pastoralist development. It was also proposed that there was need for government and development partners to promote information sharing, awareness creation and sensitisation among pastoralists communities as

¹⁶ She is also the Coordinator of the Indigenous Information Network and President of Africa Indigenous Women Organisation. These entities seek the holistic emancipation of indigenous women across the continent through information exchange, capacity building etc. More information on IIN may be found in their WebPages; www.iin.com

a starting point to deal with health issues, especially HIV/AIDS in pastoralist communities. Communication through print and electronic media specifically targeting pastoralists' communities should be encouraged.

THEME 2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Infrastructural development-Roads and Water- in pastoralists' areas and its impact to livestock markets and private sector investments was interrogated under this theme. Pastoralists' land issues were also explored particularly in so far as land was a key factor of production.

A: Roads in Pastoralists Areas- The Case of The Moyale-Isiolo Road

Acacia Consultants¹⁷ presented the paper on roads in northern Kenya. It outlined the impact of infrastructure on economic growth as including; reduction in transaction costs and facilitation of trade flows, establishment and solidifying of economic actors, lowering of costs of production such as inputs and services, opening of new opportunities for entrepreneurs, creation of direct and indirect employment and enhancement of human capital (more access to education, health services etc.).

Using the Moyale-Isiolo road as a case study, the paper noted that the bitumization of the 510 Kms long road would amongst other things, enhance livestock marketing due to increased access to markets, lead to the development of livestock related industries – e.g. abattoirs, hides and skins etc, support increased commercial activities along the highway to serve enhanced traffic, improve food security – due to improved food distribution and availability of alternative food sources, bolster the regions tourism potential and facilitate better security coverage by security forces of affected communities.

In contrast, in the current scenario the paper noted that, it costs a truck owner Ksh.80, 000/= to run a one way trip from Nairobi to Moyale and a passenger aboard the lorry would have to part with Ksh.3, 000/= to travel on the lorry from Nairobi to Moyale. Illegal toll fees collected by corrupt Police Officers at the road barriers are estimated at Ksh.6 million annually and the implementation of the road safety policy¹⁸ instituted by the ministry of transport were seen as impossible in the context of this road. This state of affairs often leads to the diversion of traffic from this road to the Wajir, Garissa, and Mandera road, a distance of 1400 Kms.

The Paper cited possible reasons for non-improvement of the road in spite of many pleas from different quarters as including, lack of a proper cost-benefit analysis of infrastructure in Northern Kenya, perception of political insignificance of the area due to sparse population, enormity of the financial outlay required to tarmack the road and lack of funds to invest in infrastructure.

The participants were outraged by the current state of roads, a demonstration of the serial neglect of the North frontier districts by post independent regimes and called for massive advocacy to reverse this trend.

¹⁷ Acacia are a leading relief and development consultancy in sub Saharan Africa

¹⁸ The prescription of passenger limits in PSV vehicles and requirement of safety belts is unimplementable in the context of this region. See East African Standard, Nov 22nd 2004 pg 8

B. Water Resources Development in the ASALS

A framework paper developed by **Michael Gachanja, Senior deputy director at the Ministry of Water Resources development** guided discussions on water.

The paper observed that Kenya was a chronically water scarce country yet it has a natural endowment of annual renewable freshwater supply of only 647 cubic meters per capita¹⁹

Frequent droughts ensured that people in Arid and Semi-Arid areas were highly vulnerable as their economic power base (livestock) is partially or wholly destroyed at the household levels. To meet future demand in the ASALs and in the country in general, the water storage capacity has to increase by 30 fold at the current level. However, as a result of catchments degradation and deforestation, it is estimated that the amount of storage required by the year 2010 to ensure reliable water supply to the Country will be even higher than the current storage. This will mean more investment in the water sector, and creation of enabling environment to attract investors.

To address these enormous challenges, the presentation informed that the formulation of the Water Policy and the enactment of the Water Act 2002 had created a more enabling environment²⁰ for the sustainable use of water resources. This policy and the enabling Act have provided an impetus of meeting Millennium Development Goals for Water and Environmental Sanitation which are to half the proportion of people without access to basic water and sanitation by the year 2015.

However, meeting the above goals calls for increased and effective use of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), formation of partnerships and innovativeness at all levels in financing for development.

The **participants** felt that budgetary allocation to water resources was still too low and the distribution of this budget was skewed and did not favour areas with the greatest net deficit of the commodity²¹. It was hoped that the establishment of the Water Management Authority would provide the needed institutional capacity to coordinate water issues and mobilize resources to support the sector; hence need to engage with it.

