



**Another World is Possible,
Another Tunisia is Possible**

DIGNITY

WORLD SOCIAL FORUM

TUNISIA 2013

El Manar University – 26 - 30 March 2013

1- Why Have the WSF in Tunisia? :

Holding the World Social Forum 2013 in Tunisia is the culmination of several factors, the first of which is none other than the spark ignited by the Tunisian people's revolution of 14 January 2011. The people of Tunisia, like other Arab peoples in search of dignity and freedom, made themselves heard at the WSF Dakar 2011 by inspiring worldwide social movements that immediately responded to these historic forces and their extraordinary resonance across the planet, manifesting their solidarity with the Arab world.

So it is thanks to the efforts of organisations and social movements of Tunisians and the peoples of the Maghreb and Africa that the decision was finally made to organise the Forum in a region largely absent from the dynamics of world civil society, due to dictatorship and the impossibility of exercising even a modicum of freedom.

The Social Forum in Tunisia comes at a moment when the world is experiencing a profound economic, social, political and ecological crisis, often likened to a veritable crisis of civilisation. This crisis and the responses it engenders are dangerously aggravating inequalities, injustices and environmental and political disequilibrium.

The WSF will therefore take on the task of, one, better understanding the momentum gathered by the Arab revolutions and assess its challenges, and two, rethink alternatives for rebuilding justice and solidarity in the world and ensuring the survival of the planet.

2- The World Social Forum: A Space for International Civil Society

The World Social Forum (WSF) is a space for democratic discussion dedicated to international civil society organisations and social movements, organised every two years in a country in the southern hemisphere.

Participating organisations share a vision of the world based on openness, solidarity, diversity and non-violence, as well as a common desire to change the world into a place that is more just, more democratic and more respectful of the environment.

The WSF is neither an organisation nor a network. It is a space open to any organisation and any person who adheres to its Charter of Values and Principles. It holds no common political position, though any of its membership may choose to do so without it representing the point of view of the entire Forum.

The Charter of the WSF allows for the organisation of the widest participation and openness of the Forum while not beholden to political forces or serving as stakeholders in neoliberalism.

The World Social Forum was created in Porto Alegre, Brazil in 2000, in a context of intense struggle against neoliberal globalisation. It quickly assumed a role as the anti- Davos Forum, which purported to be a gathering place for key players in international finance, multinationals and the principle centres of dominant political decision-makers.

After three forums in Brazil, the WSF was held in Mumbai (India, 2004), in Bamako (Mali, 2006), in Karachi (Pakistan, 2006), in Caracas (Venezuela, 2006), in Nairobi (Kenya, 2007), in Belem (Brazil, 2009), and in Dakar (Senegal, 2011).

3- Objectives and Orientations of the WSF Tunisia 2013

The WSF 2013 is being organised at a crucial moment for social movements impassioned by justice, liberty and solidarity. Its chosen objectives and orientations, taking into account the changes brought by the Arab revolutions and the economic and ecological crisis, are but one direction in order to better tackle all the crucial questions, and improve the conditions for joint efforts and the formulation of alternatives.

The objectives and orientations are to:

- 1- Better understand the political situations of countries that have experienced revolutions, the strategies of those involved both on a local as well as regional level, as well as new solutions created by the peoples of these countries to organise their political and social lives.
- 2- Better seize geopolitical implications and the role and strategies of certain regional and international activists, in order to understand new balances of power and the evolution of conflicts – both old and new - (Palestine-Israel; Iran, Syria)
- 3- Offer social movements struggling to establish political systems and institutions that guarantee democracy, equality and social justice, an opportunity to express their aspirations and address social movements throughout the World.
- 4- Better understand the present economic and ecological crisis not only as an economic and financial crisis but also as a crisis of civilisation and the values and rules that have reigned over the planet for centuries.
- 5- Better understand the geopolitical rebalancing going on and its effects on the world's peoples.
- 6- Offer a space for dialogue and solidarity between social movements which are habitual stakeholders at the WSF, and new movements that have emerged out of the struggles against the austerity policies that have been instituted over the last few years.
- 7- As diverse and united social movements, contribute to rebuilding relationships between human beings; between the environment and living beings based on the values of justice, solidarity and diversity, giving priority to the expression of social groups and categories that have suffered the most under the dominant hegemonic model and appreciating their alternatives. This pertains in particular to workers, farmers, diasporas, migrants, women, and “native/aboriginal” peoples, peoples fighting for their independence, and groups struggling for economic, social, and cultural rights and for gender equality.
- 8- Reflect on the future of the WSF itself as a global, democratic space and an agent for integrating social movements' struggles, and explore new joint efforts and new forms of mobilisation.

4- Expectations for Tunisia

The largest human gathering in the region since the independences

The WSF generally has a massive presence of global civil society representatives and citizens from around the world. It usually represents the largest gathering in recent history in the region in which it takes place, outside of large political and religious demonstrations.

An estimated 70,000 people are expected to attend the WSF Tunisia, a country at once Arab, Mediterranean and African, where the revolutionary process was ignited.

Participants are essentially representatives of organisations, social movements, networks and ordinary citizens. They possess different social and geographic sensibilities, but are united by their adhesion to the WSF Charter of Values and Principles.

During the event, no less than 1,500 activities will take place. These activities will be varied: large assemblies, seminars, workshops, cultural demonstrations ... They are opportunities for sharing and evaluating common experiences and analyses of different local and international realities, alternative research, and defining an action plan for the future.

