



UPDATE TO NEW ZEALAND'S PLAN OF ACTION TO SUPPORT THE ALLIANCE OF CIVILISATIONS

MAY 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2011



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INTRODUCTION

The Alliance of Civilisations (the Alliance or AoC) is a United Nations initiative that aims to “improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions and, in the process, to help counter the forces that fuel polarisation and extremism”.¹ The Alliance was established in 2005 at the initiative of the Governments of Spain and Turkey.

Working in partnership with governments, international and regional organisations, civil society groups, foundations, and the private sector, the Alliance is supporting a range of projects and initiatives aimed at building bridges among a diversity of cultures and communities.

Since its inception, the Alliance has developed online clearinghouses, which contain examples of best practice materials and resources on cross-cultural dialogue and cooperation projects. The Alliance has also developed a Rapid Response Media Mechanism to provide a platform for constructive debate and opinion during times of increased tensions around cross-cultural issues. A database of experts complements the Rapid Response Media Mechanism.

The November 2006 Report of the Alliance of Civilisations High-Level Group, identified practical proposals – in the fields of education, youth, media and migration – to build mutual trust and understanding between communities. In 2007, the AoC High Representative, former President of Portugal Jorge Sampaio, released the Alliance’s first Implementation Plan. This plan set out the AoC’s first programme of action, and was aimed at setting up the Alliance’s structure, strategy, and projects. The second AoC Implementation Plan was released in June 2009, and is a continuation of the first.

To progress the objectives of the Alliance, and to further connect its members and supporters, two fora have been held. These fora were held in 2008 and 2009, in Madrid and Istanbul respectively. Following the Second Forum in Istanbul, the AoC High Representative wrote the report, *The Road from Madrid to Istanbul and Beyond*, which contains future challenges that the world may encounter and how the Alliance can manage these. This report formed some of the basis of the second AoC Implementation Plan.

New Zealand is a member of the AoC Group of Friends – a community of over 100 member countries and international organisations and bodies. New Zealand was one of the first nations to develop a National Plan of Action to support the Alliance of Civilisations. This National Plan of Action listed practical steps to implement the Alliance’s objectives.

New Zealand’s second Plan of Action builds on the work of the first National Plan and is a continuation of New Zealand’s support for the objectives of the AoC initiative. The purpose of this second plan of action is to provide an update on the activities that New Zealand is undertaking to implement the objectives of the Alliance of Civilisations. Therefore, this second plan does not contain a detailed examination or review of the initiatives from the first plan of action. These initiatives have in place separate evaluations, and specific report criteria and reporting, which are not contained in this plan.

This second plan contains three parts:

¹ Alliance of Civilisations Mission Statement.

- Part one – the strategic and structural framework of the plan, its relationship to the broader AoC work, and its connection to the Government's goals – focus on the four areas of action
- Part two – update on the activities of the first plan of action, and future work
- Part three – links to source materials and additional information relevant to New Zealand initiatives.

PART 1: STRATEGIC AND STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK

Context of New Zealand's involvement in the Alliance

The Alliance's "efforts...reflect the will of the vast majority of people to reject extremism in any society, and to lend overwhelming support to their aspiration to live in peace, underpinned by respect for equal human dignity".² The objectives of the AoC align with New Zealand's goals in the area of counter radicalisation and extremism. Further, by working toward the objectives of the Alliance, New Zealand takes further steps to minimise any negative impact on New Zealand from incidents abroad, including acts of terrorism and violence.

