ICRtoP

INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR **THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT**

Proposal for 2012-2014
Prepared for the Australian Agency for International Development
As of 16 March 2012

A program of WFM-Institute for Global Policy

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I. Executive Summary

The adoption of the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP or R2P) in the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit was a historic landmark; governments transcended the existing concept of sovereignty by agreeing all states have a responsibility to protect their populations from mass atrocities. The United Nations (UN) and the international community also bear a responsibility to assist countries in meeting their protection obligations and, if individual states fail to do so, are responsible to take timely and decisive action to respond to the threat of atrocity crimes. **The RtoP norm seeks to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing through a range of preventive and reactive measures.**

Initially perceived by some as controversial, the norm is now increasingly viewed as a powerful tool with the potential to promote global peace. A demonstrated readiness by the international community to prevent and halt mass atrocities over the past year is a signal that RtoP is becoming an operational reality. Still, some fear that the RtoP framework (in particular the use of force) could be misused for agendas other than the protection of populations, which reinforces the need for proponents of RtoP to remain engaged in shaping and refining the common understanding of the norm and its application. **History has taught us that the greatest danger is not that governments will intervene improperly in the face of mass atrocities, but that governments will fail to act at all.**

Established in 2009 and hosted by the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP), the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP) is a global network of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) committed to promoting the advancement of RtoP. **The ICRtoP mission is to:**

1. Advance and deepen the understanding of RtoP among governments, NGOs, and the public
2. Strengthen normative consensus for RtoP at the international, regional, sub-regional, and national levels
3. Advocate for governments, regional & sub-regional organizations, and the UN to strengthen capacities to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing.
4. Help build and fortify a like-minded group of governments in support of RtoP
5. Mobilize NGOs to push for action to save lives in RtoP country-specific situations

ICRtoP includes over 40 NGOs working together to advance RtoP through a range of targeted programs on human rights, humanitarian service delivery, peace & security, genocide prevention, international law, refugee rights, women's rights, conflict prevention/resolution, peacebuilding, and reconstruction. ICRtoP works to enhance the voices of civil society around the globe and ensure that groups from all regions and sectors have input in shaping the RtoP implementation agenda at the international, regional, sub-regional, and national levels.

With support from the Australian Agency for International Development, ICRtoP will be able to continue to make significant efforts in advancing RtoP worldwide and in increasing collaborative engagement on RtoP issues.

II. Recent Developments & Current Political Context

United Nations

At the 2005 World Summit, world leaders made a historic commitment by agreeing that states and the international community have a responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing.[1] Since 2009, the UN **General Assembly** (GA) has held annual dialogues on RtoP, which have been essential in consolidating support for the norm and generating practical recommendations for implementation. The UN Secretary-General also issues a report on the dialogue ("Implementing the Responsibility to Protect" in 2009; "Early Warning, Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect" in 2010; and "the Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect" in 2011). The 2009 report established a **three-pillar framework for RtoP:**

> 1) The state bears the primary responsibility for the protection of its population
> 2) The international community must assist and help build the capacity of the state to protect
> 3) There must be timely and decisive response to mass atrocities from a range of actors, should the state be unable or unwilling to protect

Statements provided by Member States and observer missions before the 2011 **GA dialogue** on regional organizations reflected that RtoP has become less controversial and is increasingly considered to be an operational reality by various actors. The 2012 dialogue is expected to concentrate on the spectrum of diplomatic, economic, humanitarian, and military measures available under the third pillar of the norm for the international community to respond to the imminent threat of the four crimes. It is hoped that discussions will assess the wide range of response tools available and the role of actors at all levels in implementing measures. Member States, regional organizations and civil society will have the opportunity to reflect on past cases and address the need for consistency in how tools are employed in the future and the responsibilities of intervening bodies while protecting populations through coercive means. As in past years, ICRtoP will collaborate with NGOs to organize events, advocacy, and publications ahead of the dialogue, ensuring that NGOs from different regions of the world are able to provide input into these important discussions.

Since 2005, the UN **Security Council** has adopted multiple resolutions referring to RtoP, integrating the norm into thematic agendas related to protecting populations (for example, Resolution 1674 (2006) and Resolution 1894 (2009) on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Resolution 1706 (2006) on Sudan, Resolution 1975 (2011) on Côte d'Ivoire, and Resolutions 1970 and 1973 (2011) on Libya). During recent crises in Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, and Syria, the reaction of the international community and regional organizations led to multiple RtoP references, including in the GA and Human Rights Council.

Other actors now have a significant role at the UN in institutionalizing RtoP, in particular the **Joint Office** of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), Dr. Francis Deng, and the Special Adviser on RtoP, Dr. Edward Luck. The Joint Office makes statements and recommendations on RtoP situations and works to mainstream the norm

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[1] For further background on the origins and developments of RtoP, please see www.responsibilitytoprotect.org

and improve the UN's early warning system. At the end of December 2010, the 5th Committee voted to fund three additional posts in the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, including a position to focus on the emergency convening mechanism for country-specific situations that have reached the RtoP threshold. The informal "**Group of Friends**" of RtoP (currently co-chaired by the Missions of The Netherlands and Rwanda) is playing an increasingly significant role in developing early-warning mechanisms, as well as in more informal discussions on how to further the norm. Both the Joint Office and the Group of Friends regularly engage with civil society groups on country-specific situations to collaborate and share information, and ICRtoP works closely with both entities in advancing efforts.