C. Livestock Development

The position paper outlining issues in the livestock sector was presented by **Mahmoud Abbas of Kenya Livestock Marketing Council**²² [KLMC]. The paper noted that the livestock sub-sector accounted for about 42% of Kenya's Agricultural GDP and 10% of the entire GDP and met the domestic requirements of meat, milk, and dairy products and further

¹⁹ On a global scale, a country is considered as "water stressed" if its annual renewable freshwater supplies are between 1,000 and 1700 cubic meters per capita and "water scarce" if its if the renewable supplies are less than 1,000 cubic meters per capita. By comparison, Kenya's neighbours, Uganda and Tanzania have annual per capita renewable freshwater supplies of 2,940 and 2,696 cubic meters respectively

²⁰ The vesting by the Act of management of water resources on communities ensured that the key beneficiaries of the commodity had a say in the manner in which the resource was used. However, the Act opens up possibilities for the privatisation of water resources hence threatening access of a basic need particularly by the poor.

²¹ For instance in the last budget, Nyeri District was allocated over 70% of the total water budget and the rest of the country got the rest.

²² KLMC is the focal private sector organization that works towards facilitating an enabling environment for the marketing of livestock in Kenya with a specific mandate in the ASALs of Kenya.

accounting for 30% of the total marketed Agricultural Products. The sub-sector contributed an estimated Kshs. 54.1 billion, 40.3% of the Agricultural contribution to the economy in 2001. However, the true value of the sub-sector's contribution is much higher if one takes into consideration un-recorded statistics. The sector's contribution to rural employment, household incomes, and manufacturing-as raw material supplier to industries and as a consumer of industrial products such as feeds and drugs- were also noted, save that the same were never recognised in the computation of sector's contribution to the economy²³.

Despite the above contribution to the country's economy, the paper noted that budgetary support for the livestock sub-sector had been on the decline over the years. The share of the total government expenditure allocated to the MOLFD was about 1.7% in 2000/01 FY, and declined to 1.1% in 2002/03 FY. As a proportion of GDP, the expenditures ranged from 0.33% in 2000/01 to 0.25% in 2002/03. On average, recurrent expenditures (salaries, provision of operations and maintenance) accounted for over 80% of the funds allocated to the Ministry. Consequently, less than 20% of budgetary support went towards development issues in the sector including disease and pest control, other veterinary services, extension services, research programmes, quality assurance, infrastructure and monitoring and surveillance.

Participants noted with concern that livestock marketing was constrained by poor marketing infrastructure, inadequate control of communicable livestock diseases, poor extension services and insecurity in ASALs, high cost of transaction, low producer prices, limited value addition, inadequate capital investment, lack of processing facilities at production level, and unnecessary bureaucratic approval process for exports of livestock and livestock products. The government was urged to ensure the implementation of the key targets on ASALs within its Economic Strategy Paper

In response, the Government through Dr. Njoro Programme Officer with the ADB Project implemented through the MOLFD argued that the government had not ignored the sector but was keen on ensuring that the contribution of the sector was consolidated. Funded by the African Development Bank to the tune of 4B Kenya shillings, the 6 year project covering twenty districts in the ASALs would focus on Livestock Productivity Improvement [including training of stockowners in various aspects of animal husbandry], animal health improvement, including support for livestock movement control [3 quarantine stations, 3 terminal and export transit stations, rehabilitated, disease diagnosis, surveillance and control, establishment of disease-free zone, and awareness and public education campaigns on the importance of stakeholder participation in disease control and spread] livestock Marketing [including support to strengthen existing market information systems, establishing 4 satellite slaughter facilities in 4 districts for improved and hygienic processing of meat, camel market improvements in 10 districts, training of stakeholders and provision of marketing development expert in support of traders and traders groups in livestock marketing activities, including linkage with micro-finance institutions] and drought Management and Food Security Initiatives [including support to enhance incomes and food security in the ASAL, focusing on support for beekeeping (595 tons of honey and 40 tons of wax produced), camel rearing (52,000 camels marketed annually), livestock early warning systems and drought mitigation measures, improvement in water supply points (rehabilitation of 127

²³ It is said that livestock farmers in the country spend over Kshs. 640 million on livestock drugs, feeds and medicines. Linkages between manufacturing distribution and other services with the livestock sector is valued at about Kshs. 8.6 billion which is 9% of the Kshs. 96 billion from manufacturing sector.

dams/pans/ponds, 51 boreholes, 54 shallow wells), gender sensitization and support activities, and support for demand-driven community-based participatory initiatives; 1155 farmers trained].