The recent global recession has affected the world's economies in a myriad of ways. New Zealand has not been immune to the recession's effects, and while the economic recovery is a key priority for the New Zealand Government, it is a priority that is complementary to maintaining social harmony and cohesion. The global recession has further highlighted the degree to which we now live in an interconnected world, where events and incidents that happen abroad can have an impact domestically. As the High Representative for the AoC has commented: "cultural diversity matters for different reasons: because it is part of the common heritage of humanity; because it is one of the roots of development and a catalyst of innovations, creativity and, therefore a factor of sustainable development; because it energizes democracies and strengthens conditions for peace".³

For New Zealand to maintain its social harmony, it must continue to build mutual trust and respect amongst all New Zealanders, work to avoid the emergence of inter-communal tensions or intolerance, and guard against the emergence of extremism within any community. Without actions by government, civil society and local communities to address differences that may exist, or to overcome prejudice or alienation, there is a risk that diversity may become a source of intolerance, fear, uncertainty and even violence, rather than something to nurture and celebrate.

Since the AoC's inception, the New Zealand Government has signalled its commitment to the aspirations of the AoC initiative. In 2007, New Zealand hosted the first Asia-Pacific symposium to consider the AoC initiative's relevance to the Asia-Pacific region. New Zealand also attended the first AoC Forum in Madrid and the second in Istanbul. The New Zealand Government reaffirms its commitment to the AoC initiative through this second plan.

While a relatively young country, New Zealand has a long tradition of an open, parliamentary democracy based on the rule of law and a respect for human rights. New Zealand has a strong reputation internationally as a welcoming and tolerant country for migrants from all over the globe, including the significant number of refugees we help resettle each year.

New Zealand's population of just over four million people is becoming more ethnically and religiously diverse from a strong bicultural base.⁴ For example, the number of New Zealanders identifying as Asian ethnicity increased by 49 percent between 2001 and 2006 (to 354,500), while those identifying as Pacific peoples increased by 15 percent (to 266,000). Over the same period, the number of New Zealanders identifying with Islam increased by 53 percent (to 36,100), Hinduism by 62 percent (to 64,400), and the Sikh religion by 83 percent (to 9,500).

² Jorge Sampaio (2009). *The Road from Madrid to Istanbul and Beyond*.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Figure from Census 2006. The estimated New Zealand population as at 24 March 2010 is 4.36 million people.

As is the trend in other countries, New Zealand's population is projected to become even more diverse in the future. In 2026, the number of New Zealanders identifying as Asian is projected to increase from 400,000 to 790,000.⁵ Similarly, in 2026 the number of New Zealanders identifying as Pacific is projected to increase from 300,000 to 480,000. This increasing diversity highlights the importance of continuing intercultural dialogue, and ensuring that people are able to participate in New Zealand economically, culturally and socially.

New Zealand's location within the Asia-Pacific region is significant. This region is home to many of the world's major cultures, civilisations and faiths. For the most part, in the 21st century, we live alongside each other in our wider neighbourhood with mutual respect for our various beliefs, cultures and differences, but at times we experience misunderstanding and discord. As we seek to build trust and understanding between different cultural and religious communities within our region, we also need to be attentive to developments in and between our own communities within New Zealand.

New Zealand attaches considerable importance to playing an active role in the emerging regional architecture of the region including the East Asia Summit (EAS), Asia Regional Forum (ARF) and our Dialogue relationship with ASEAN. Enhanced interdependence economically and otherwise will be a powerful force for social cohesion over the longer term. New Zealand is strongly committed to working with our partners in the region to realise the vision of an East Asia Community.

The Asia-Pacific region is also important to New Zealand economically. New Zealand is a member of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) grouping of 21 economies. Trade with countries in the region has taken on renewed significance with the signing of Free Trade Agreements with China, Hong Kong, Malaysia⁶, Singapore, Brunei, Chile and Thailand. New Zealand is also a member of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area, bringing the CER⁷ and ASEAN countries into a single trading bloc. Negotiation is also underway of FTAs with Korea and India and a proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement with the United States, Australia, Brunei, Chile, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. These agreements provide mechanisms for the expansions of trade in goods and services, and investment between parties, and have been welcomed by our business community. With these economic opportunities come the opportunities for people-to-people contact and building of greater understanding between different cultures, religions and beliefs.