Regional & National Levels
Regional and sub-regional organizations are central in the effort to prevent and react most effectively to mass atrocities. For example, African governments were the first to inscribe the necessity for collective action in circumstances of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity in the founding document of the African Union (AU), the AU Constitutive Act, in 2000. RtoP principles were later adopted by UN Member States in September 2005. At the *2011 UNGA informal dialogue on the role of regional and sub-regional organizations in implementing RtoP*, Member States highlighted the importance of cooperation between these bodies and other actors. Regional and sub-regional organizations have a unique understanding of internal developments in countries facing potential or current atrocities and are often the first to become aware when crimes are committed. As a result, these institutions are able to play a direct and crucial role in implementing early warning and early response measures, including facilitating mediation between parties; dispatching fact-finding delegations to affected regions; adopting economic sanctions and embargoes; encouraging cooperation with regional justice mechanisms and the International Criminal Court; and contributing to military operations such as peacekeeping, monitoring and defense missions.

Recent events in Côte d'Ivoire, Yemen, and Libya underscore the growing influence that regional organizations have in the decision-making processes of the UN Security Council and illustrate the increasingly crucial role regional and sub-regional organizations play within the framework of RtoP. In the past year, this view been validated by a variety of actors; the UN Secretary-General, the Joint Office, civil society groups, and academics agree on the importance of including regional and sub-regional organizations in RtoP discourse.

Individual states have also begun to show support for RtoP in more formal ways. A number of countries have included RtoP in national policy papers and/or other public documents. Many countries have also appointed a Focal Point or other representative to serve as a national coordinator on RtoP issues.

Remaining challenges
Ensuring consistency in preventing and halting mass atrocities wherever they occur remains one of the biggest challenges facing RtoP. Weak or slow responses from the international community to crises in Sri Lanka, Kyrgyzstan, Côte d'Ivoire, and Syria show that political will may still be lacking in many areas. However, swift reactions of international and regional bodies in the cases of Guinea and Kenya are encouraging, and

the firm response to the Libyan crisis by the international community showed an unprecedented willingness of the UN, the AU, the League of Arab States, governments, and diplomats across the world to take action to protect civilians.

Still, the manner in which the no-fly zone in Libya was implemented by NATO remains controversial and gave rise to concerns over the interpretation of Resolution 1973. These concerns have influenced inconsistent political reactions to systematic gross human rights violations in other situations. Further reflection and discussion on the nature and consequence of the international community's reaction to the crisis in Libya will be needed to separate the RtoP norm from the tactics applied in this particular case. Civil society will be at the forefront of those discussions as well as in clarifying under which conditions the use of force is warranted, while highlighting that early preventive and peaceful measures are a priority under RtoP.

III. ICRtoP Program Summary

The World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP) is one of a core group of NGOs (including Human Rights Watch, International Crisis Group, Oxfam International, and Refugees International) that have been working together for a number of years to identify next steps in implementing RtoP. Since its establishment, ICRtoP has continued to build the network of NGOs engaged in RtoP from a broad range of regions and sectors. ICRtoP is currently composed of **41 NGO members from 26 countries**, each of which have active programs or mandates on RtoP. *(See Annex I for a full list of ICRtoP members.)* ICRtoP also works closely with an **additional 31 NGOs** *(see Annex 2 for list of additional NGOs)* which endorse the norm and the work of the Coalition but do not have the mandate, resources, or staff capacity to work directly on RtoP.

ICRtoP leverages a network of civil society groups to maximum impact. Regionally-based organizations, local groups, and international institutions join together in partnership to leverage expertise as appropriate. Local groups, for example, often have unique and detailed knowledge of internal developments in countries facing potential or current atrocities, as well as the ability to mobilize their respective government, public, and media constituencies. Many larger NGOs have specific expertise and other resources that can be shared with the network. NGO coalitions have proved effective in addressing other global issues (for example, the International Criminal Court [ICC] and the adoption of treaties banning anti-personnel landmines and the use of child soldiers), and ICRtoP was thus created in part from lessons learned by civil society in the use of these kinds of networks.

Joining together to share resources, experience, and strategies, ICRtoP members work to raise awareness of RtoP, increase normative inclusion of the norm, create greater capacity of relevant actors to react early to the threat of mass atrocities, and build political will to respond in the face of crises. ICRtoP also focuses on extending the discussions on RtoP to the regional, sub-regional, and national levels, thereby building broader commitment to RtoP. Since the launch of ICRtoP, there has been a marked increase in NGO activity surrounding RtoP and increased familiarity with the norm, leading to multiple RtoP references by government and international organization representatives, academia, media, and others.

RtoP is a historic achievement that reinforces the sovereign nature and duties of the state and that is best advanced through clarification of the norm as a comprehensive framework rooted in prevention and multilateralism. As with other human security campaigns, RtoP requires a committed global partnership— comprised of civil society organizations from around the world, like-minded governments, and key international and regional organization leaders—to advance most effectively.

IV. ICRtoP Objectives & Activities

OBJECTIVE 1: Further the understanding of RtoP among governments, NGOs, and the public
Although there has been significant progress in increasing the understanding of RtoP, especially in light of events in Libya and Côte d'Ivoire, ICRtoP continues to emphasize the importance of RtoP educational outreach. RtoP is often viewed inaccurately as a doctrine of Western military intervention, rather than as a framework that emphasizes a continuum of action, ranging from preventive measures to coercive responses. ICRtoP will therefore continue to raise awareness of RtoP at the international, regional, national, and local levels.