The World Social Forum will have direct effects on civil society and on Tunisia.

For Civil Society :

- 1- Reinforcement of Tunisian civil society: by holding the WSF in Tunisia, different civil society activists will dialogue and be inspired to build joint efforts in a sociopolitical context characterised by its fragmentation.

At the same time, mobilisation and sensitisation actions under way throughout the country will allow for a true integration of civil society social movements and organisations from the interior of the country. During the Forum's preparation and organisation, greater visibility will be given to youth and women's movements, as well as other activists in the revolution, to safeguard economic and social rights (organisations of the unemployed, organisations of migrants, etc...).

- 2- Opening up to the world : The WSF, through the expected presence of a significant number of representatives of social movements from around the world, will offer Tunisian civil society and its citizens an excellent opportunity to expand their knowledge about the struggles of other movements, the political stakes being played out in the rest of the world, and the chance to make new relationships that will contribute to improving their integration into global civil society, enlarging their vision and improving their future actions.
- 3- Discussing what's at stake nationally, regionally and internationally: As an open and democratic space, the WSF will permit useful discussion about the stakes tied to the Arab revolutions, the evolution of Arab societies, but also discuss what's at stake for the continent (security, migration, natural resources, democratic changes, governance, etc...), and globally (particularly the crisis of civilisation, the capitalist financial crisis, etc...)
- 4- Formulating alternatives and building joint efforts: As a global and diverse space, the WSF will permit the sharing of experiences and analyses, and thereby promote the formulation of common alternatives and programmes across all domains, constituting the agenda of WSF Tunisia 2013. These joint efforts ("*convergences*") will be presented on the last day of the WSF.
- 5- Offering opportunities to economically marginalised activists; and permitting income distribution in the country.
- 6- Reinforcing peoples' dynamics on a North African and African level: beyond its global and national dimension, the WSF has an important Maghreb-Mashriq and African dimension. In addition to reinforcing local civil society dynamics, the Forum will permit

the reinforcement of the dynamics of these two regions by giving them a new space for exchange amongst themselves and allowing them to interact with other global social movements about their own concerns and their future initiatives.

For Tunisia:

Importance of the WSF culturally: With the organisation of several hundred cultural activities (exchange of ideas and experiences, music, cinema, dance, theatre), and the presence of people of every origin, the WSF represents an important moment for openness and diversity.

Importance in the media: No less than 1500-2000 journalists will be present in Tunisia for the WSF 2013, as well as several hundred representatives of the media. The largest television networks will also be in attendance. The WSF will therefore widely broadcast the image of Tunisia, its human, intellectual and cultural richness, its way of life and proof of its diversity.

By taking place on the University campus, the Forum will also be an excellent opportunity to showcase and appreciate Tunisian learning and intellectual capabilities.

Importance of the WSF economically : For at least 6 days, the presence of more than 30,000 foreigners on Tunisian soil will spur the tourism and hospitality industry, air and land transport, and local businesses. The Forum will therefore contribute to job creation and income distribution, even before taking into account the monies spent by foreign visitors.

There will also be an appreciation for the capabilities of the Tunisian people who took part in the Forum's preparation and organisation.

Importance of the WSF socially : The WSF will reinforce national and social cohesion by the fact of providing the chance for the great majority of the country's organisations to work together within a peaceful and diverse framework, and allowing a great number of citizens of every geographic origin and social sensibility to co-exist for nearly a week. The Forum will also provide a teaching moment for Tunisian civil society organisations as they are confronted by other cultural and professional experiences and realities.

5- WSF's Principles and Organisation

The World Social Forum's organisation resides in the principles and values that constitute the WSF Charter. These principles and values translate into proposed guidelines for the process of preparing and organising the very site where the WSF will be held.

The WSF Charter and Organisational Guide stresses:

- the necessity to integrate diversity of opinions into all stages of preparation
- putting mechanisms for openness and participation into place to guarantee horizontal decision-making
- putting communication mechanisms into place that allow for permanent exchange and sharing
- insisting upon efficiency and transparency, particularly regarding questions concerning programming, logistics and resources

The WSF Organisational Guide clearly indicates that all dimensions of the forum (logistics, resources, communication, etc...) have a political impact, which itself is related to the WSF's objective to be an instrument of a new political culture.

The Organisation Committees should therefore follow the principles and orientations so that each part of the WSF's contributes in a real way towards constructing this alternative.

Numerous exchanges have taken place within the International Council for the Organisation of the WSF 2013, such as discussion in the Maghreb-Mashriq Forum, the African Council and the Organisation Committee, where proposals for structuring the process were suggested, taking into account the successes and failures experienced by other WSF global and regional processes.

6-1- WSF Stakeholders

6-1- 1- WSF Tunisia 2013 Steering Committee:

The WSF 2013 Steering Committee is composed of organisations and persons recognised for their role in building the foundation for the WSF in Tunisia, the Maghreb-Mashriq, in Africa, and on an International level. They adhere to the World Social Forum's Charter of Principles.

