



IHEYO in 2006 – ANNUAL REPORT

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1. Introduction

The International Humanist and Ethical Youth Organisation (IHEYO) serves as umbrella organisation for the various national humanist youth groups and humanist organisations (concerning youth activities). IHEYO defines youth in the age range from teenager up to 35 years of age. IHEYO subscribes to the IHEU Amsterdam Declaration of 2002 as its definition of humanism. This means that sceptical, rationalistic, laique, freethinking groups, etc. are all considered to be humanist groups.

The By-Laws of IHEYO, *article 3, section 2*, state:

"IHEYO aims to achieve the following non-profit goals of international benefit:

- *To promote the development of cooperation among member organisations and humanist youth, especially on the international level;*
- *To promote circulation of information and expertise among member organisations and humanist youth;*
- *To carry out educational and cultural action in order to promote a Humanist vision of cultural, social and ethical values;*
- *To represent its members to any and all international governing institutions on all questions related to the organisation's purpose;*
- *To contribute and give a voice to youth humanism on the international level."*

After 2005, the year that IHEYO acquired official status as International Non-Governmental Organisation, 2006 was the year where we continued the establishment and made a change in strategy. 2006 marked the re-start of a staffed office, and most importantly the development of new plans and projects.

Of major importance was the fifth annual international humanist youth conference that was held in Vijayawada, India, and that was centred on training in teaching critical thinking and free inquiry. New to this conference was that it was the first international humanist youth conference in Asia and that our conference for the first time will have a concrete follow up in terms of publication of a booklet.

2. IHEYO as organisation

2.1 General Assembly

Our fourth General Assembly was held in Vijayawada, India, with the first session on the 28th of October and second and last session on the 4th of November. The General Assembly accepted the annual report of 2005, the action plan for 2007 and the financial report and accountings that was checked on its accuracy by an auditing committee. The General Assembly also elected members to the Executive Committee (EC) and voted upon membership applications. Finally, the General Assembly voted on amendments to IHEYOs By-Laws and established a set of Standing Orders.

2.2 Members

Four organisations were granted membership at the General Assembly (GA). IHEYO now has 20 consultative members (without voting rights at the GA) and 20 full members (who have voting rights). The member organisations work in diverse sectors - based on humanist principles. This varies from: raising AIDS-awareness, youth advocacy, humanist ceremonies, increasing critical thinking and free inquiry, representation towards authorities, increasing respect for GLBT-rights (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender), environmental protection and furthering a peace culture. A common thread in all the member organisations youth work is that it focuses on non-formal education of young people and that they believe in the strength of young people to develop themselves in responsible and committed individuals aware of their surroundings.

A committee of volunteers led by Lars-Petter Helgestad made a new application form to go with the new procedures of applying for membership.

The newly accepted member organisations come from Cameroon, India and Uganda. In addition, an international network based in the United States of America joined. We have now members from the following countries: India (5), Nepal (2), Uganda (6), Nigeria (3), Ghana, Tanzania, Benin, Guinea, Kenya (3),

Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Peru, Netherlands (2), Belgium (2), Norway, Germany (2), Austria, Finland, United Kingdom, United States and Sweden.

2.3 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) is the working heartbeat of IHEYO. In 2006 the EC had two face-to-face meetings. One in February, in Ghent, Belgium, to discuss ongoing matters, the annual conference, plans for the African Working Group and to organise a SWOT analysis (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat). The second EC-meeting was held at the IHEYO conference to organise the General Assembly (GA) further and to give a short introduction to the new EC-members after the GA.

The EC-meetings are mainly used for discussing projects and the policy in the broad outline. 2006 was no exception. Due to the few meetings the EC have, the EC-members communicate on an almost daily basis per e-mail. Some EC-members meet up and talk by phone for coordination and implementation of the projects. Many decisions are taken by e-mail in line with a fixed procedure. Decisions in 2006 were generally made in full consensus. It is important to mention that in between the EC-meetings, the EC discussed in 2006 on a new strategy for IHEYO in 2007 and further onwards.