Priority activities:
Regional & Sub-Regional
1. The ICRtoP Secretariat will organize consultations on RtoP in regions where there has been limited outreach in the past, and where there are few NGOs working on the issue, including the Middle East and North Africa, Central and Southern Africa, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, and East and South Asia. ICRtoP will work with the Permanent Peace Movement, based in Beirut, Lebanon, to organize a civil society roundtable on RtoP in spring 2012, with a potential follow-up conference in fall or winter 2012 with NGOs, media and diplomats. Conferences in other regions and with additional partners will be organized during winter 2012 and onwards.
2. With the support of the ICRtoP Secretariat, ICRtoP Steering Committee member West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI), based in Ghana, has developed a toolkit on *Implementing RtoP in the West African Region*, and will conduct trainings for West African NGOs and diplomats from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in partnership with ICRtoP member Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre. This initiative will be replicated in other regions in Africa. The initial pilot training for NGOs to inform the final version of the toolkit will take place in May/June 2012. The toolkit will be finalized in summer 2012 with subsequent trainings for NGOs and diplomats during 2012 and 2013.
3. In partnership with the ICRtoP Secretariat, ICRtoP Steering Committee member Pan African Lawyer's Union based in Tanzania will hold a series of colloquia beginning in winter 2012 for African lawyers on the nexus between RtoP and international justice, to develop a regional network of support for the norm.
4. With the partnership of the ICRtoP Secretariat, Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES) will focus a 2012 regional

journal, *Pensemiento Propio,* on the RtoP featuring a contribution from ICRtoP member World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy on the role of civil society in implementing RtoP since its original articulation. Published in Spanish, Portuguese, and English, the journal will feature articles about the norm in the context of Latin American foreign policy, and will be published in late spring 2012.

National
1. ICRtoP will publish an interactive training toolkit in late spring/early summer 2012 for civil society interested in developing a national country program. This toolkit, which can be used to train NGOs, government officials, academia, and the media, provides a comprehensive background on RtoP and outlines the potential roles that actors can take to implement the norm. ICRtoP will use this toolkit to conduct pilot trainings in 2-3 countries in winter 2012 and spring 2013, involving key partners such as OSAPG staff and NGO colleagues as appropriate.
2. The ICRtoP Secretariat is consulting with Liberia-based member Centre for Media Studies and Peacebuilding (CEMESP) and other UN, ECOWAS, and key national actors to hold an RtoP seminar in Liberia which will assess domestic efforts to prevent the reoccurrence of mass atrocities through preventive, multilateral engagement. A parallel event in partnership with the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) may also be organized at UN headquarters. Both events will be planned for spring or summer 2013.
3. ICRtoP will organize meetings with local NGOs and academia in key countries such as India, Brazil, Mexico, and South Africa to encourage greater understanding of the norm. ICRtoP will work with Argentina-based member Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES) to facilitate the first of these conferences in May 2012 with others planned for spring and summer 2013.
4. In partnership with ICRtoP, Germany-based member Genocide Alert, is organizing a meeting in Berlin for diplomats to improve their understanding of RtoP and consider the norm in the context of German foreign policy. The conference will be held in spring 2012.
5. ICRtoP will host a workshop on 10 June 2012 on RtoP for participants of a study trip, organized by member UNA-Sweden, including UNA members, teachers and others.

Additional Activities:
1. ICRtoP will continue to facilitate discussion on the norm on an ongoing basis through a variety of means, including the ICRtoP blog (www.icrtopblog.org), Facebook, and Twitter to share the latest developments, illustrate how RtoP is being applied in country situations, and feature the work of civil society.
2. ICRtoP will increase listserv users (currently over 2,000 subscribers) and will continue to improve its website (www.responsibilitytoprotect.org), a primary resource for the RtoP community.
3. In follow up to the ICRtoP publication *Clarifying the Third Pillar*, ICRtoP will publish a compilation of educational briefs from members and other partners on

third pillar measures in advance of the 2012 GA dialogue on RtoP. These publications will be produced regularly until the dialogue.

4. ICRtoP will produce publications on the connection between RtoP and related thematic agendas (for example, women's rights, the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and the International Criminal Court [ICC]) to ensure understanding of recent conflicts and developments of the norm within these contexts. The next publication of this type will focus on the links between the ICC and RtoP at each pillar of the norm's framework, and will be published in April 2012. Additional publications will be forthcoming.

5. ICRtoP member Genocide Alert launched the first German language RtoP website (www.schutzverantwortung.de) in October 2011. RtoP will partner with Genocide Alert throughout 2012 to build and maintain the website.

6. ICRtoP will partner with member Global Action to Prevent War, among others, to facilitate dialogue on the Women Peace and Security agenda and the third pillar of RtoP through publications, workshops, and a culminating civil society event. These projects will be planned throughout the spring and summer of 2012 with the potential for a culminating event to be held later in the year.

7. With New York-based partners (including Oxfam International and Human Rights Watch), ICRtoP will continue work to develop an NGO working group on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and RtoP. This cooperation is ongoing, but will likely result in an outcome document to be published late spring 2012.

8. ICRtoP may partner with the Coalition for the International Criminal Court and other NGOs to organize a workshop for civil society and RtoP experts from UN Missions on the links between RtoP and the ICC. The date is not yet confirmed, but may take place in April/May 2012.

9. Following meetings with Member States and civil society organizations, ICRtoP will produce a publication mapping civil society perspectives of Brazil's recent concept note "responsibility while protecting" in spring/summer 2012.

10. ICRtoP will contribute to Steering Committee Member East Africa Law Society's monthly newsletter. The contributions will initially focus on the norm and its origins, and will expand in later publications to focus on entry points for attorneys, the norm's context within international law and regional justice mechanisms, and country specific RtoP cases.

11. ICRtoP will develop a publication discussing the contributions of Security Council Resolutions 1970 and 1973 on Libya to the evolution of RtoP. This document is in the beginning stages of planning but will likely be published later in 2012.