The following organisations and persons are members :

- 1- Le Forum Tunisien pour les Droits Economiques et Sociaux (The Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights)
- 2- L'Association Tunisiennes des Femmes Démocrates (ATFD) (The Tunisian Association of Democratic Women)
- 3- La Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme (The Tunisian Human Rights League)
- 4- L'Union Générale Tunisienne du Travail (UGTT) (The Tunisian General Workers' Union)
- 5- Le Conseil de l'Ordre des Avocats Tunisiens (The Tunisian Lawyers' Order Council)
- 6- Transparency 25
- 7- L'Union des Diplômés Chômeurs (l'UDC) (The Union of Unemployed Graduates)
- 8- RAID, Tunisia
- 9- L'AFTURD (Association des Femmes Tunisiennes pour la Recherche et le Développement) (The Tunisian Women's Association for Research and Development)
- 10- L'Institut Arabe pour les Droits de l'Homme (The Arab Human Rights Institute)
- 11- Organisation representing Tunisians abroad
- 12- Maghreb-Mashriq Committee
- 13- African Council
- 14- Members of the International Council
- 15- WSF Tunisia Secretariat (ex officio)

Futhermore, the Steering Committee is open on principle to full and complete representation on the Follow-Up Committee of the Maghreb-Mashriq Social Forum, on the African Social Forum Council, and are members of the International Council. The modalities of this participation are defined by the various participants, in concertation with the Steering Committee.

The role of the Steering Committee is to assure and facilitate the entire organisational process of the WSF. Priority will be given to horizontalism, reaching consensus with the other levels of the organisation, and establishing a permanent system of communication with the latter. In compliance with the Charter of the WSF, in no case shall the Steering Committee be, or be considered to be, the organiser or "the" only decision-maker in the WSF 2013 process.

The Steering Committee shall designate a member as Facilitator, one who is integral to the organisational process and able to assume certain necessary legal functions (such as signing contracts, taking legal responsibility before authorities, etc...).

Utilising the Secretariat's human resources, the Facilitator shall convoke Steering Committee meetings and establish a permanent communication system with both members and other commissions.

The Committee shall supervise the Secretariat, assigning its orientations and evaluating its work throughout the organisational process.

The Committee may, at any moment, call upon the commissions to ensure that they are making progress in their work, or propose suggestions or additional tasks that may make the organisational process more efficient. Furthermore, in order to increase participation and improve transversality, the Committee may create, at any moment, specific working groups or cross-linked commissions.

The Committee is accountable to the International Council and the WSF Tunisia 2013 Assembly.

6-1- 2- WSF Tunisia 2013 Follow-Up Committee

This committee is composed of facilitators from various commissions, cross-linked commissions and eventual working groups, as well as members of the Steering Committee. It is open to other commissions/working groups of the IC and to the Maghreb-Mashriq Committees and the African Council.

The Follow-Up Committee is a space for sharing and joint programming, and for coordination between diverse involved activists.

It will meet at least once a month and more so if need be. Its meetings shall be convoked by the Steering Committee or proposed by the commissions themselves.

6-1- 3- The WSF Assembly:

The Assembly is composed of all activists involved in the WSF's organisation, to wit commission members and any other organisation, network, social movement or civil society person adhering to the principles and values of the WSF Charter.

The Assembly is essentially a space for information, participation and mobilisation.

It will meet every other month as convoked by the Steering Committee.

6-1- 4- WSF 2013 Secretariat

Composed of technical staff engaged by the Steering Committee, under the legal responsibility of the FTDES. The Secretariat is on principle open to the human resources and qualified persons of the Maghreb-Mashriq Committee, the African Council and the International Council, as well as volunteers having the requisite qualifications.

The Committee shall designate a facilitator to the Secretariat. The facilitator shall have a strict technical facilitation role.

- 1- S/he shall coordinate the Secretariat group respecting the principles of openness, diversity, and equality.
- 2- S/he shall assure that decisions of the Steering Committee are enacted and followed up, assure that minutes are taken at Steering Committee, Follow-Up Committee and Assembly meetings.
- 3- S/he shall assure, with the commissions' facilitators, the smooth enaction of action plans and formulate proposals for improvements to the commissions as well as the Steering Committee and Follow-Up Committee.
- 4- S/he shall facilitate communication between commissions and provide necessary technical support.
- 5- S/he shall participate and formulate proposals to different levels of the WSF's organisation.
- 6- In relation to the communications commission, s/he shall assure lasting written and audio-visual records of the different phases of the WSF 2013's organisational process. S/he shall assure that regular updates and additional material be added to the website and keep it in good working order throughout the registration and clustering ("*agglutination*") phases.
- 7- S/he shall establish narrative and financial reporting.

6-1- 5- WSF Tunisie 2013 Commissions

Every Social Forum's organisational process entails the creation of specialised Commissions. Their role is not to organise the Forum, which remains the affair of the movements themselves, but to organise the Forum's space and place it at the disposition of the movements, and to offer all necessary services so that the Forum takes place under the best of conditions and attains its objectives.

Facilitators have created and designated the following Commissions for the WSF Tunisia 2013. They have begun internal organisation and deliberations in order to establish their plans of action:

- 1- Methodology Commission
- 2- Communications Commission
- 3- Resources Commission
- 4- Logistics Commission
- 5- Mobilisation Commission
- 6- Women's Commission
- 7- Youth Commission
- 8- Culture Commission
- 9- Health and Security Commission

In order to guarantee real coordination between efforts and action plans to successfully complete the preparation process, real communication is necessary between the various commissions. Joint email lists must be established that are open to other WSF participants (Commissions and IC Working Group, Maghreb-Mashriq Committee, African Council, Steering Committee, etc...).

Role of the Commissions in the WSF 2013 organisational process

The Commissions have a central role to play during the World Social Forum's organisational process.