The EC were responsible for coordinating and help carrying out the projects. Also, our EC-members represent IHEYO at international events and keep in contact with young humanists around the world. Each EC-member has a set of tasks he/she is responsible for. The (vice-)presidents, treasurer and secretary-general have specific formal responsibilities, such as preparing the General Assembly, executing a transparent financial bookkeeping and answer to general questions and requests from groups and individuals.

At the end of 2006, the EC was formed by:

President:	Lars-Petter Helgestad	Norway*	(3 rd term in other function)
1st Vice President:	Vikas Gora	India	(1 st term)
2nd Vice President:	Silvana Uhlrich	Germany	(1 st term)
Secretary-General:	Ademowo Yemi Johnson	Nigeria	(2 nd term in same function)
Treasurer:	Gea Meijers	Belgium	(3 rd term in other function)
Board Member:	Asaba Lawrence	Uganda	(2 nd term in same function)
Board Member:	Sara Wastijn	Belgium	(1 st term)
Board Member:	Uttam Niraula	Nepal	(1 st term)
Board Member:	Heini Oikkonen	Finland	(1 st term)
Board Member:	Rosemary Wanjala	the Netherlands	(1 st term)

**The place of residency at the end of 2006 is given here, not the persons nationality or previous residencies.*

At the beginning of 2006, Gea Meijers was president of IHEYO. When she in February was hired to be IHEYOs Executive Director, she stepped down from her elected office and the EC appointed 1st Vice President Lars-Petter Helgestad to take over as Interim President. Gea Meijers remained boardmember (which is possible to combine with working for IHEYO).

The function of Secretary-General was at the beginning of 2006 held by Asaba Lawrence as Interim, since Yemi Johnson in October 2005 asked the EC for half a year to be 'out of function' due to his work with an AIDS-awareness campaign in the deep Nigerian rural areas where he hardly had access to internet. The period of leave became longer than intended, and in August 2006 the office of Secretary-General was returned to Yemi Johnson.

At the General Assembly in October/November, the term ended for: Gea Meijers, the Netherlands (elected as President), Lars-Petter Helgestad, Norway (elected as 1st Vice President), Frederik Dezutter, Belgium (elected as Treasurer) and Asaba Lawrence (elected as boardmember). Three of them ran for a re-election.

2.4 IHEYO staffed office

After IHEYO successfully had its first officer in 2005, the EC wanted to continue the staffed office in 2006 and focus the tasks of the officer to fundraising and developing new projects in particular. Through a generous grant from the Institute of Humanist Studies (IHS) it was made possible to hire an officer for a part time position. The Flemish Humanist Youth made free office space available at their office in Brussels, Belgium. The staffer worked four days a week from the 1st of March to the 30th of September and for October and

November she worked part time according to the Belgian standards (this is 20 hours per week).

As one can imagine working within IHEYO, one can easily get buried under an overload of tasks and priorities, with the threat of losing in this way any focus at all. IHEYO's Executives Committee realises that there is only a limited amount of people to actually do the work. Therefore the IHEYO officer focused this year specifically on the most needed task for 2006, developing new projects and raise funds for these. Also it continued to prove to be valuable for IHEYO and its network to have a full-time employee to take care of the day-to-day business and support the existing projects and information sharing.

The officer fulfilled the objectives set out in the project for the officer, although more could have been done in reaching out to different funders. The officer wrote to nine funding organisations for six different projects. Most applications were successful, and IHEYO is well prepared with plans and granted funding for 2007. (A full evaluation report on the staffed office was prepared for IHS and is available upon request.)