OBJECTIVE 2: Mobilize NGOs to push for action to save lives in RtoP country-specific situations

ICRtoP's network of NGOs can be mobilized prior to and during crises to work towards preventing and halting mass atrocities. ICRtoP members engage in advocacy with governments and international institutions, research and produce policy analysis, legal efforts, and education and awareness-raising. The ICRtoP Secretariat also acts as a convener, facilitator and/or a coordinator in country situations on a case-by-case basis.

Priority activities:
Improving ICRtoP's country-specific advocacy work

1. Following a 2011 Steering Committee meeting, ICRtoP developed a two-tiered membership structure, allowing more NGOs to join ICRtoP through an additional partnership category. The new category allows those NGOs that are interested in RtoP but do not currently have a specific, active RtoP program to join ICRtoP. ICRtoP will thus work to facilitate constructive engagement with this new group on an ongoing basis. Broadening the base of support will amplify the collective voice of the RtoP community and aid in mobilization efforts in situations where mass atrocities are occurring or are imminent. Effort to increase engagement with this group will be particularly in focus in spring/summer 2012.

2. The ICRtoP Secretariat will increase the number of Action Alerts sent to members and other partners and will organize campaigns calling for national, regional, and international response to mass atrocity crimes.

3. ICRtoP will advise members and colleagues on whether a crisis situation meets the RtoP threshold and how to use appropriate RtoP language when denouncing violence or calling for action from other NGOs, diplomats, and the media.

4. ICRtoP will invite civil society experts to provide briefings on crisis situations and regional initiatives at UN headquarters and important regional conferences. These meetings will aim to reflect on country cases and the response measures utilized to halt ongoing atrocity crimes ahead of the 2012 General Assembly dialogue on responses within the third pillar of RtoP. Though the date is TBC, the conference will be held in May or June 2012.

NGO engagement with the Joint Office of the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide & the Responsibility to Protect

As the Joint Office is tasked with alerting the UN of the occurrence or threat of atrocity crimes, the ICRtoP Secretariat will continue to convene regular situation-specific meetings with the OSAPG and NGOs. ICRtoP closely monitors the work of the Joint Office, and acts as a catalyst for its engagement with civil society.

OBJECTIVE 3: Strengthening normative consensus for RtoP at the international, regional, sub-regional, and national levels

Building consensus (through annual governmental dialogues and endorsements/legislation) for the norm is essential to improve capacity to prevent and halt mass atrocity crimes and to garner political will. Government endorsements of the norm represent a commitment to prevent and halt RtoP crimes, and NGOs then have an opportunity to hold these governments publicly accountable when such commitments have been made.

Priority activities:
International

General Assembly
Every year, ICRtoP will continue to engage actively in consensus building and preparations for the GA dialogues on RtoP by:

1. Convening NGOs to develop common strategies for advocacy, sharing of information and cooperation on events, publication, and media outreach
2. Engaging the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to confirm the date of the dialogue, include civil society consultation in the drafting process of the dialogue report and publish the report well in advance of the meeting
3. Providing input to UN Member States and officials on expectations from civil society on the content of the reports guiding the dialogue
4. Organizing NGO-led events on dialogue themes with experts from around the world
5. Producing advocacy materials translating the theme of the report of the Secretary-General into opportunities for NGO engagement
6. Creating talking points for UN Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations, and civil society in advance of the debate
7. Engaging media sources ahead of the dialogue discussing the theme and prospective topics of discussion and reiterating the need for civil society participation
8. Providing the opportunity for ICRtoP members to give statements during the GA discussions
9. Monitoring the dialogue and producing reports, which analyze areas of consensus and concern

Other UN bodies
ICRtoP will advocate for the inclusion of RtoP language in relevant resolutions and reports, and encourage Member States and UN officials to invoke and refer to the norm in country-specific situations in discussions with relevant actors on the following occasions:
1. The UN Security Council debates on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict and Children in Armed Conflict, as well as relevant meetings on Women, Peace and Security
2. Human Rights Council briefings on RtoP relevant crises
3. Other bodies and actors (including the Commission on the Status of Women, the Peacebuilding Commission, the Group of Friends of RtoP, representatives of regional organizations, and the ICC at the UN)

Regional & Sub-Regional
There is a continued need for RtoP to be endorsed at the regional and sub-regional levels. Priorities are tailored to the specific levels of consensus on RtoP topics for each region.

Africa
More than in any other region, African institutions have adopted language relating to protecting populations from mass atrocities in their constitutions and resolutions. Examples of normative consensus for RtoP include the 2000 AU's Constitutive Act Article 4 (h), the 2006 Ezulwini Consensus, the November 2007 African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) Resolution endorsing RtoP, and the 2008 ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework.

1. ICRtoP members will organize and attend pre-Summit forums and participate in NGO advocacy to obtain RtoP endorsements by regional and sub-regional institutions on an ongoing basis. Prior examples include the Summits of the African Union, ECOWAS, International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, and the East Africa Community.
2. The ICRtoP Secretariat is supporting a white paper by Coalition Steering Committee member International Refugee Rights Initiative on the African Union's shift from non-interference to non-indifference, to be published in summer 2012. The paper will be the foundation for a seminar on RtoP and the AU to be held in Addis Ababa in late 2012 or 2013, and the outcome of that seminar will form the core of ICRtoP advocacy policy around the non-indifference principles of the AU.
3. ICRtoP will work on an ongoing basis to further build support for RtoP in ECOWAS operations by collaborating with ICRtoP members the West African Civil Society Forum and the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (both have formal relationships with ECOWAS) in advance of ECOWAS NGO summits.
4. ICRtoP will work with a local NGO partner (to be identified in fall/winter 2012) to engage the Inter-Governmental Agency for Development (IGAD), which has the Conflict Early Warning Response Mechanism (CEWARN) designed to anticipate and respond to violent conflict, and the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), which has a protocol and focal points on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crimes of Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity.