D. Land Resources

The paper by Resource Conflict Institute²⁴ noted that colonial occupation transformed pastoralists from self-sustaining communities to mere appendages of capitalist economy – through restricted movement and alienation of their land. This disrupted and undermined their traditional livelihood systems. New governance institutions regarding resource management replaced the pastoralists traditional institutions – with the emerging institutions mainly geared towards maximum exploitation of resources. Most Pastoralist land was declared vacant. Boundaries (national) were created on geopolitical considerations with adverse consequences for pastoralists. As the colonial administration progressively expropriated land, pastoralists land use was not even recognised as a land use system. A number of legal instruments were put in place. These legal instruments were employed by the government to prescribe measures and impose restrictions on ownership, use and occupation of land across the board.

Through the Trust Lands Act, pastoral lands have continued to be appropriated for use as wildlife sanctuaries, large scale irrigation programmes and other development projects, the benefits inuring from which never flowed to pastoralists. A similar effect has been produced under the Group's Representatives Act, which while seeking to grant property rights to pastoral groups, created new and alien institutions, which undermined the intentions of the legislation and resulted in greater loss of pastoral lands to market forces. This explains the need for mechanism to redress transitional justice issues

The paper recommended that pastoralists would only enjoy economic benefits from land when a policy and legal framework protecting common property and ensuring their sustainable use is put in place. Hence the need for effective pastoralists' representation in land policy reform processes currently ongoing. The need for devolution of natural resource management was also underscored

THEME 3: CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Dr Paul Goldsmith who intimated that conflicts are dynamic and complicated presented the sector paper. He traced the origin of major conflicts to the late 1980s when firearms started coming into Kenya in large scale due to the instability within the countries in the GHA. Another conflict cycle is that which is resource based and has tended to be coextensive with the drought cycle. The paper was premised on the hypothesis that conflicts in Kenya are cyclical and the current conflicts were the consequence of unresolved issues flowing from the transition to pluralism.

On conflict management, Goldsmith said there have been reactive and biased interventions by the Kenya government. He expressed the hope that the government would strengthen traditional institutions of peace resolution like the peace infrastructure in Wajir. The initiative, which was started by the women, he noted, has been taken over by the government,

²⁴ Presented by Ronald Athoo on behalf of Reconcile, a regional organisation working on reinforcing pastoralists' civil society, among others. More information may be accessed from www.reconcile-ea.org

which was replicating it in several pastoralists' districts with some measure of success. Praising the Wajir Peace Committee as a homegrown initiative, he stressed the need for government to support such initiatives, which fortunately, have received the support of members of the entire Wajir society and certain sections of the private sector.

The paper discusses the Isiolo war between Borana and Somali and its impacts, namely the creation of internally displaced people.

The panellists on this theme made pertinent observations. **Mr Ekuru Aukot** made a case on the issue of conflicts between refugees and host pastoralists, with particular reference to the Kakuma and Dadaab Refugee Camp. A number of issues ranging from encampment of refugees to the claim for preferential treatment of refugees at the expense of host communities were raised

Ms **Jacinta Abenyo**²⁵ shared her experiences on the role of women as mothers of peace, mothers of war and as victims of war. The experiences were based on her work within the Karamajong Cluster (Toposa, Rendila, Turkana and Pokot etc). In Karamojong, women discourage their sons and husbands from joining the raiders. They discourage their daughters from marrying a raider. They also play a major part in perpetuating war because they bless their husbands and sons when they go to war. Mothers discourage their daughters from marrying poor men. Women are highly vulnerable because they don't control resources save for food in the kitchen. Peace building interventions should involve women. They should also be empowered in terms of Education.

Mr. **Sam Kona**, a conflict management consultant with FEWSNET and various other programmes, gave a profile of pastoral conflicts, which he noted, have been amplified over the years with little regard to the positive effects of the peace committees. He observed that the major challenge facing peace committees are related to coordination and institutional frameworks. There was a delicate balance of resources. Commenting on marginalization, he challenged pastoralists to move away from endless talk of marginalization and address specific issues. He faulted the paper on conflict for failing to capture some of the crucial peace initiatives in the region and linking them to the local processes. He singled out for example, the issues of cross border pastoral conflicts. He also pointed that the issue of refugees couldn't be addressed in isolation from the IDPs. He decried the seeming neglect that IDPs have received from governments and organizations working in these areas.

Participants' interventions are presented in tabular form below.