To advance the goals of the AoC, local and central government agencies, non-government organisations, and community groups need to work together and with wider New Zealand society. These organisations and groups play important roles in facilitating and maintaining positive connections between communities.

Overall goals of the Alliance of Civilisations

The overall goal of the Alliance is to improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and people across cultures and religions and, in the process, to help counter the force that fuel polarisation and extremism.

⁵ New Zealand Statistics (2008). *National Ethnic Projections: 2006 (base) to 2026*.
http://www.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/population/estimates_and_projections/NationalEthnicPopulationProjections_HOTP06-26.aspx

⁶ Signed but not yet in force

⁷ Closer Economic Relations – trade and economic arrangements between Australia and New Zealand.

The 2006 AoC High-Level Report identified four areas that play an important role to reduce cross-cultural tensions and build bridges between communities. These areas are: Education, Youth, Media, and Migration. New Zealand's Plan of Action is based on these four themes.

Key Objectives for New Zealand

The AoC provides New Zealand with an opportunity to partake in dialogue and action on improving relations across cultures and religions that meet our needs and objectives. New Zealand's Plan of Action is based on the following objectives:

- i. support the goals of the AoC, including building, where appropriate, on the activities that formed the first Plan of Action;
- ii. implement activities in New Zealand to maintain New Zealand's social harmony, and ensure minimisation of the impact of adverse international events, including economic events;
- iii. continue to work with partners in our region on practical projects that further the goals of the AoC, and that promote peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific;
- iv. continue to work closely with the AoC Secretariat, including participation in the Group of Friends, to advance the AoC initiative globally.

The New Zealand Plan of Action connects the domestic, regional and international activities that New Zealand is undertaking or participating in to achieve the objectives of the Alliance. The New Zealand Plan of Action highlights initiatives that:

- promote understanding between diverse communities through connecting people and organisations, and through encouraging civic, social, and economic participation
- reduce polarisation between communities through joint pursuits and partnerships (including between Government and civil society) that help give impetus to innovative projects
- minimise the impact of adverse social, cultural and economic events on New Zealand's social harmony
- build respect and understanding among cultures and empower voices of moderation and reconciliation that help calm cultural and religious tensions between nations and peoples
- provide access to information and resource materials drawn from successful cooperative initiatives, which could be used by other institutions, organisations and individuals.

Structural framework

In 2009, the coordination of domestic-related initiatives, including drafting New Zealand's second Plan of Action, was transferred to the Office of Ethnic Affairs. The domestic focal point role was previously held by the Ministry of Social Development, but due to the compatibilities between the work of the Office and the AoC objectives, this responsibility has been shifted.

New Zealand's regional and international contributions will continue to be led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Overall co-ordination of the Plan will be undertaken by the Office of Ethnic Affairs. For each initiative within the Plan, the lead agency is stated.

The review of the first Plan of Action was carried out in 2009. The purpose of the review was to seek an update on the initiatives in the first plan of Action and to determine next steps. The review did not involve evaluating initiatives, as each has their own separate and specific reporting and evaluation criteria.

Each lead agency was asked to provide an update of their respective initiative and on any future steps related to the initiative.

PART 2: PLAN OF ACTION – MAY 2010 TO NOVEMBER 2011

New Zealand's first Plan of Action contained three overarching domestic projects, which covered many initiatives, and seven specific projects that focus on particular goals of the AoC. The first plan also described 13 activities in the Asia-Pacific region that fall within the AoC framework, and New Zealand's activities in the international context.