Mobilise and encourage participation of networks and organisations, as well as volunteers and involved persons, in every aspect of the organisational process, especially through the realisation of jointly defined tasks.

- 1- Publicise the World Social Forum and widen its audience through social movements, associated networks and the general public.
- 2- Propose action plans and contribute to their realisation in order to advance the organisational process and the construction of the Forum space.
- 3- Communicate with other commissions, the Steering Committee, International Council commissions and Working Groups and the secretariat in order to effect an efficient coordination amongst the diverse levels of the WSF's organisation.

Principles and Operations of the Commissions

- 1- The commissions are composed of organisations, persons and networks that adhere to the WSF charter on the basis of involvement, volunteerism and efficiency of each concerned area. Members act in service of the community of social movements and not in service of their own organisations.
- 2- Commissions operate in an inclusive and participatory manner, are self-organised, transversal and democratic.
- 3- Commissions shall refer to the principles established in the International Council's "WSF Organisational Guide" for instructions on how to operate and realise their actions.
- 4- Commissions shall provide a mechanism to facilitate and assure communications within the commission, calling jointly decided meetings, and remaining in contact with other levels of the WSF's organisation process.
- 5- Commissions may mobilise resources. In this case, commission resources must be duly reported as to amount and fully negotiated with its partners as well as in concluding an eventual agreement. With transparency and financial expediency in view, these resources must remain process resources and be integrated into the WSF's global budget. The commissions may not have separate bank accounts.

6-1-6- The International Council:

The International Council is a place that brings together almost 150 organisations, networks and social movements from around the world. It was established in 2002 after the first WSF in Porto Alegre in order to facilitate interaction between movements and the WSF organisation itself. It operates through Commissions (Methodology and Content, Communications, Resources, Strategies, Expansion) and ad-hoc working groups. It is here that decisions are made, by consensus, about political and strategic choices concerning the organisation of World Social Forums. It meets twice a year.

At the meeting in Monastir in July 2013, an enlarged working group was established. It regroups networks and organisations that have shown a willingness to contribute to organising Tunis 2013, through their respective thematic, social and regional bases.

Though organised in Tunisia, the Forum will have many diverse dimensions: Maghreb-Mashriq, African, Mediterranean and international, thanks to its history, culture, geography and the union of all humankind.

This working group will engage in supporting the organisational process through different facets: methodology and programming, resources, participation and expansion of the process, communication, etc...

It has also been envisioned that a physical presence in Tunis, through either one or more persons, be planned to allow this group to be more effective.

In the same way, the International Council Commissions (Methodology and Content, Strategy, Resources, Communications) have demonstrated their willingness to support the process directly or through the working group.

6-1- 7- Follow-Up Committee for the Maghreb-Mashriq Forum

The Maghreb-Mashriq Social Forum is the result of a long construction process in a context marked by the absence of freedom to organise, and by a complex geopolitical context where American, European and Gulf hegemonies shape sociopolitical and economic realities towards their own ends, leaving peoples without alternatives.

The revolutions, called the Arab Springs, provided a new consistency and visibility to the Maghreb-Mashriq Forum dynamic, allowing the region to be able to host the foremost meeting place for world social movements, the World Social Forum. The WSF should provide a place for intense discussions of the new revolutionary given, the stakes tied to a new visibility for the forces of conservation, a way to reinforce new activists, as well as all questions related to the current world crisis.

Bringing together social and Civil Society activists, the Maghreb-Mashriq Committee is one of the principal pieces of the WSF 2013's organisational process. Already, it has taken responsibility for organising several preparatory events, such as:

- The Maghreb-Mashriq Women's Forum
- The Sahara Conflict Meeting
- The Immigration Forum
- The Maghreb-Mashriq Youth Forum
- The Maghreb and Mashriq Social Movements Assembly

The Committee is committed to fully supporting the WSF Tunisia 2013 Steering Committee by actively participating in all of its operations, including the Steering Committee, the Secretariat and the various Commissions... as well as by its physical presence throughout all the stages of preparation.

6-1- 8- The African Council

The African dimension at the Tunis 2013 Forum has been affirmed in several meetings in order to maximise African participation at the WSF through the presence of African social movements as well as by integrating African concerns and struggles into the organisation of the Forum.

It's also justified by the interwoven continental and international realities in which the Maghreb region is completely involved: whether the questions concern cultural diversity, migration, religion, security, trade, politics and diplomacy, or economic integration, discussions and solidarity among

those who compose African social movements demand to be intensified in order to face the challenges posed together.

Furthermore, and proven by the experiences acquired during the organisation of several World Forums (Polycentric 2006 at Bamako, Nairobi, 2007, Dakar, 2011), as well as the organisation of several Continental Forums, the participation of the African Council in the preparatory process is essential in order to share its successes and failures, and place this experience at the disposition of movements of the whole continent and the WSF itself.

Already, several initiatives have been taken to assure a good preparation with regards to Africa:

An African Council was held in Monastir, during the Preparatory Assembly, dedicated to strategies for mobilising and having African movements participate in the WSF Tunisia 2013's preparation. This meeting was preceded by a Forum in Tunis that was dedicated to questions about migration, trade and communications.

The Monastir Council meeting expressed the unanimous desire to fully participate in the WSF 2013's organisation, and in every instance took steps to this effect. They will support the constitution of the Secretariat, assure their physical presence, mobilise resources, and make equipment available and transferable at the disposition of the process.