Needs	Challenges	How National Policies have Enhanced Conflict	Recommendations on How to Mitigate Conflicts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Traditional institutions ▪ Appropriate policy framework ▪ Collaboration and integration ▪ Political 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor infrastructure ▪ Donor policies ▪ Poverty ▪ Inadequate legal backing for trad. Institutions • Lack of commitment • Cultural and religious 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non involvement of pastoralists in policy making • Biased land policies • Lack of adequate information about deaths due to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal support for traditional Conflict mechanisms • Involvement of all gender in peace initiatives

²⁵ Project Officer, Turkana Pastoralists Project, ITDG-EA. The organisation addresses vulnerability issues through technology.

<p>goodwill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognition of CSOs involved in advocacy and peace building ▪ Appreciation of community values ▪ Strengthening traditional conflict resolution mechanisms 	<p>differences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate policies • Illiteracy • Sheer selfishness • Gender insensitivity • Lack of representation at policy levels • Lack of resources 	<p>conflicts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to incorporate traditional mechanisms of resolving conflicts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peacebuilding among warring parties • Equality in resource control and allocation • Involvement of CSOs in dispute resolutions • Commitment of warring parties • Control of small arms proliferation • Sanctions against cattle rustlers
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D. Gender issues in Pastoralists' Areas

The main aim of the Gender forum, was to bring out the situation of pastoralist women within the broader context of pastoralist gender attributes and impress upon the major stakeholders in women development to take keen interest in the pastoralist women development. Representatives of Grassroots women organizations from pastoralist areas, Local women Networks, National networks of women organizations, International agencies with an interest in women issues, Gender Consultants, Pastoralist men and Donor/funding agencies participated in the Gender forum

The paper on gender issues in pastoralists areas was presented by the Pastoralists Women Consortium and noted that while women comprise over half of the population, the patriarchal cultural and societal contexts in which they live did not enable them to own or have reasonable control over core productive resources. Among pastoral communities where the basic resources are livestock and pasture, women's access to and utilization of resources is determined by men as a matter of cultural tradition. In addition, women are also perceived as part of a man's property in pastoral communities. Other issues articulated by the paper included;

- Access to justice is limited by physical infrastructure, personnel and relevance
- Insecurity. Most rangelands are used for military exercise thus contributing greatly to insecurity. This has left many women and girls raped. Women and children suffer most from cattle rustling which has become a trend in pastoral societies
- Violations of child's rights. Child trafficking has not spared the pastoralist communities either. There is a case of 12 children trafficked from Samburu. Similarly, the girl child education is characterized by high drop out rates due to FGM and subsequent early and forced marriages
- Access to and control of resources such as land is on basis of patriarchy
- Gender based violence (rape, wife battering, FGM), which stems from the rigid socio-cultural attitudes that characterize most pastoral communities. Gender violence within families is rampant
- Gender relations have hampered access to education to the pastoralist girl child
- Access to health services in pastoral areas is still wanting. H.I.V aids continues to spread due to cultural practises e.g. polygamy, and 'moranism' on the one hand as well as due to the lack of appropriate education on the same and the lack of testing centres such as VCTs. Expectant women, sick children and elderly are most vulnerable
- Lack of access to credit
- Leadership is still a preserve of Men in pastoral communities

The Lead Discussant, **Ms. Salome Muigai**²⁶ relied on the provisions of the Draft Constitution to demonstrate the need for policy shift to ensure equity for both genders. She challenged men and women not to address women issues in isolation, arguing that nothing deals with a woman that did not affect men. She noted that this was reflected quite well in the Draft constitution in several sections of the proposed Bill of Rights; Every person is equal before the law and equality includes full and equal enjoyment of rights and freedom; The state shall not discriminate for any other reason including sex, pregnancy; Women have right to equal treatment with men including opportunities in political, social and economic spheres; Women like men deserve dignity; Women and men have equal right to inherit and own property, among others. In her short critique, **Ms Allyce Kureiya**²⁷ remarked that Women had the power to fight social and institutional discrimination against them and condemned customs that did not give women the right to inherit property.

Participants' analysis of institutions that impacted on gender relations most significantly are captured in the following table:

Institutions in Which Gender is Perceived	Present role	Role that could be played by the institution
FORMAL		
MYWO	Advocacy, girl child educ, awareness raising, empowerment of women	
Marriage	Procreation, socialization of gender role, income generation-dowry	Minimum age consent, no bride price, equal partnership, equal inheritance
School	Equal opportunity, socialization of gender roles, discipline, career devt., challenge gender roles	Equal support, equal access to both gender, conducive environment for girls studies
Parliament	Policy formulation, resource allocation, representation, enforcement of laws	Implement affirmative action law, equal resource allocation,
INFORMAL		
Council of Elders	Formulation and enforcement of trad. Laws, men only, conflict resolution, resource allocation	Equal representation, more consultation, equal audience
Tribe	Provide social kinship, identity	Promote nationalism, promote equity

Other institutions identified as responsible for gender relations were traditional healers, extended families, village committees, age groups, women/youth groups, cooperatives, farmer/pastoralist associations, churches and mosques.