2.5 Developing a new strategy

The IHEYO EC developed in 2006 a renewed strategy for the coming years based on our past experiences of difficulties and successes and with input from members. One of the problems within IHEYO is its dependency on the effort of a limited number of volunteers; it needs to be stronger institutionally. The EC decided for the coming year to try to set up a different structure for the volunteer work within IHEYO whereby more volunteers should be encouraged to become active. The EC presented a discussion paper on strategy to its members, to which members had given input for.

The idea is to involve member organisations more actively within IHEYO by making IHEYO more regionalised, initiate new projects and letting member organisations organise the annual conference, instead of a division of labour as was arranged in the past years and that lead to many situations where the EC was taking the lead in the organising. Also the EC came to the conclusion we need to make our communication channels more dynamic and interesting for individuals.

There is also a need for developing a strategy for North-South exchange and collaboration. Our members prioritized no effort in setting up campaigns and international representation at this point in time (though, the General Assembly approved in the action plan for 2007 to organise an European campaign in 2007, but in a special project-form that would support the activities of the members). Lastly, the EC raised questions on how to make IHEYO stronger as organisation.

For some of these matters, solutions or changes will be implemented in 2007 – for others, the good solution is still searched.

3. International Annual Conference

IHEYO organised its fifth annual conference together with the Atheist Centre in Vijayawada, India with the theme "Critical Thinking and Free Inquiry in Education", from 28 October to 4 November.

For 2007, IHEYO decided to continue with its annual tradition in a renewed form of organising, by connecting to member organisations plans and give them a leading organisational role in the organising of next annual conferences. This will mean that EC-members will not lead the organising each year and have more time to focus on other projects. It was decided and further planned that the sixth international annual conference will take place in Belgium at the end of July 2007. It will be a co-operation with our member 'Humanistische Jongeren' from Belgium.

3.1 International Conference 2006

Based on IHEYO's experiences of previous conferences, last years international conference was a mix of cultural activities, practical training, workshops, group work and interesting in-depth debate. This conference required even more active involvement of the participants than the previous conference. This conference was an international training for using educational methods in critical thinking and free inquiry and a start for much more intense collaboration between young humanist groups and individuals in India and worldwide. It turned out to be the start of our Asian working group. In this sense it was a unique activity with a global and national impact.

The first few days of the conference focused on giving a theoretical background and international overview to teaching methods of critical thinking. In the second part the participants were asked to give practical input from their own local and national organisations to the theme and create their methods of teaching on a particular chosen subject under professional guidance through a pool of international group discussions.

The conference was financed through funding from the Norwegian Humanist Association (HEF), participants fee and IHEYO's resources. Hivos gave a grant to cover travel and fee costs from participants coming from Africa, India and neighbouring countries. Unfortunately, participants from only Nepal and India attended. Participants from other countries in these regions were invited but did not come. The conference had 43 participants coming from ten countries: Belgium, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, India, Nepal, South Korea, United States of America and Australia. A part of the participants came from known humanist organisations and another part were youth from organisations that worked on human rights principles and that were interested in humanism.

The conference resulted in a plenary discussion where all the groups could present their developed teaching method. Themes of the teaching methods were following: humanism, human rights, (in)equality, discrimination, gender, superstition, media and sexual education.

The developed methods will be brought together in a booklet with the presentations and information from the invited experts and other relevant information on teaching critical thinking and free inquiry within the humanist movement. The booklet is planned for 2007 and it will be one of the first books focusing on teaching critical thinking and free inquiry from an intercultural perspective.

The conference was thoroughly prepared by an organising committee. Silvana Uhlrich, IHEYO 2nd Vice president, was responsible for the overall coordination. Vikas Gora, on behalf of the Atheist Centre, took the role of logistical coordinator and for what needed to be done in India.

The conference was announced by informing our members, other humanist organisations, contacts, websites and magazines, through e-lists for youth activities and critical thinking, and by informing participants and applicants of previous IHEYO conferences.