The African Council has decided to organise a Continental Forum in Kinshasa in January 2013, in preparation for Tunis 2013. Likewise, the East Africa Committee and the West African Committee will organise Regional Forums from now until the end of 2012. Finally, the annual Migration Forum will be held in Mali.

7- Spaces for Work, Interaction and Expression

1. March:

2. Opening Ceremonies

3. Self-Organised Activities

Conferences, their objective is to demonstrate projects, platforms and alternatives under discussion among civil society networks, movements and organisations in struggle against neoliberal globalisation. Each conference is a space for discussion, consensus building and diversity of projects.

Seminars, their goal is identify, define and expand upon specific themes, as well as publically discuss and socialise strategic ideas. They will be proposed primarily by networks/organisations that are part of the enlarged FSMAGH committee. These are occasions to create new themes, to build, expand upon, discuss and publicise.

Workshops, their objective is to open spaces up for meeting, exchanging experiences, interaction, planning and defining strategies for groups, coalitions and networks.

Testimonials – New movements recognised for their actions in defence of liberty and human dignity will present their experiences, analyses and points of view.

Controversial Debates, their objective is to publicly debate controversial issues, and permit the confrontation of ideas, orientations or the political choices of a group, institution or individuals.

Campaigns, focused on specific campaigns, such as education for all, violence against women.

Joint Convergence Assemblies : Self-organised, the goal here is to bring groups together, facilitate joint interaction on plans and future actions. During the registration and clustering (agglutination) process, these should be the subject of a presentation by their organisers. Their conclusions will be presented at the Assembly of Assemblies (closing ceremonies).

4. Closing Ceremonies or Global Assembly / Assembly of Assemblies

5. Youth Camp – They'll also develop specific programming within their space, open to general participation.

6. Women's Space - They'll also develop specific programming within their space, open to general participation.

7. Villages / Tents : These are specific spaces that can serve multiple activities and expositions dedicated to a struggle that concerned activists wish to provide particular visibility (certain peoples' struggles, stateless peoples, migrants, ...)

8. Special Forums: organised before the WSF itself, these forums represent the work of groups, networks and movements who have chosen to conjoin their own mobilisations and struggles with those of the Social Forum:

- Free Media Forum
- Labour Unions Forum
- Local Authorities Forum
- Parliamentarians' Forum
- Sciences and Democracy Forum
-

9. Cultural Spaces Situated both at the Forum and in the city and neighbourhoods, cultural activities should be highly varied and applicable to all cultural disciplines.

At the WSF, culture is not only a form of entertainment. Culture is above all a method of struggle and an expression of humanity's diversity. Cultural artists participating in the WSF are themselves in struggle and are part of movements for dignity and liberty.

Cultural activities programming should be available at the same time as other activities.

10. Media and Communication Space

Tunisia 2013 Extended : This is one of the recent innovations coming out of the World Social Forum. Thanks to Communication technologies, this will permit the mass of movements not able to participate physically in the WSF to be connected in an organised way to a group or particular or global activity at the WSF.

Activities related to WSF Tunisia 2013 Extended must go through the registration and eventual clustering process (if their numbers are too great), as well as obtaining an adequate allocation of rooms and equipment.

Multimedia Space

Production Spaces for various alternative media (written, audio)

Broadcast Space for traditional and alternative media

Presse Conference Spaces

8- Thematic Working Directions, Clustering Process and Joint Efforts

In order to facilitate the registration process, discussions on methodology led to the proposal of 11 thematic directions:

1- Towards a radical in-depth south-to-north revolutionary and decolonisation process through flourishing new social expression against political and market dictatorships, and through reestablishing the rights of peoples themselves to have sovereignty over their resources and their destiny.

2- Towards a world free of all hegemony and all imperialist domination exercised through debt and free trade as a tool to impoverish, appropriate riches and subjugate peoples, through multinational companies and financial capital, patriarchal oppression and systemic inequality, and through neoliberal social policies as a war machine against peoples.

3- Towards the construction of new universalisms - in response to the crisis of civilisation and commercialisation of life -, founded on environmental justice and humanity's universal and sustainable access to common goods, the preservation of the planet as a source of life, especially the earth, water, forests, renewable energy sources and biodiversity, respect for the rights of indigenous, native, First Nations and aboriginal peoples and diasporas, their cultures, identities, territories, languages and knowledge.

4- Towards a human society founded on the principles and the values of dignity, diversity, justice, equality between all human beings, without regard to gender, culture, age, disability, religious beliefs, and on the respect for the rights of individuals and collectives, civil or political, economic, social, cultural or environmental; and towards the elimination of all forms of oppression and discrimination based on racism, xenophobia, caste systems, sexual orientation and others.

5- Towards freedom to travel and reestablish residency for all, especially for migrants and asylum seekers, victims of human trafficking, refugees, indigenous, First Nations, aboriginal, traditional and native peoples, minorities, peoples under occupation, peoples living under conditions of war and conflict, and towards respect for their civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights.

6- Towards the inalienable right of peoples to humanity's cultural heritage, towards the decolonisation thought and the democratisation of knowledge, cultures, communication and technologies; and towards the end of hegemonic knowledge and privatisation of knowledge and technologies, and towards a fundamental change in the system intellectual property and scientific research rights.

7- Towards constructing a democratic process of integrating and uniting peoples in response to hegemonic strategies of division, and towards generalising practices and forms of solidarity that reinforce cooperation among peoples.