Key Recommendations of the gender forum included transformation of institutions at all levels, equal opportunities for all in socio-cultural and political sphere and the implementation of affirmative action to state that at least 1/3 of women representation in all forums/institutions

III. KPW 2004 PRODUCTS AND CULTURAL EXHIBITIONS K.I.C.C 30TH Nov-2ND December 2004

²⁶ Salome Muigai is a Commissioner with the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission

²⁷ Allyce Kureiya is a Team Leader, SNV Kenya, an organisation that works globally to connect peoples capacities for sustainable development. Website: www.snvworld.org

The launch of the exhibition dimension of KPW 2004 was presided over by the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Development, **Hon Munyao Konzolo** and Assistant Minister, **Hon. Morrice Dzoro**. Key officials of this Ministry as well as the Ministry of Agriculture were represented, as were parastatal heads in the two ministries.

The main intention of the KPW 2004 Cultural Exhibitions was that participating pastoralist and non-pastoralist organisations, groups, companies and individuals would have the opportunity to showcase their products and services, meet prospects for production and marketing tie-ups, discuss with the other parties options for enhancing human development, gain and develop markets for products and services from the target sector and attend seminars and workshops on the pastoral economy

A diverse range of exhibitors participated. **Action-Aid, Cordaid, Farm- Africa, SNV, ITDG, MS-Kenya, Kenya Camel Association** and **Oxfam** facilitated majority of these exhibitors.

A total of 40 groups²⁸ exhibited though most of them shared stands. These groups included the private sector represented by Mega products Ltd, KLMC and the Kenya Camel Association, women groups in textile industry, civil society Organisations community based organisations, and children's organisations. A variety of pastoral micro- industry enterprises mainly dealing with crafts were also present.

A variety of products were exhibited including *nakuli* (traditional preserved camel meat), packaged honey, packaged camel milk which recorded very high sales, beads, handcrafts e.g. hand made baskets, medicinal herbs, traditional attire e.g. Skins, barkcloth skirts, cultural garb (head gear, dresses) warrior gear including spears and shields etc.

The exhibition thus enabled the pastoral communities to showcase their products side by side with the other established corporate organisations and sell them to the general public. The interaction between the pastoralists and the other entities enhanced their experience in entrepreneurial skills.

Among the key visitors to the exhibitions included 7 members of parliament from Kenya as well as the renowned novelist, **Ngugi waThiongo and his wife**.

IV. CHILDREN'S COMPONENT

The Children and Youth component [CYC] of the KPW was a partnership of the Centre for the Study of Adolescence (CSA), Child Welfare Society of Kenya (CWSK), ANPPCAN, African Woman and Child Features Services (AWC), The CRADLE, Terres Del Hommes and CEMIRIDE. Its key objectives were to showcase through art and interaction the perceptions on pastoralism as seen from the perspective of children and young persons.

The CYC organized competitions in which the best artists were awarded. These items on show included paintings, sketches and drawings, painting, sketches, on what youth — from both pastoralist and from other communities — understood or perceived about pastoralism as a way of life and hosted an open forum on 2nd December 204 at KICC in which children from Nairobi schools exchanged ideas with their pastoralists counterparts. Drama, songs and skits

²⁸ This represented a 100% increase in number of exhibitors and range of products as compared to KPW 2003

presentation highlighting issues of FGM and HIV Aids were enacted out to the delight and appreciation of many. The guest of honour, **Hon Ekwee Ethuro** and **Ms. Njeri Ngugi** emphasised the need for multicultural education, which would ensure the inculcation of diversity among the youth of the country and promote the development of true pluralism.

Over 40 art pieces presented by the children largely reflected their understanding of pastoralism as being anchored on livestock rearing. Some of the pieces also depicted the cultural heritage of pastoral communities. During the open forum, children debated the merits and demerits of pastoralism vis a vis ‘urban life’

V. KPW REGIONAL FORUM- 2ND DECEMBER 2004, HIGH POINT HOTEL, NAIROBI

The Kenya Pastoralists Week 2004 Initiative acting as a regional portal for pro pastoralists advocacy and synergy builder also convened a one-day regional symposium²⁹ which brought together Pastoralists Members of Parliament and Key civil society players from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Sudan to amongst others;

- Share the gains made in various states in terms of policies meant to promote pastoralism;
- Share the challenges which emanate and articulate the way forward;
- Look at the various strategies employed by various states to overcome problems of pastoralists;
- Audit the role and benefits of pastoralism in each of the countries;
- Share lessons learnt and experiences gained regarding issues of Resource based conflicts.