3.2 Preparation International Conference 2007

As was said in the introduction, IHEYO decided to have its next conference in a new form of organising with the sixth international annual conference to take place in Belgium. It will be a co-operation with our member 'Humanistische Jongeren' (Hujo) from Belgium. Sara Wastijn, boardmember of IHEYO and secretary-general of Hujo was appointed as general coordinator. Together with our officer she developed an EVS (European Voluntary Service) internship throughout 2006 that enables IHEYO and Hujo to invite an intern for nine months in 2007 to work on preparing the conference and help with its follow up.

The 2007 international IHEYO conference will focus on bringing together responsible youth workers to discuss methods of inclusion of minority groups in their organisation. The conference will have a multiplier effect back to the working place of the youth workers. Funding will be sought through the Youth in Action Programme of the European Union.

3.3 Preparation International Conference 2008

IHEYO spent time to develop ideas and give input on the youth participation and programme during and next to the next IHEU World Congress. IHEYO has been connecting its annual youth conference to the last two IHEU World Congresses and has learned several lessons to connect the events better together. IHEYO gave its input to IHEU on how an ideal contribution to the IHEU World Congress would look like and continues to prepare on the contribution to the Congress in 2007.

4. Communication

IHEYO kept spreading information and facilitating communication in its network. The website was updated throughout the year and the interactive forum was used a bit, but did not match the expectations. Three issues of the e-newsletter, 'YouthSpeak', were published with one extra issue, and attention has been created for IHEYO through the internet and humanist magazines. Two e-mail-lists are operational.

4.1 Website, forum and e-lists

The website has been kept up to date and the officer redesigned the site in spring of 2006.

Statistics of visitors to IHEYO.org

Year	April-Dec 2004	2005	2006
Unique visitors	2,500	5,000	200,000*

*Unfortunately, it seems that the statistic tool that counts visitors to our site has been confused by spammer-robots trying to post their commercials to our forum. Search-robots (from Google and other search engines) are not included in the statistics.

Due to new restrictions on membership in our forum, only a few succeeded to post spam there – though these restrictions also lamed the real activity in our forum as we lack moderators/administrators to take care of the task of approving or rejecting new forum-users on a regular basis.

Besides our forum, the most visited pages are about the conference, our contact information, members list, General Assembly information, funding information, our aims, how to join, the internship and YouthSpeak (in this order).

For some visitors, but far from all, we know at what other website they pressed a link that brought them to IHEYO's website. En.wikipedia.org, stumbleupon.com and iheu.org are high on this list.

IHEYO has two operating e-mail lists. One for informing member organisations and volunteers and one for the e-newsletter YouthSpeak. Anyone may subscribe to our e-newslist through our website and we inform people that write to us on the existence of the list. By the end of 2006, our e-newslist had 171 subscribers.

4.2 YouthSpeak

IHEYO published also this year three issues of its electronic newsletter '*YouthSpeak*' with one extra issue. The *YouthSpeak* contains information on IHEYO, on youth humanist groups around the world, content articles around humanism, human rights and jokes. The *YouthSpeak* started at the end of 2003. In 2006, the editorial team of the *YouthSpeak* consisted of: Yemi Johnson, Lars-Petter Helgestad, Asaba Lawrence and Gea Meijers. The e-newsletter was published through our e-newslist, at our website and e-mailed to other contacts.

4.3 Publications

Information about IHEYO can be found at many sites in different countries and at international youth sites. A search on Google for the exact term "International Humanist and Ethical Youth Organisation" finds us listed or presented in some way on 564 pages.

Our main activity, the conference in India, was widely announced. Humanist organisations and magazines, some humanist internet communities and European online youth communities (through their e-lists) published information about it.

Reports on the conference were published in magazines and at websites, through our members information network and in some Indian newspapers. We have been informed about some of these publications, but we do not have an overview of them.

In Vijajawada, our international conference received a lot of public attention. We had articles with photographs in three local newspaper and a radio interview at one of the main radio-stations.