8- Towards a peaceful world free of war as an instrument of economic, political and cultural domination, of military bases and nuclear arms, respecting the rights of peoples themselves to

their own resources, and protecting peoples living in occupied territories, those who are stateless or living under conflict.

9- Towards a democratic world that guarantees, without discrimination, everyone's participation in life and political and economic decisions at all levels, local, national and international, within the framework of institutions and models of governance that are truly democratic, including the United Nations system and international financial institutions.

10- Towards constructing alternatives to capitalism and neoliberal globalisation, regulated on the basis of principles of cooperation, fiscal justice and international redistribution of wealth, centred on the fundamental needs of peoples, placing foremost new manners of production, consumption exchange, utilising renewable, non-nuclear energies, and banning tax havens.

11- The Future of the Forum: Towards a collective reflection on social movements, sensing new struggles as well as the World Social Forum process itself, perspectives and strategies for the future, in order to guarantee the effective realisation of another world that is possible and urgent for everyone.

9- The WSF Tunisia 2013 Programme

For informational purposes, this is roughly how different phases of the WSF programme will be scheduled.

Day of 26 March 2013: Organisation of March and Opening Ceremonies

Day of 27 March 2013: Revolutions and New Activists Day

Day of 28 March 2013: Self-Organised Activities

½ Day of 29 March 2013: Self-Organised Activities

½ Day of 29 March 2013: Joint Assemblies for Common Action

½ Day of 30 March 2013: Assembly of Assemblies

½ Day of 30 March 2013: Closing Ceremonies

- 1- March on the 26th, must be an inclusive, people's march, centering on the movements' expression of their demands and slogans, allowing for visibility of groups for the handicapped, and being cultural, diverse and festive. To allow for the people's participation, it should be routed through lower-income neighbourhoods. The Movements March should not be a place for partisan political expression, nor open to groups and persons not adhering to the principles of the World Social Forum's charter.
- 2- The Opening Ceremonies should express the themes of the WSF 2013, and not be the object of multiple interventions, as it was in the past. They should celebrate culture and value diversity.
- 3- The 27th should be devoted essentially to self-organised activities.
- 4- Joint Assemblies for Common Action (29 March): These are self-organised and provide essential spaces for movements' global expression and their desire to

work together. They will also give visibility to actions and future directions that were decided in the assemblies.

They will go through a registration and clustering process after general registration.

Joint Assemblies' proposals must be submitted by a minimum of five movements or organisations, and accompanied by a written presentation delineating their objectives and expected results.

- 5- The Assembly of Assemblies is an innovation of methodology that, one, will permit all Assemblies for Action to present their results, and two, avoid encumbering the closing ceremonies.

10- Mobilisation and Sensitisation

The objective is to allow for the mobilisation of all significant activists involved in the socio-political process since the Tunisian revolution.

Several initiatives have already been realised, or will be, within the framework of a national and regional mobilisation programme until March 2013.

- 1- Meeting on Western Sahara, organised by the FSMAG in February 2012 in Lyon (France)
- 2- Forum on Alternative Media organised by the FMAS in March 2012 in Marrakech (Morocco)
- 3- Maghreb Women's Forum, organised by the FMAS in March 2012,
- 4- Social Forum in working-class neighbourhoods, Avril 2012, in Casablanca, Morocco
- 5- Regional Social Forum in Qsibet El Madyouni, May 2012
- 6- WSF Day in Jandouba (northern Tunisia) and in Zarzis (southeast) organised by the UGTT, the Tunisian Human Rights League in June 2012
- 7- Youth Forum in October 2012, at
- 8- Preparatory Assembly in Monastir last July, where more than 1500 persons assembled, leading to the organisation of a National Social Movements Assembly, a Maghreb Assembly of the Maghreb-Mashriq Social Forum, and an African Social Forum Council
- 9- National Day in celebration of the International Day of Rural Women, October 2012
- 10- Migration Forum, at Ouejda, Morocco, October 2012
- 11- Redeyef (Mining Basin), 13-14 October 2012: mobilisation organised by the Tunisian Economic and Social Rights Forum and the UGTT, concerning several themes: transitional justice, health and sanitation, education, regional development and employment, debt, the situation of women Tunisia, immigration. The mobilisation was preceded by a march in which 1500 persons participated.
- 12- Caravan by bicycle organised by youth groups that went across the country, particularly to low-income areas. It allowed for publicising the objectives of the WSF and mobilising participation in the Forum.
- 13- Youth Social Forum, Egypt, November 2012
- 14- International mobilisation in Florence 10+10, November 2012, Florence, Italy
- 15- Meeting with social movements in France, November 2012
- 16- Forum in solidarity with Palestine, organised in Brazil, November 2012

- 17- Technical preparatory seminar from 14 - 16 November 2013, held in Tunis
- 18- Migration Forum, organised in Manila (Philippines), November 2012
- 19- Forum organised by RAID, December 2012 in Sidi Bouzeyane
- 20- Tunisian Civil society Congress, Monastir, December 2013
- 21- African Social Forum, organised from 17 - 22 January 2013, in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo
- 22- Thematic Social Forum, Porto Alegre, January 2013
- 23- Latin American Social Forum, Santiago, Chile, January 2013

Other initiatives have been programmed :