In launching the regional forum of the KPW 2004, **Hon. John Koech**, Minister for East African Regional Cooperation, emphasized the need for a regional approach to pastoralists’ issues. In this regard, the existence of the East African Community was strategic and pastoralists were called upon to make use of this key mechanism.

Introducing the East African Legislative Assembly, **Hon. Mugisha Muntu**, Member, EALA from Uganda, confirmed that the Assembly had two Committees, which could be used to push forward pastoral issues: the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution Committees. While admitting that not much of engagement had taken place on issues of pastoralism at the regional level, he said that the Assembly had only one experience where they were engaged in some forum about issues of pastoralism; the issue of cross border conflicts, which resulted in the formation of the Cross Border Committee.

Allyce Kureiya, while introducing the conceptual origins of the Kenya Pastoralists Week, observed that the future of pastoralism was dependent on the level of networking and information sharing across the borders in the GHA countries, an objective which the regional forum sought to pursue.

Dr. Elijah Biamah presented the discussion paper of the forum. The paper adopted a forward looking and critical approach as to the future prospects of traditional pastoralism.

²⁹ The regional symposium was ably facilitated by **Dr. Josiah Kinama** of the University of Nairobi.

The paper notes that in the GHA Region, pastoralists are vulnerable to poverty, hunger and drought due to ecological, social risks and uncertainties; a reality that demands the re-examination of the sustainability of traditional pastoralism. A futuristic view reveals a twofold concern in pastoral production: (1) that there is increasing resource use pressure due to population increase and a fast shrinking resource base; (2) that there is increasing uncertainty with the sustainability of traditional pastoralism in the future as evidenced by projections on trends in pastoralism from 1930s to 2020s that show decreasing numbers of nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralists and an increase in destitute pastoralists. The obtaining reality was attributed to colonial and post colonial policy imperatives that created livestock grazing schemes, group ranches and grazing blocks, national parks, game reserves and wheat farms in key production areas that have led to disruptions in the pastoralists lifestyle and hence the beginning of poverty and misery. Alongside this collapse of the traditional pastoral system, the recurrence of drought, decline in range resource productivity, increasing sedentarization onto pastoral land, famine, land use conflicts, displacements and death have become widespread due to the scarcity of resources and the dire need to survive. And as mobility has decreased and resource use cycles shortened, the demand for land reparations for historical injustices and territorial land claims have become more specific as is the case now among many pastoral communities in the Region.

Despite this rather gloomy picture on the future of pastoralism, the paper points at traditional coping mechanisms adopted by pastoralists as indicative of its resilience. The paper called for a radical shift in thinking from traditional to other forms of pastoralism. This shift in thinking would allow for the emergence of dynamic pastoralism, which would adapt quickly to technological changes and evolving market conditions in a fast changing pastoral environment. Thus the sustainability of this new form of pastoralism must take cognisance of finite and shared pastoral resources, pastoral land tenure, the balance between livestock quantity and quality in a changing environment, and the significance of sustainable resource use and control through grassroots governance (traditional authority structures). This futuristic form of pastoralism would be founded on new property relations which recognize pastoral communities as legal entities and accord them the rights of control and disposal or transfer as groups while at the same time bestowing rights of access and use upon individual pastoralists. All these demands for enhanced capacity of pastoralists' civil society in terms of strategic thinking, advocacy and networking.

Country specific issues were then discussed which ranged from impact of multinational capital in **Ethiopia**³⁰, specifically the World Bank, lack of rangeland policy in **Uganda**³¹, absence of a coherent strategy for policy engagement in **Tanzania**³² to disparate voices amongst pastoralists leading to increased inter ethnic conflicts and weak political organisation in **Kenya**³³.

Key **recommendations** from this forum included need for greater harmonization of interventions-harmonization of the legislative framework for pastoralism and trade with governments support to pastoral livelihoods in the region, regional harmonisation of legislative framework governing Community Based Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), policies and regulations that will eventually guide privatisation of veterinary services including a harmonized privatisation plan for the sub-region, and harmonization of peace

³⁰ As articulated by Solomon Deska, a researcher with the Pastoralists Risk Management Project

³¹ Dr. Sarah Ossiya, Pastoralists communication programme officer with Panos [EA] articulated issues specific to Uganda

³² Tanzanian specific issues were set forth by

³³ Allyce Kureiya, Team Leader, Sny Kajiado and Nairobi presented pastoralists issues germane to Kenya.

building interventions- better information sharing, strengthening of PPGs, better and strategic use of EALA for resolution of regional conflicts and the need for hosting pastoralists' week in the four countries.