Latin America
Latin America remains one of the few regions with no provisions or mechanisms to specifically address cases of genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.
1. ICRtoP will collaborate with Steering Committee member Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES) in developing relationships with the Organization of American states (OAS) and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR). CRIES and ICRtoP will focus on this engagement throughout the next three years.
   - ICRtoP will advance engagement with the OAS to elaborate on a strategy (created at the 2010 meeting of Latin American NGOs on RtoP) prioritizing the creation of a platform for civil society to integrate RtoP priorities into the OAS agenda.
   - ICRtoP will emphasize RtoP work that UNASUR has already employed in national and international crises, utilizing existing NGO relationships (with UNASUR's new Secretary-General and other actors).
   - ICRtoP will work with member CRIES to develop a book in spring 2013 assessing Latin American and Caribbean governments' engagement of RtoP and searching for additional areas to incorporate the norm into doctrine and policy.

Asia

No regional or sub-regional institutions in Asia have endorsed RtoP. However, encouraging statements at the GA dialogues from some Member States in the Asia-Pacific region could mean potential openings in Southeast Asia, namely within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

1. As part of the Global Partnership to Prevent Armed Conflict (GPPAC) working group on regional organizations, ICRtoP members Initiative for International Dialogue (IID) and CRIES will continue to participate in meetings with ASEAN on an ongoing basis, raising RtoP issues and advocating for RtoP priorities.
2. ICRtoP members in Asia will also submit NGO endorsements of RtoP prior to regional summits (for example, with the ASEAN People's Forum or the ASEAN Institute of Strategic and International Studies [ASEAN-ISIS]).

Europe

The European Union (EU) has showed its commitment to RtoP by adopting official documents, including the Report of the Implementation of the European Security Strategy of 2008, which calls on the EU to advance the norm. RtoP has also been mentioned in statements by the EU Council President and in many European Parliament Resolutions on country situations (i.e. Darfur, Libya, and Syria).

1. ICRtoP will identify regional NGOs (along with current partners, Hungarian Center for the Prevention of Genocide & Mass Atrocities and Human Rights Watch) to collaborate on EU-focused activities and engagement with the norm. Finding these NGO partners will be a primary focus in winter 2012.
2. ICRtoP will support the creation of an EU-level Focal Point on RtoP to further incorporate the norm into doctrine and adopted resolutions. Based on the 2011 workshop and dialogue forum organized by Madariaga – College of Europe Foundation and the Folke Bernadotte Academy on preventing genocide and mass atrocities, the EU is committed to supporting the national Focal Points initiative.
3. ICRtoP will work with Madariaga-College of Europe Foundation, Global Action to Prevent War, and Global Governance Institute to plan the upcoming workshop, *Operationalising the Responsibility to Protect: The Civilian and Military Challenges of the "Third Pillar" Approach*, in Brussels on 26 April 2012.

National

Several states have begun to demonstrate support for RtoP by including references to the norm in strategic policy papers, and others have appointed national Focal Points for RtoP. NGOs can thus facilitate dialogue, conduct research and trainings aimed at building domestic constituencies on RtoP, and deepen understanding and consensus within these national governments. Entrenchment of the norm into national-level legislation will broaden the base of support in every region and inform international consensus on RtoP. To advance this national level support, ICRtoP will:

1. Publish a toolkit in summer 2012 to offer concrete actions and guidance on best practices to engage governments, parliamentarians, and media, with members and other partners.

2. Encourage the creation of national RtoP Focal Points, and support Focal Point work to include RtoP in national-level legislation. This engagement will follow the second meeting of the focal points in September 2012.
3. Advocate for RtoP to be included in national-level plans on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security on an ongoing basis.
4. Support Parliamentary resolutions endorsing RtoP
5. Partner with CRIES to facilitate a workshop in Brazil in May 2012 on the 2011 Brazilian Initiative "responsibility while protecting" with diplomats, NGOs, and academics.

OBJECTIVE 4: Push for governments, regional and sub-regional organizations, and the UN system to strengthen capacities to prevent and halt mass atrocities
The 2009 Report by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon *Implementing the Responsibility to Protect* emphasized the need to build the capacity of Member States, regional organizations, and the UN system to respond to the threat of mass atrocities. The Report outlined a broad range of measures related to RtoP, including preventive diplomacy, early warning mechanisms, mediation, targeted sanctions and travel bans, as well as military operations such as preventive deployment, human rights monitoring, and peacekeeping. Building capacities to employ these measures will allow all actors to more effectively prevent and respond to atrocity crimes and uphold their responsibility to protect.

Priority Activities:
International

General Assembly discussions on RtoP
ICRtoP will play a critical role in the capacity-building functions of annual GA dialogues on RtoP. The specific aspects of the implementation of the norm will depend on the dialogue's theme. This year the following activities will follow the 2012 dialogue's focus on timely and decisive response through a broad spectrum of measures including the use of force. Ahead of the 2012 dialogue, ICRtoP will:
1. Publish analysis of various tools under the response pillar of RtoP and concrete recommendations for improving implementation
2. Bring together civil society experts to organize events in all regions, and at UN headquarters in New York and Geneva on tools for prevention, response, and rebuilding, as well as analyzing past implementation cases to derive concrete recommendations for the 2012 GA dialogue
3. Propose talking points with clear practical recommendations at national, regional, and international levels to ensure strong engagement from UN Member States and regional organization representatives in the dialogue
4. Plan multiple activities and facilitate dialogue between civil society and diplomats, prior to and during the session, to bring regional voices and input to UN headquarters
5. Engage members, other partners, and Brazilian diplomats on the 2011 Brazilian initiative "responsibility while protecting," with the aim of promoting constructive discussion on the new concept, and framing the

initiative as a possible forum for addressing concerns related to the implementation of RtoP.