Update on overarching activities

Activity	Description	Agencies
New Zealand Settlement Strategy	<p>The New Zealand Settlement Strategy (the Strategy) is a whole-of-government framework to achieve agreed settlement outcomes for migrants, refugees and their families. A key focus for the Strategy is to assist migrants to settle quickly and contribute to the economy. The Strategy coordinates central and local government agencies, NGOs and community groups to achieve its seven objectives.⁸</p> <p>The Strategy and its Settlement National Action Plan (SNAP) have been in operation since 2007. As the majority of the actions have been completed, a refresh of the SNAP is under consideration. This refresh will be aligned to the Government and Department's goals for economic growth.</p> <p>Two regional Settlement strategies – the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy and the Wellington Regional Settlement Strategy, and their respective Action Plans provide regional responsiveness in</p>	Department of Labour

⁸ The Strategy's objectives are that newcomers to New Zealand can: feel welcomed, accepted, and respected ; obtain employment appropriate to their skills; be supported to confidently communicate in English; access appropriate information and responsive services; maintain their cultural identities; feel safe; accept, respect, and contribute to the New Zealand way of life. Department of Labour, *Our Future Together: New Zealand Settlement Strategy*, 2004. Retrieved from: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/NR/rdonlyres/F2D460BA-8A84-4073-8A12-84C2BE0B1BB8/0/Strategy.pdf>.

	<p>support of the SNAP.</p> <p><i>Auckland Settlement Action Plan</i></p> <p>The implementation of the second phase of the Auckland Settlement Action Plan includes the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework to inform the ongoing refinement of the strategy's development, implementation and its Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Wellington Regional Settlement Strategy</i></p> <p>The Plan of Action for the Wellington Regional Settlement Strategy (WRSS) has achieved a majority of its milestones. Considerable progress has been made on the Wellington Regional Strategy and its Action Plan's monitoring and evaluation framework. The framework shares a similar purpose to the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy and its Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Settlement Support New Zealand (SSNZ)</i></p> <p>A national support network set up to direct newcomers and their families to services they might need during their first years in New Zealand. SSNZ is delivered in 19 locations around the country. The SSNZ services are provided through a collaborative approach involving central government (through the Department of Labour), local authorities and non-government organisations, as appropriate to each location.</p>	
Connecting Diverse Communities	<p>The Connecting Diverse Communities initiative was a cross-government framework lead jointly by the Office of Ethnic Affairs and the Ministry of Social Development. This programme encompassed more</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Development/Office of Ethnic Affairs</p>

	than 70 separate initiatives. The initiatives within the framework continue to be implemented, and are part of the business as usual activities of agencies.	
New Zealand Diversity Action Programme	<p>The New Zealand Diversity Action Programme is an initiative facilitated by the Human Rights Commission. The programme involves a range of activities, including the annual New Zealand Diversity Forum and four electronic information networks on media and diversity, religious diversity, refugee issues and language diversity. In 2009, 250 organisations registered 661 diversity projects with the programme. The Forum in 2009 involved participants from central and local government, civil society, community groups and youth. The plenary session of the 2009 Forum addressed the status of New Zealand's rapidly growing Asian communities.</p> <p>The 2010 Diversity Forum will be held in Christchurch in August and will be organised with a range of New Zealand Diversity Action Programme partners. It will include a national youth forum and a workshop on the media and religious diversity. There will be up to 40 other community forums and events, and professional group and specific topic forums. A reception and the national diversity awards will also be held.</p>	Human Rights Commission

Update on specific activities

Activity	Description	Agencies
Economic Development	The Office of Ethnic Affairs is undertaking activities to maximise the talents, skills and connections of New Zealand's ethnic communities to grow our	Office of Ethnic Affairs

	<p>economy. Economic development and participation is a key part of building a harmonious society.</p> <p>Among the activities in 2010 to further this objective was the ASEAN Business Leaders' Forum. This Forum brought together New Zealand mainstream and ASEAN-linked businesses to identify practical solutions to maximise trade opportunities within the ASEAN region.</p> <p>Other activities include building the capacity of ethnic businesses to navigate the New Zealand business regulatory and legislative system, so they can fully participate in New Zealand's economic development.</p>	
Building Bridges	<p>Building Bridges is a strategic programme that seeks to address issues faced by New Zealand's Muslim communities. Building Bridges aims to increase civic participation and foster leadership among the Muslim communities, and build positive relationships between Muslim and non-Muslim communities. This programme is now five years old.</p> <p>The Office of Ethnic Affairs, with the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand, has expanded the Building Bridges programme to address economic development within the Muslim communities. This includes harnessing the international linkages that Muslim communities have with countries in the Asia-Pacific region (and beyond), and tapping into the ever growing halal consumer market.</p>	Office of Ethnic Affairs
Settling In	<p>Settling In was established in 2004 and is a community development programme that works directly with refugees and migrants to identify their social service needs and develop and deliver appropriate social services. The programme currently operates in fourteen locations around New Zealand.</p>	MSD