Closing remarks by **Alleta Van der Woude** pointed to the need for a holistic approach to pastoralists' development and more targeted advocacy.

A cocktail party was then hosted for the regional forum and the Kenyan Media during which a publication, **Pastoralism in the Margin**, published by Minority Rights Group International [MRG], was launched by **Hon. Mugisha Muntu** [EALA] and **Juliet Nakato** [MRG]. The report situates pastoralism within the GHA countries in the context of various policy processes at country levels as well as international and regional processes. According to the report pastoralism in its traditional form was at the brink of collapse. The report notes that the dispossession of land and promotion of agriculture - a process that began under colonization - had been continued and accelerated by independent African States in the region. The development of large-scale cultivation and irrigation, the imposition of national boundaries, tourism development and the establishment of nature reserves and game parks had curtailed the freedom of movement over large tracts of land and access to water, essential to pastoralism. The situation was exacerbated by climatic change, conflict, disease, drought and famine, which have particularly affected vulnerable pastoralist communities. An upsurge in development interest in pastoralism in recent years has done little to slow the decline, which MRG's report suggests has reached a phase which 'may well prove terminal'

Key among the **recommendations** of the report included the urging of the states in the GHA to fulfil their obligations under international human rights treaties, and in particular the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), which guarantee the right of everyone to freedom of movement (Article 12) and to freely take part in the cultural life of their community (Article 17). States should furthermore ensure that their recognized system of land tenure includes protection of the use of land by pastoralists, and that past, unfair seizure of land and prevention of its use, is effectively adjudicated on and adequately compensated.

VI. THE GALA NIGHT, BOMAS OF KENYA, 2ND DECEMBER 2004

To cap the frenetic pace of the KPW 2004, a Gala Night was hosted by the Project at the Bomas of Kenya and was officiated by the Minister for Tourism and Information, **Hon. Raphael Tuju**, amidst much song and dance from the over 300 representatives of various pastoral communities in the country and in the presence of Kenyans of all shades. 8 Members of EALA, 10 Members of the PPG, Key civil society players and representatives of Pastoralists, mingled together in an informal context during which pastoral cuisine was shared. A fashion show was also conducted as pastoralists modelled their unique attire to the delight of many guests, including tourists, a demonstration of the appeal, which the week continues to attract. Certificates were issued to various organisations and individuals, who were singled out for their contribution to not only the KPW 2004, but also to the cause of pastoralism through the year.

4.0 PROJECT FUNDING

The sum of Ksh. **6,991,418** was raised by the Project from UNDP, CORDAID, MS-Kenya, Arid Lands Resource Management Project, SNV, Actionaid International-Kenya

CEMIRIDE's conflict project funded by USAID and income accruing from exhibitions and Gala night. A deficit of 1.7 Million was realised³⁴.

5.0 ACHIEVEMENTS OF KPW

5.1 ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

The Kenya Pastoral Week 2004 brought together probably the largest gathering of pastoralist ever seen in the history of independent Kenya. Over 30,000 Kenyans are estimated to have attended the occasion. In all over 50 organisations, from Small CBOs to International Non governmental agencies participated in the conception and implementation of various components of the project. There was an increased level of ownership of the project by pastoralists as was demonstrated by the leadership role played by various actors from pastoral CSOs. The role of CEMIRIDE increasingly became that of a process facilitator, as communities were deliberately allowed to play a much more prominent role. This was in line with the Project's core goal of enhancing Pastoralists' communities' capacities to engage with mainstream policy processes. As the project has adopted a forward-looking approach, to demonstrate the positive dimension of pastoralism in contrast to the introspective-blame-apportioning mode, communities' confidence to share their contribution without fear has been considerably enhanced.

The Kenyan pastoralists were represented by groups from the Maasai, Somali, Rendille, Samburu, Borana, Turkana, Pokot, Keiyo, and Marakwet. The Endorois, & Burji were also represented. Pastoralist groups' representatives from Ethiopia, Karamoja in Uganda and Barabaig in Tanzania were also present.

5 cabinet Ministers who officiated in the various components of the week represented the Kenyan Government. Generally, there was good attendance and participation by many stakeholders especially from the civil society organisations, government officials, private sector, United Nations Organisations, donor community, International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOS).