Strengthening the UN's early warning capacity through the *Joint Office of the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide & the Responsibility to Protect*
The Joint Office is tasked with alerting the UN to respond to mass atrocities, and effective monitoring and information sharing is imperative to this mandate. In relation to this, ICRtoP will:

1. Continue regular discussions with the Special Advisors about best strategies to improve the UN early warning system and raise the profile of RtoP situations
2. Continue to support adequate UN funding of the OSAPG
3. Engage with the Secretary-General's reconstituted Advisory Committee for the prevention of genocide and promotion of RtoP should this body be formally established.

Regional and Sub-Regional

Strengthening the capacity of the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN)
ICRtoP members have identified critical gaps in the understanding of RtoP among officials in ECOWAS, and for ECOWARN to use specific indicators of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing. ICRtoP will work to close these gaps on an ongoing basis.

1. ICRtoP Steering Committee member WACSI's training for ECOWAS officials (using the WACSI RtoP toolkit) will include recommendations for improving ECOWARN by incorporating indicators specifically related to mass atrocities. The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), and West Africa Civil Society Forum (WACSOF), ICRtoP members based out of Ghana and Nigeria respectively, also plan to train regional ECOWAS diplomats on RtoP awareness and capacity building. These trainings will continue throughout the next three years.

The African Union's Peace and Security Architecture
In partnership with its members, ICRtoP will lead efforts to examine how the five components of the emerging AU architecture for Peace and Security (including the Peace and Security Council, Continental Early Warning System, Panel of the Wise, and the African Standby Force) complement RtoP.

1. ICRtoP will support a seminar in Addis Ababa in winter 2012 or spring 2013, organized by its Steering Committee member International Refugee Rights Initiative, where regional experts will have the opportunity to strategize on best practices for engaging the AU on RtoP implementation.

National
1. ICRtoP will share its toolkit (to be published in summer 2012) to: assist NGOs in development of national country programs on RtoP; advise on recommendations on government capacity-building, including reviewing early warning mechanisms and information flows; strengthen local mediation capacity, accelerating ratification and national implementation of the Rome

Statute of the ICC; develop military doctrine to protect populations from atrocities; and develop national human rights monitors and peace and reconciliation commissions.

2. ICRtoP Tanzania-based Steering Committee member East Africa Law Society (EALS) will look at the relationship between the post-election violence in Kenya from 2007-2008 and the 2013 elections. EALS will send a team to Kenya ahead of elections to ensure that the elections and associated actions comply with the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

3. ICRtoP will work to advance relationships with RtoP national Focal Points, focusing on institutional development and capacity building following the second meeting of the Focal Points in September 2012.

4. In partnership with ICRtoP and other NGOs in various regions, UK-based member Aegis Trust is developing a potential project for governments to submit national reports on RtoP.

OBJECTIVE 5: Help build and fortify a like-minded group of governments in support of RtoP

ICRtoP will specifically target influential governments that remain undecided in their support for RtoP, including the BRICS countries, key UN Security Council members, and regional powers.

Priority Activities:
1. Continue engagement with the Group of Friends of RtoP at the UN and participate in their regular informal meetings on RtoP and related themes and country cases

2. Support civil society in efforts to establish regional Friends groupings for RtoP (in particular at the EU and AU levels) during 2013 and 2014

3. Encourage civil society members to lobby and create relationships with their national Focal Point and/or relevant officials on RtoP issues following the second meeting of Focal Points in September 2012.

4. Include governments in international, regional and national meetings with civil society on the promotion and implementation of RtoP on an ongoing basis.

5. Meet with UN Member States and government officials (including but not limited to Focal Points) around the world.

COALITION BUILDING:

1. Increase the capacity of the ICRtoP Steering Committee members by supporting an RtoP intern, fellow, or consultant for specific RtoP projects. As of March 2012, ICRtoP has supported consultancies at CRIES and WACSI.

2. Publish *Voices from Civil Society* annually with a focus on achievements and activities of the NGO community engaged with RtoP. The next *Voices* will focus on civil society contributions to the prevention of mass atrocities and will be published in May 2012.

3. Further identify civil society members to partner with on RtoP activities and/or assist in identifying sources of partnership

4. Spread awareness, consensus, and implementation of RtoP among different regions and countries through the organization of meetings of members and supporters
5. Continue to increase and diversify membership by engaging in targeted outreach every six months to NGOs in countries where RtoP advocacy and support at the local and national levels is limited, including the BRICS countries, UN Security Council Member States and candidates, countries that have come under the threat of mass atrocities, and in regions that are under-represented within the ICRtoP membership.
6. Continue to communicate timely information about RtoP developments and crisis situations in blog posts (www.icrtopblog.org), bi-weekly listservs, and on the ICRtoP website
7. Translate analytical materials on RtoP developments and crises situations into Arabic, French, German and Spanish
8. Continue to feature civil society in blog posts, and publicize events, projects, and programs

V. Risks and Mitigation

ICRtoP has identified key risks associated with the aforementioned objectives and developed appropriate mitigation strategies as follows:

Risk: The credibility of RtoP as an effective tool for preventing and stopping genocide and mass atrocities could diminish if governments do not apply RtoP to specific crises in a consistent manner wherever mass atrocity crimes may occur.
Mitigation Strategy: Encourage NGOs to exert pressure on their respective governments to understand and apply RtoP to existing and future crises. Use awareness-raising activities to secure the interest of NGOs and encourage integration of RtoP into advocacy campaigns. Increase activities that teach NGOs when RtoP may be relevant to specific crises, and engage NGOs in activities which will enhance their ability to competently and effectively conduct advocacy.