	<p>Under the Settling In programme, refugee and migrant communities themselves identify the social services that are needed. Settling In field staff work with the communities to help them find solutions to their own needs, and act as an intermediary between these communities and the host community.</p> <p>Settling In also provides small grants to enable refugee and migrant communities to address needs. Examples of the varied use of this funding for addressing social issues include grants for workshops on parenting within the New Zealand context for different migrant and refugee communities; different initiatives supporting youth in the community; initiatives that work to address issues of isolation and increase participation with older people within communities; mothers with toddlers; work to prevent family violence; and work with organisations to develop and deliver leadership forums for women and youth.</p> <p>The 2009 evaluation of the Settling In programme shows that it is contributing to a range of outcomes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social connectivity; • enhanced host community relationships; • confidence among communities; • refugee and migrants meeting their own needs; • improved health and wellbeing; • improved service delivery from government agencies; and • settled family lives. 	
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	<p>The 2009 evaluation can be accessed online at: http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/documents/working-with-us/programmes-services/connected-services/settling-in-evaluation-report.pdf</p>	
Refugee Resettlement	<p>The Government provides pre- and post-arrival support for around 750 UNCHR⁹ mandated refugees. This includes an induction programme provided at Mangere Reception Centre in Auckland and funding for Refugees Services Aotearoa New Zealand to deliver support services.</p> <p>Refugee community engagement is supported by Government through the funding of Strengthening Refugee Voices (SRV) initiatives in four cities: Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington and Christchurch. These four initiatives are aimed at providing opportunities for refugees to participate in their communities.</p> <p>The Department of Labour continues to support refugees' resettlement. All SRV initiatives have now consolidated their regional presence, and have fully established community and stakeholder engagement mechanisms in their regional areas.</p>	Department of Labour
Family and Community Services	<p>Families and Community Services (FACS) is a service line of the Ministry of Social development that funds social work and counseling for all UNHCR quota refugees on their arrival in New Zealand.</p> <p>FACS also funds a range of social services, some of which are ethnic or culturally specific as well we work</p>	Ministry of Social Development

⁹ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

	with mainstream agencies to ensure their responsiveness to the diversity now happening in New Zealand cities.	
Intercultural Awareness and Communication programme	The Office of Ethnic Affairs continues to deliver its Intercultural Awareness and Communication training programme. This programme is designed to up-skill participants, so that they may establish effective communication and relationships across cultures in the workplace and achieve positive workplace outcomes. This programme is part of a broader strategy to provide organisations, employers, and other stakeholders with resources and tools on diversity management. A particular focus for this programme for 2010 is on intercultural awareness in the health sector, as part of the Office's work toward equity of access for ethnic communities to services.	Office of Ethnic Affairs
Media literacy initiatives	<p><i>Review of the role of the Broadcasting Standards Authority (Ministry of Culture and Heritage)</i></p> <p>A review of the role of the Broadcasting Standards Authority is intended. This review will consider, among other things, the BSA's role regarding media literacy.</p> <p><i>New Zealand on Air conference – 'Scene and Heard' (Office of Ethnic Affairs)</i></p> <p>In June 2009, the Office of Ethnic Affairs, with New Zealand on Air, held the forum: 'Screen and Heard: New Zealand Broadcast Audiences in 2020'. The purpose of this forum was to explore how New Zealand's changing demography would be served and reflected in broadcasting media in the years ahead. The forum was opened by the Minister for Ethnic Affairs, and attended by ethnic and non-ethnic</p>	Ministry of Culture and Heritage Office of Ethnic Affairs