5.2 MEDIA ATTENTION

One of the major achievements of the Week was to attract the attention of the mainstream media in Kenya to focus on pastoralist issues. Through the preparatory processes as well as during and after the Week itself, national and international media gave unprecedented coverage to the KPW 2004, so that indeed it could be asserted that national consciousness in relation to pastoralists' issues was engaged. A 15-Minutes documentary on the National broadcaster, KBC, as well as a paid supplement on the country's leading daily paper, The Standard, further gave strong impetus to the information-sharing component of the KPW 2004.

5.3 POLICY SHIFT

The definite commitment made to bituminise the Isiolo-Moyale Road [Isiolo-Merille section thereof] represents, in our view, a major policy shift, which should have the effect of energizing the flow of both public and private sector investments into the region.

³⁴ A detailed finance report is available on request.

One would also want to see the clear and consistent statement by the Ministry of Livestock and fisheries on developing disease free zones in pastoral areas in which communities play a key role in disease surveillance inter alia as presenting interesting marketing possibilities for pastoral livestock products

There appears to also be a deliberate attempt by the government to understand pastoral systems as demonstrated for instance by the government undertaking a pilot livestock census in three pastoralists' districts at the height of the KPW 2004

5.4 REGIONAL LINKAGE

The strategic approach of KPW to bring on board regional issues from the GHA countries also provided a holistic and broad focus, which ensured better regional networking and integration of pastoralists' issues, particularly by key institutions such as East African Legislative Assembly as well as IGAD.

6.0 CONSTRAINTS

- a) Structural inadequacy –Both the preparatory and actual KPW 2004 activities provided a major challenge to the project's institutional framework. While the NST was envisaged to provide overall leadership and the Project thematic group designed to provide a harmonised coordination structure, in reality, the project was implemented and directed by the national secretariat with limited linkages to the proposed structures. This was largely because of time constraint between conception and implementation of the project hence the internalization of the structure was hampered.
- b) Inadequate Funding: Whereas, the project budget was estimated at Ksh 8.52 Million, the secretariat only managed to raise Ksh 6.9 Million leaving a deficit of over Ksh 1.5 Million. Furthermore, the late disbursement of funds affected the quality of outputs intended.
- c) Personnel constraints: KPW 2004 was intended to be a perfect partnership of many interested actors. This partnership did not fully materialise hence creating overwhelming demand upon the secretariat with the resultant and noticeable Coordination lapses.
- d) Limited private sector interest: In spite of being engaged early in the project period, private sector involvement in KPW was still lukewarm contrary to the project assumptions.

7.0 POLICY AND OPERATIONAL PROPOSALS OF KPW 2004

- 1) The KPW should urgently lead in the generation of a regional network and creation of better synergy within the region necessary to encouraging advocacy on pastoralists' issues that are cross border in nature; in the process enlisting collaborations with such other institutions as EALA amongst others.
- 2) Urgent recognition of the contribution of pastoralists in tourism and livestock development should enable both ministries to be key players in subsequent KPWs and follow up the recommendations of the forum.
- 3) A commission on pastoralism should be established to facilitate an integrated approach to development and carry forward a Marshall plan for the development of pastoralists areas;

- 4) Traditional and participatory conflict resolution mechanisms are critical in addressing insecurity. The role of women in peace building was also emphasised
- 5) There was need for a total review of the current education policy focussed on pastoralists areas as it does not recognize pastoralists lifestyles and negates pastoralism as a livelihood; especially at the level of the curriculum design.
- 6) Government and development actors should critically assess the health issues affecting pastoralists in Kenya and urgently begin engaging the communities on issues relating to HIV Aids.
- 7) There was need for civil society organisations working with pastoralists and pastoralist parliamentarians to be involved in and fully engage the national budgetary process to ensure that pastoralists' interests are taken care of.
- 8) Pastoralists should ensure that the current national reform processes take into account their interests, issues and rights.
- 9) The government should support efforts leading to Pastoralists' access to credit facilities currently unavailable to them in spite of the existing public financial institutions like the Agricultural Finance Corporation.
- 10) The government should take urgent and decisive steps to address the problem of infrastructure and public services provision in pastoral areas in order to speed up development.
- 11) There was urgent need to train herders within the region on issues pertinent to their livelihood such as land and resource utilization and rights, conflict resolution/transformation and monitoring and evaluation of development interventions impacting on their welfare.
- 12) There was need to sustain the engagement with the mainstream media to ensure the attainment of shift in public policy favourable to pastoralists livelihoods and development
- 13) Need to address the tension between cultural rights and women rights of pastoralists were underscored. Importantly, it was recommended that gender issues should be prioritised in pastoralists' development processes.

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