- 1- Meetings in Sfax, Tunis, Sousse and Gabes (November-December), to be organised par regional branches of the UGTT and involving local associations
- 2- Meeting with democratic political parties in order to sensitise them to the WSF's stakes for the country and the region (October-December)
- 3- Mobilisation in working class neighbourhoods of Tunis, February 2013
- 4- Mobilisation in Jendouba, organised by the UDC for the northwest of the country
- 5- National Preparatory Seminars by the UGTT and the ATFD, February 2013
- 6- International seminars by the UGTT, the ATFD and the University, January-February 2013

Regional and international mobilisation actions have been programmed. These allow for mobilising a large participation in the WSF:

- 1- Forum on "Religion and Politics", February 2013, Morocco
- 2- Forum on social protection in the Maghreb, Algiers, February 2013
- 3- Technical Preparatory Seminar, 16-17 February 2013

11- Logistics :

The Logistics Commission was formed last September. Representatives of several organisations are part of it, as well as persons recognised for their abilities in events organisation. Representatives of the UGTT and the transportation and hospitality industries are part of the Commission.

The WSF site: A comparative study was conducted between several possible sites on which to hold WSF Tunis. The final choice was for the location of the University of El Manar 1 which has the necessary space for the Forum's inclusive organisation. This site possesses the requisite number and types of rooms desired, as well as the spaces necessary for the installation specific tents, stands, and equipment for cultural activities.

A Joint Committee regrouping representatives of the University, the Steering Committee and architects was formed to precisely identify the different spaces that can be used for the WSF and to define what modifications and improvements are necessary.

Food: will be provided partly in the university cafeteria, which is capable of producing more than 5,000 meals, as well as by independent providers who will be located in a location dedicated to them at the University.

Lodging: An assessment of the availability of hotel rooms in the city of Tunis gave an indication on the number of available beds. This capacity will be augmented by modifying schoolrooms to make them habitable, as well as by recourse to university residences and private accommodations.

All information related to lodging will be available on the website as of January 2013.

Transportation: Besides normal public transportation, there are plans to reinforce bus and metro lines that serve the University Campus in order to ensure sufficient transportation. The Ministry of Transportation will place a limited number of buses at the disposition of the WSF in order to satisfy specific transportation needs.

12- Communications :

The Communications Commission has worked with their qualified counterparts on the Maghreb-Mashriq Committee and the International Council in order to produce the website and render it functional. It was started last 15 October after finalising the choice of the WSF 2013 Logo. The website is in the WSF's languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic). El Jousour of FMAS (Morocco) will ensure translation into Arabic.

Additionally, a communications manager will be recruited in the month of November in order to assure information on the WSF organisation is produced, and to give out up-to-date information on social movements in Tunisia and the region. This person will also contribute to enriching the Website.

The preregistration process is currently open on the Website.

Concerning Interpretation equipment, the technology will be what is generally used at world social forums. It will come from several sources: constructed on the spot by Tunisian youth cooperatives, equipment available from Dakar –FSM 2011, purchase of supplementary equipment.

Interpreters will be identified and coordinated by a mixed team from Tunisia and Babel.

13- Resources:

After the Resources Commission was formed, a strategy for mobilising funds and a project document were drawn up. The gross budget comes to 1,500,000 euros. At present, only 50% of this amount has been secured.

Steps and discussions are ongoing in order to maximise fundraising, especially in Europe.

A budget review procedure will permit expenses to be adapted to effectively obtained resources.

14- How to participate in WSF Tunisia 2013

The World Social Forum (WSF) Tunis 2013 website was launched on 15 October, allowing you to participate in the Forum process and organisation, no matter where you are on the planet. Here are the different ways to participate:

1. Join the Commissions

The World Social Forum Tunis 2013 has 9 Commissions (Mobilisation, Communications, Content and Methodology, Logistics, Finances, Women, Culture and Youth, Health and Security), assuring a large participation in the preparation of events through different domains. In order to take part in the Commissions – you can subscribe to the mailing list, learn when meetings take place, receive

accounts and updates, and participate in discussions – you can subscribe on the WSF website at: <http://www.fsm2013.org/commissions> or <http://lists.fsm2013.org/mailman/listinfo>. At the first link, you'll find a summary of the tasks involved in each commission.

2. Register on the website and propose an activity as an organisation.

If you wish to propose an activity for the World Social Forum 2013, you can do so at this address: <http://www.fsm2013.org/fr/registration> . You must first register as a “person” and then register your association and the activity you wish to propose. Once you are registered, you can see activities proposed by other organisations.

- From 15 October to 20 January, any organisation may propose activities on the website (discussions, seminars...) by specifying which theme(s) the activities pertain to.

- On 20 January 2013, the activities proposal phase will be closed, and publication will be made of all proposed activities including the contact information (mail, téléphone...) of the people who made the proposals.

- From 24 December 2012 until the end of January 2013, the regrouping (or “clustering” « *agglutination* ») phase will be open to activities taking place in Tunis; this is a very important phase as it allows for partaking in the WSF's central role: exchanging experiences and building campaigns and actions on an international scale.

- 20 January 2013 to 15 February 2013 is the registration period on the website where details are made as to room size, interpretation needs, preferences for dates and whether or not organising an extended activity; the field “thematic direction” (« *axe thématique* ») must be filled out in order to assign spaces at the Forum's central site; this is the step where you can indicate your choice(s) for “Joint Assemblies” (« *Assemblées de convergence* ») on the final day of the Forum.

- Beginning in March, the programme will be published on the website and then printed on paper.

- Activities and stand fees are available on the website, and you'll soon be able to make payments through the website.