Risk: RtoP continues to be perceived by some as a Western doctrine for military intervention, which can prevent the norm from being effectively applied in situations of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing.
Mitigation Strategy: Clarify through ICRtoP activities (for example outreach to media and other actors, training of NGOs and officials, advocacy to governments and regional bodies) that governments from many regions support RtoP, and combat the misperception of the norm as solely a tool for military intervention. Remind governments that RtoP had broad support by Member States from the Global South during the World Summit in 2005 and the first GA debate on RtoP in 2009, and that African regional and sub-regional governmental bodies employ RtoP in their founding documents more than other regions.

Risk: While discussions on RtoP at the governmental level have mostly taken place at the UN, particularly in the GA, the norm prioritizes action at the national and regional levels, where RtoP is less recognized and entrenched.
Mitigation Strategy: ICRtoP works to ensure that voices from all regions of the world are represented in institutional and country specific dialogues and developments at the UN.

The ICRtoP Secretariat also disseminates information and helps develop strategy through events, toolkits, and training for NGOs working at the national and regional levels.

VI. Evaluation

ICRtoP will employ a number of evaluation methods to assess efforts and activities. The ICRtoP Steering Committee and member organizations will continue to provide vital, ongoing feedback and input throughout the year to determine if goals and activities are being successfully implemented. ICRtoP will also solicit feedback on activities through informal meetings of NGOs engaged in RtoP work and other partners (governments, UN missions and representatives, and funders, among others). ICRtoP will track progress and activities through use of a detailed monitoring and evaluation framework. Funding permitting, ICRtoP may also consider contracting with an evaluation consultant to assess efforts and provide an additional, external examination of activities, expected outcomes, and outputs.

VII. About WFM-IGP

WFM-IGP is a non-profit, nongovernmental, international organization dedicated to the promotion of human security, international justice, the prevention of armed conflict, and the protection of civilians. Through an emphasis on the democratization of international and regional organizations, and the development and global application of international law, WFM-IGP works to find pragmatic and action-based solutions to advance peace and justice around the world. Founded in 1947, WFM-IGP has a proven track record in convening and coordinating civil society groups on a variety of issues and in advancing key global concerns through coalition-building. **The design and role of the ICRtoP network was informed by WFM-IGP's other established programs, including:**

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court
The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) is a global network of more than 2,500 NGOs in 150 countries working in partnership to advance international justice issues and support the fair application of the Rome Statute system. WFM-IGP serves as the Convenor and Founding Steering Committee member of the CICC, as well as overseeing its international Secretariat. The CICC led the global civil society campaign to create the International Criminal Court and now works to ensure the fairness, independence, and effectiveness of the system. The CICC's NGO membership includes prominent international civil society entities (Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Oxfam, and others), as well as numerous smaller regional/local NGOs; more than half of the CICC's civil society members are located in the Global South.

The CICC has continued to make significant contributions to the ICC/RS system, including in the implementation of the RS into national law in many countries, and the successful election of a more qualified bench of judges with stronger gender and regional balance, among many other examples. Governments, world leaders, scholars, and the media have all described the creation of the ICC/RS as one of the most important advances in international law of the last century, and the CICC is cited regularly as the key driver in the success of the process. In addition to serving as the host of the Secretariat for ICRtoP, WFM-IGP also serves as the Secretariat and Convener of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court.

<u>The International Democratic Governance Program</u>
WFM-IGP's International Democratic Governance Program (IDG) focuses on inclusive global responses to the rise of transnational governance and strives to increase the transparency and accountability of decision-making in the UN and other international institutions; advocate for more democratic and inclusive systems of governance in transnational mechanisms; and mobilize civil society actors to participate in intergovernmental and transnational institutions. IDG has successfully supported change in top-level governance of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and has been credited with contributions to the High Commissioner for Human Rights process. Other IDG and WFM-IGP efforts have included work on the UN Peacebuilding Commission and the Genocide Prevention project (which was later folded into the activities of ICRtoP).

The IDG program currently focuses on three key issues: UN elections, UN reform and monitoring the work of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). The UN Elections Campaign investigates and pushes for improved procedures in high-level appointments and elections to ensure the best-qualified leadership of global institutions. IDG's UN Reform project serves as a primary resource for diplomats, media, and civil society through its website ReformtheUN.org and listserv, which provide information on the latest developments, political analysis of ongoing negotiations, progress on UN reform proposals, and access to numerous other documents (including on UN Security Council reform, establishment of the Human Rights Council & PBC, strengthening gender equality architecture, and upgrading environmental governance). WFM-IGP's PBC project brings together peacebuilders from around the world to support and monitor the work of the UN Peacebuilding Commission and advocates for improved peacebuilding policy and practice by supporting meaningful engagement between civil society and the PBC.

The established networks, structures, and lessons learned from the CICC, IDG, and other programs at WFM-IGP will continue to inform the development of ICRtoP, as well as providing ICRtoP members with access to key resources (information on developments at the UN related to the prevention, reaction, and rebuilding of genocide and mass atrocities; international justice information and updates; and other tools) that may be useful in advancing ICRtoP objectives.