The election of Lars-Petter Helgestad as President of IHEYO was reported in different magazines of the Norwegian Humanist Associations, twice in their online newspaper, in the member-magazine of the Norwegian Heathen Society and in two local newspapers in the county he comes from. The Secular Students Alliance in the United States of America published an interview with Gea Meijers about IHEYO in

their eNews. The Institute for Humanist Studies published an article about IHEYO's support for a women candidate as new UN Secretary General.

IHEYO helped the French umbrella organisation CIDEM to find young people for an interview in a publication for youth on the European Union and what it means to be a European Citizen called '*Les Clés de l'Europe 2006*'.

IHEYO has been responsible for one up to two pages of youth humanist news in the '*International Humanist News*', the magazine of IHEU, which was published four times in 2006. Last year IHEYO continued to inform the International Humanist community on IHEYO's activities and on youth humanist projects. IHEYO also made use of IHEU's website by publishing reports and news.

5. Development of new projects

5.1 Preparing for 2007 Tolerance Campaign

IHEYO has observed over the past years in Europe a growing movement of nationalism. Extreme right has been growing in many places over Europe. More people have started labelling ethnic, refugee and certain religious groups mainly in terms of problems and call for a hard policy in dealing with these groups. The human rights of these groups are under attack.

In Western European countries, non-religious life stances groups are less discriminated in comparison to their Eastern European friends, but also not treated equally in quite some countries. This inequality in the position of different life stances groups, is something that quite some of our young members have experience with and at the same time the existence and experience of humanist minded youth is often forgotten.

Therefore, IHEYO developed an educational campaign with the aim to promote tolerance and respect for minorities among youth to be implemented in 2007. This will be done by connecting to the Council of Europe's 'all different, all equal' campaign in 2007. We will raise awareness from a youth perspective on the position of several minorities in countries across Europe, and educate youths on (promoting) tolerance.

IHEYO was granted money to implement the campaign and started the initial preparations to the campaign by informing member organisations and appointing a coordinator.

5.2 Internship Programme

The international Internship Programme has been in existence since 2000. In this programme, a young humanist leader can stay for a month at a humanist organisation in another country to gain experience and increase his or her network. In 2006, IHEYO tried to raise funding for an Ugandan GLBT-activist (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender) to come to Belgium in the Summer of 2006 but this project was cancelled due to lack of success in being granted funds.

In 2006 IHEYO developed three new plans for an Internship Programme to be implemented in 2007, and for one of them funding was obtained. This was for a special kind of 'internship' set up through a cooperation between IHEYO and the Humanist Youth of Flanders, under the European Voluntary Service, a part of the EU programme "Youth in Action". In this project a young Norwegian humanist was selected, and will work as volunteer for nine months in Belgium in 2007.

5.3 Preparation international training in East-Africa

In a project developed during the 2005 Paris Conference, the Dutch young humanists developed a plan for partnership between East African and European young humanists. IHEYO supported this and was one of the three partner organisations in this project next to the Ugandan Humanist Association (UHASSO) and Kenyan People's Popular Theatre. After almost a year of preparations, the Dutch organisation backed out of the project due to changes in their national and international priorities. In the meantime IHEYO had been really active in getting funding and shaping the project by getting a group of volunteers together and working with them on the programme through needs assessments and a mapping of skills.

After the Dutch young humanists decided not to take a formal responsibility for the project, IHEYO decided to continue with the project in a different form, not only focusing on the Netherlands, Kenya and Uganda, but more broadly between Kenyans and Ugandans and young (and some older) people from elsewhere in the world

Since then, IHEYO has worked to develop the project to be carried out after 2006. Possible partners were approached and funding for the further development of the project in 2007 was asked and granted by the IHEU-Hivos grant.