3. Be a volunteer.

The call for volunteers will be launched in a few days. We are expecting a great number of volunteers from Tunisia, neighbouring countries, and even other continents. There are different ways to volunteer, one is to help with logistics and welcoming participants, and the other is to assist in the interpretation of different languages at the WSF.

4. Share the website and information about the World Social Forum.

If you have read interesting articles on the World Social Forum, or if you know the dates of alterglobalist events and struggles in your country, send them for insertion in the website's agenda to: secretariat@fsm2013.org

APPENDIX : World Social Forum Charter of Principles

World Social Forum Charter of Principles

The committee of Brazilian organizations that conceived of, and organized, the first World Social Forum, held in Porto Alegre from January 25th to 30th, 2001, after evaluating the results of that Forum and the expectations it raised, consider it necessary and legitimate to draw up a Charter of Principles to guide the continued pursuit of that initiative. While the principles contained in this Charter - to be respected by all those who wish to take part in the process and to organize new editions of the World Social Forum - are a consolidation of the decisions that presided over the holding of the Porto Alegre Forum and ensured its success, they extend the reach of those decisions and define orientations that flow from their logic.

1. The World Social Forum is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action, by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neoliberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism, and are committed to building a planetary society directed towards fruitful relationships among Humankind and between it and the Earth.
2. The World Social Forum at Porto Alegre was an event localized in time and place. From now on, in the certainty proclaimed at Porto Alegre that "another world is possible", it becomes a permanent process of seeking and building alternatives, which cannot be reduced to the events supporting it.
3. The World Social Forum is a world process. All the meetings that are held as part of this process have an international dimension.
4. The alternatives proposed at the World Social Forum stand in opposition to a process of globalization commanded by the large multinational corporations and by the governments and international institutions at the service of those corporations interests, with the complicity of national governments. They are designed to ensure that globalization in solidarity will prevail as a new stage in world history. This will respect universal human rights, and those of all citizens - men and women - of all nations and the environment and will rest on democratic international systems and institutions at the service of social justice, equality and the sovereignty of peoples.
5. The World Social Forum brings together and interlinks only organizations and movements of civil society from all the countries in the world, but it does not intend to be a body representing world civil society.
6. The meetings of the World Social Forum do not deliberate on behalf of the World Social Forum as a body. No-one, therefore, will be authorized, on behalf of any of the editions of the Forum, to express positions claiming to be those of all its participants. The participants in the Forum shall not be called on to take decisions as a body, whether by vote or acclamation, on declarations or proposals for action that would commit all, or the majority, of them and that propose to be taken as establishing positions of the Forum as a body. It thus does not constitute a locus of power to be disputed by the participants in its meetings, nor does it intend to constitute the only option for interrelation and action by the organizations and movements that participate in it.
7. Nonetheless, organizations or groups of organizations that participate in the Forums meetings must be assured the right, during such meetings, to deliberate on declarations or actions they may decide on, whether singly or in coordination with other participants. The World Social Forum undertakes to circulate such decisions widely by the means at its disposal, without directing, hierarchizing, censoring or restricting them, but as deliberations of the organizations or groups of organizations that made the decisions.
8. The World Social Forum is a plural, diversified, non-confessional, non-governmental and non-party context that, in a decentralized fashion, interrelates organizations and movements engaged in

concrete action at levels from the local to the international to build another world.

9. The World Social Forum will always be a forum open to pluralism and to the diversity of activities and ways of engaging of the organizations and movements that decide to participate in it, as well as the diversity of genders, ethnicities, cultures, generations and physical capacities, providing they abide by this Charter of Principles. Neither party representations nor military organizations shall participate in the Forum. Government leaders and members of legislatures who accept the commitments of this Charter may be invited to participate in a personal capacity.

10. The World Social Forum is opposed to all totalitarian and reductionist views of economy, development and history and to the use of violence as a means of social control by the State. It upholds respect for Human Rights, the practices of real democracy, participatory democracy, peaceful relations, in equality and solidarity, among people, ethnicities, genders and peoples, and condemns all forms of domination and all subjection of one person by another.

11. As a forum for debate, the World Social Forum is a movement of ideas that prompts reflection, and the transparent circulation of the results of that reflection, on the mechanisms and instruments of domination by capital, on means and actions to resist and overcome that domination, and on the alternatives proposed to solve the problems of exclusion and social inequality that the process of capitalist globalization with its racist, sexist and environmentally destructive dimensions is creating internationally and within countries.

12. As a framework for the exchange of experiences, the World Social Forum encourages understanding and mutual recognition among its participant organizations and movements, and places special value on the exchange among them, particularly on all that society is building to centre economic activity and political action on meeting the needs of people and respecting nature, in the present and for future generations.

13. As a context for interrelations, the World Social Forum seeks to strengthen and create new national and international links among organizations and movements of society, that - in both public and private life - will increase the capacity for non-violent social resistance to the process of dehumanization the world is undergoing and to the violence used by the State, and reinforce the humanizing measures being taken by the action of these movements and organizations.

14. The World Social Forum is a process that encourages its participant organizations and movements to situate their actions, from the local level to the national level and seeking active participation in international contexts, as issues of planetary citizenship, and to introduce onto the global agenda the change-inducing practices that they are experimenting in building a new world in solidarity.

Approved and adopted in São Paulo, on April 9, 2001, by the organizations that make up the World Social Forum Organizing Committee, approved with modifications by the World Social Forum International Council on June 10, 2001.

Translated by Danica Jorden