VIII. Funding
ICRtoP has received previous support from the Governments of Australia and Sweden, the Arsenault Foundation, the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Oak Foundation. Looking forward, ICRtoP intends to seek support from a number of government and foundation funders, as well as individual donors. Continued support from the Australian Agency for International Development would be crucial at this time and would allow ICRtoP to most effectively advance the objectives and activities described in this proposal.

IX. Conclusion

ICRtoP's mission is rooted in the idea of the power of partnerships: that organizations and individuals can advance major global concerns by working together and with like-minded governments and other entities. By working with a range of actors (civil society, governments, the UN, regional and sub-regional organizations, academia, and the media) ICRtoP is well-positioned to advance RtoP at the international, regional, sub-regional, and national levels and to ensure that the norm is strengthened worldwide.

Over the next three years, ICRtoP will be able to make a substantial impact on how RtoP is promoted and implemented to protect populations at risk. By increasing and diversifying its network and influence over the next three years, ICRtoP will work to build normative endorsements, strengthen the capacity of states and bodies to prevent and halt mass atrocities, and raise awareness of RtoP at the national, regional and international levels to a multitude of actors.

ICRtoP is deeply appreciative of Australia's support and looks forward to continuing to deepen this partnership in the future. Australia's leadership on RtoP and support for civil society has had significant impact in the process of advancing the norm and will be crucial in the coming years. Support from the Australian Agency for International Development at this time would have a major impact on ICRtoP efforts and on the advancement of RtoP worldwide.

Annex 1

ICRtoP Steering Committee:

1. Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P (Australia)
2. Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES; Argentina)
3. East Africa Law Society (Tanzania)
4. Human Rights Watch (US)
5. Initiatives for International Dialogue (The Philippines)
6. International Refugee Rights Initiative (US & Uganda)
7. Oxfam International (UK)
8. Pan African Lawyers Union (Tanzania)
9. The Stanley Foundation (USA)
10. The West Africa Civil Society Institute (Ghana)
11. World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP; US & The Netherlands)

ICRtoP Core Organizational Members:

1. Act for Peace (Australia)
2. Aegis Trust (UK)
3. Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (Australia)
4. Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (US & Poland)
5. Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights (CLAIHR; Canada)
6. Centre for Media Studies & Peace Building (CEMESP; Liberia)
7. Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (Australia)
8. Centro de Investigacion y Educacion Popular (CINEP; Colombia)
9. Citizens for Global Solutions (US)
10. Coalition for Justice and Accountability (COJA; Sierra Leone)
11. Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES; Argentina)
12. Droits Humains Sans Frontieres (DRC)
13. East Africa Law Society (Tanzania)
14. Fundacion para la Paz y la Democracia (FUNPADEM; Costa Rica)
15. Genocide Alert (Germany)
16. Global Action to Prevent War (US)
17. Human Rights Watch (US)
18. Human Rights Network Uganda - HURINET (Uganda)
19. Initiatives for International Dialogue (The Philippines)
20. International Crisis Group (Belgium)
21. International Refugee Rights Initiative (US & Uganda)
22. Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (Kenya)
23. Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (Ghana)
24. Minority Rights Group International (UK)
25. Oxfam International (International)

26. Pan Africa Lawyer's Union (Ethiopia)
27. Réseau de Développement et de Communications de la Femme Africaine (FEMNET; Mali)
28. Semillas para la Democracia (Paraguay)
29. STAND Canada (Canada)
30. The Stanley Foundation (US)
31. United Nations Association of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
32. United Nations Association of Denmark (Denmark)
33. United Nations Association of Spain (Spain)
34. United Nations Association of Sweden (Sweden)
35. West Africa Civil Society Forum (Nigeria)
36. West Africa Civil Society Institute (Ghana)
37. West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (Ghana)
38. Women's Refugee Commission (US)
39. World Federalist Movement –Canada (Canada)
40. World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP; US & The Netherlands)
41. World Federation of United Nations Associations (US & Switzerland)

Annex 2

ICRtoP Additional NGO Partners

1. African Club, University of Melbourne (Australia)
2. An Association for Awareness (India)
3. Athencottasan Muthamizh Kazhagam (AMK; India)
4. L'Association National Pour la Promotion de l'Education et la Culture (ANPEC) (Mauritania)
5. Barcelona Radical (Spain)
6. Bashiran Munshi Foundation (Pakistan)
7. Center for Victims of Torture (US)
8. Center for War/Peace Studies (US)
9. DanChurchAid (Denmark)
10. Digvijay Yagya (India)
11. Diplomatic Society of Saint Gabriel (Switzerland, The Philippines, and US)
12. E.O.NE.P.E. Research Group for New Political Science (Greece)
13. Femail Development Organization (Pakistan)
14. Fondation Archeveque Dr. Emmanuel St. Louis (FADRESL; Haiti)
15. Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF; India)
16. Human Rights Center, University of California, Berkeley (US)
17. Human Rights First Society (Saudi Arabia)
18. International Center for Policy and Conflict (Kenya)
19. Independent Responsibility 2 Protect Group (The Netherlands)
20. Muslims for Human Rights (Kenya)
21. National Youth Action Incorporated (Liberia)
22. Orissa State Volunteers and Social Workers Association (India)
23. People's Association for Rural Development (PARD; India)
24. Permanent Peace Movement (Lebanon)
25. Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PACTI; Israel & Palestine)
26. Redemption Research for Health and Educational Development Society (India)
27. Responsibility to Protect Student Coalition, University of Queensland (R2P-SC; Australia)
28. Student Scientific Association for Human Rights 'Humanitas' (Poland)
29. Social Action for Integrated Development (SAID; India)
30. UN Watch (Switzerland)
31. World Citizens Association (Australia)