5.4 Development of IHEYO communication

IHEYO also developed a project in 2006 to enhance greatly the communication within IHEYO and to its 'outside' with as objectives for 2007: much more readers to the YouthSpeak, a dynamic website, more information on humanism in actual thinking and practice disseminated, and more often a YouthSpeak. Part of the development of the new communication project was a meeting organised by IHEYO with the directors of the Brights. This meeting gave a lot of inspiration on how online communities can be sustained and grow.

6. Representation of young humanist voice

In 2006 IHEYO represented the International humanist youth community at the following international fora, trainings and youth events.

All-party working group on separation of religion and politics in the EU

IHEYO took part in the 'all-party working group on separation of religion and politics' of the European Parliament. In 2006, Gea Meijers and Frederik Dezutter represented IHEYO.

Norwegian Humanist Association 50 years anniversary

Executive Director Gea Meijers was invited and attended the Norwegian Humanist Associations 50th anniversary in April 2006. There were 500 other guests, including the president of IHEU, Roy Brown, H.M. the King of Norway and the Norwegian minister of education.

National youth humanism seminar in Norway

While in Norway for the anniversary of the Norwegian Humanist Association, Gea Meijers spoke on international humanism at a national youth seminar preparing the establishment of a national humanist youth organisation in Norway.

Organising of a meeting with the Brights and IHEU

IHEYO organised in the beginning of July in Gent a very inspiring meeting with the Brights and IHEU that was attended by several active humanists and Brights. The Brights directors and IHEU president exchanged views on how humanism can be organised electronically and internationally.

Attending the IHEU General Assembly

Frederik Dezutter attended the IHEU General Assembly of 2006 and briefed IHEYO on the outcomes.

7. Developing youth humanism

7.1 Helping member organisations

IHEYO continued to advise member organisations on funding proposals that they send to us. And based on the extensive T-kit "Funding and Financial Management" from the Council of Europe, IHEYO made a summary and provided this 11-page funding guide to our members and to a wider audience by including it

on our website.

IHEYO also helped the Humanist Youth of Flanders (Hujo) to find partners and experts for their summer exchange. It was not easy to find partners but with the help of IHEYO, Hujo finally organised the exchange with humanist partners from Finland, Norway, Belgium and Poland.

7.2 African Working Group

IHEYO established early 2005 the African Working Group coordinated by our African boardmembers Asaba Lawrence and Yemi Johnson. The chair of the group is Asaba Lawrence. The African Working Group is an online group of African young humanists in Africa with the aim to develop joint projects and supporting each other. The group has been modestly active throughout the year. There was a proposal developed to meet up in West Africa early 2007 during the first French speaking humanist conference in Africa (taking place in Cameroon) and organisations in East Africa helped prepare further the training mentioned in point 5.3.

The African Working Group organised an online conference from 29th of October to 5th of November 2006. It was an educative and highly revealing experience.

The conference had 'Humanism and African Youths: The Way Forward for a Progressive Partnership' as theme, and the organisers received 26 applications of participation from 9 African countries. Of these twenty-six, fifteen confirmed their participation via a second round application process. In the end, twelve participants from seven African countries actively participated. The participants were from (Nigeria, Uganda, Burundi, Ghana, Cameroon, Kenya and Tanzania).

Day by day, the participants got through the different "workshops" of the conference:

- Day 1 Brief introduction of the participants
- Day 2 "Organizational definition of humanism and how it can be promoted in Africa"
- Day 3 and 4 "Secularism and the State of Minority Right in Africa (Groups Challenges)"
"Science, Technology and the African youths"
"Humanist Education"
- Day 5, 6 and 7 The participants came up with good suggestions on how partnership could be made possible among African Humanist youth groups, including making more activity and structure in IHEYO's African Working Group.

The conference concluded with resolutions that can be found at the IHEYO website.

7.3 Asian Working group

The IHEYO conference in India led to the establishment of the Asian Working Group. Several participants got enthusiastic to develop youth humanism in Asia together. One aim on a longer term is to establish an "Asian Humanist Alliance", based on the model from the European Humanist Federation and the African Humanist Alliance.

7.4 Partnering in projects

Since 2004, IHEYO is part of an exchange project that focuses on empowering girls in the fight against AIDS with an inter-cultural experience sharing strategy. The study area will cover: Sweden, United Kingdom, Uganda and Rwanda. The group that goes under the name 'Mollina Family-2004, did not made much progress in 2006, though IHEYO tried to revitalize the group and its activity on several occasions. The continuation of the project will be reviewed in 2007.

8. Network

IHEYO had some really good support from some of its member organisations which is really important to us. In particular the support of the Norwegian Humanist Association and the Belgian Humanistische Jongeren has been important.

And there are several non-member humanist organisations that IHEYO has a special relation to and that are important. IHEYO keeps in contact with three humanist umbrella organisations, IHEU (International Humanist

and Ethical Union), SSA (Secular Student Alliance) and the EHF (European Humanist Federation). Also important are the Institute of Humanist Studies and Hivos whom financially supported IHEYO in 2006.

8.1 Contact with IHS, SSA, EHF, Hivos and IHEU

Institute for Humanist Studies

The Institute for Humanist Studies was also in 2006 a very important financial supporter to IHEYO. The IHS has been financially and morally supportive to the IHEYO from its new beginning in 2000. The grant for the officer was made possible through IHS. The IHS has an international network of humanist organisations around the world (through an internet-platform), some really good internet project and a weekly e-newsletter. In 2006, IHEYO disseminated some of IHS activities to its members and helped to realise two radio reports for the IHS podcast, one on the Belgian exchange and one on the conference.

Student Secular Alliance

IHEYO discussed with the Secular Student Alliance an idea for joint projects in the form of internships and both organisations plans around the 2008 IHEU Congress. Both organisations unfortunately didn't see a chance to meet up in 2006, though that would really help in brainstorming around a project. IHEYO was this year profiled in an interview with Gea Meijers in the SSA e-newsletter.

European Humanist Federation

Gea Meijers met with the new chairman of European Humanist Federation, David Pollock, in October 2006 and received from EHF suggestions on people to contact for the booklet around teaching critical thinking and free inquiry. EHF also gave IHEYO copies of the celebration publication and IHEYO gave EHF ideas to propose in the EU consultation on intercultural dialogue, which will be a major theme for the EU in the coming years.

Hivos, Dutch Humanist Development Cooperation

In 2006, Hivos granted support for participation in of guests from Africa and South Asia in the annual conference and for realising the booklet. Some information was exchanged through e-mail and IHEYO wishes to collaborate more closely with Hivos in the coming years.

International Humanist and Ethical Union

In 2006, IHEYO continued to have regular contact with IHEU, especially the IHEYO-IHEU liaison Sonja Egg-erickx. At the EC-meeting in Gent, Belgium, the EC had a lunch with Sonja to discuss matters of cooperation, exchanging news and talking of related matters. And after Sonja was elected President of HEU, Gea Meijers had two meetings with her – one in June and one in October. Also, Gea attended part of an EC-meeting of the IHEU in Oostende, Belgium in October.

9. Financial report

Unlike 2003 and 2005, we experienced no fraud with money in 2006, due to new restrictions on money-transfers.

General Financial Bank Report 2006

(please see next page)

Income		Expenditure	
Donation Norw. Hum. Ass.	€ 10.386,42	Office/ Administration / EC	€ 7.076,80
Donation IHS	€ 14.827,02	Projects / Conference	€ 8.000,00
Donation HIVOS	€ 10.500,00	Staff	€ 17.834,13
Membership fees	€ 400,00	PR / Campaign	€ 0,00
Conference fees	€ 2.145,92	Balance 2007	€ 9.878,13
Bank and reimbursements	€ 1.421,88		
Balance 2006	€ 3.107,82		
TOTAL INCOME	€ 42.789,06	TOTAL COSTS	€ 42.789,06