	<p>broadcasters, key decision-makers and media practitioners. Speakers and panellists spoke about the role that broadcast media plays in shaping society, and the importance of broadcast media to reflect society's changing demographics.</p> <p><i>Ethnic Media Networks (Office of Ethnic Affairs)</i></p> <p>The Office of Ethnic Affairs is undertaking further work on connecting ethnic media to ethnic communities and non-ethnic media. The Office also hosts forums designed to improve the media literacy of ethnic communities, for instance providing information on the Broadcasting Standards Authority. This work also involves connecting non-ethnic media with ethnic communities, which contributes to increasing understanding of the particular issues faced by each party when reporting about ethnic communities.</p>	
<p>Strengthen the focus of education at school levels on faith, religions and cultures</p>	<p>The New Zealand school curriculum gives schools the direction for teaching and learning. The curriculum is not a detailed plan rather it is a framework for schools to develop their own curriculum and teaching programmes from it. Resources for educators are provided by private organisations and by the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>A particular resource relevant to the objectives of the Alliance is <i>Being Part of Global Communities</i>. This resource examines the social sciences concept of being part of global communities and globalisation. The resource highlights the importance of understanding that today's world is interconnected and that New Zealand students participate in an internationalised community.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education</p>

Establishment Funding for the New Zealand Centre for the Study of Islam and Muslim Cultures	<p>Two New Zealand universities have recently launched a partnership to develop opportunities to study Islam at tertiary level and promote and develop expertise in Islamic Studies. In 2008, Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Otago were granted NZ\$364,871 by the New Zealand Government to establish the National Centre for Islamic Studies.</p> <p>In August 2009 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both universities to co-host the National Centre for Islamic Studies and begin awareness-raising and capacity building for the Centre. This has involved the facilitation of international donor assistance.</p> <p>A Bachelor of Arts majoring in Islamic studies is to be offered by the University of Otago in 2010. A postgraduate degree structure in Islamic studies is being explored by both parties. This body of work will raise the level of awareness and interest in the study of Islam in New Zealand.</p>	Tertiary Education Commission
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Update on New Zealand's regional contributions (Asia-Pacific)

Activity	Description	Agencies
Asia-Pacific Regional Interfaith Dialogue	<p>New Zealand is a co-sponsor of the Asia-Pacific Regional Interfaith Dialogue. The Dialogue brings together representatives of the major faith and community groups of 15 countries in the South East Asian and South Pacific region. The purpose of the dialogue is to promote trust and understanding among faith communities.</p> <p>The fifth dialogue in Perth focused on 'Future Faith</p>	MFAT

	<p>Leaders'. New Zealand's multi-faith delegation was led by the Minister for Ethnic Affairs who delivered a speech about media stereotyping of faith communities. The fifth dialogue resulted in the Perth Declaration, which has 14 recommendations. These recommendations urge communities to take action in the areas of leadership development, media interaction, and youth engagement. Government is also urged to support the dialogue process and to provide support to communities to achieve the recommendations. New Zealand will report progress on the Declaration's recommendations at the sixth regional interfaith dialogue.</p> <p>The New Zealand multi-faith delegation plans to focus on assisting the implementation in New Zealand of five of the recommendations from the Perth Declaration, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the development of an interfaith environmental project; • a leadership development project for future interfaith leaders; • a teachers' workshops to promote and develop curriculum resources on religious diversity; • a workshop for faith leaders and media on religious diversity and the media; and • foster the inclusion of women's voices in the interfaith community. <p>The delegation presented its recommendations at the 2010 National Interfaith Forum, an annual Forum organised by interfaith councils in New Zealand.</p>	
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Muslim youth leaders' exchange	New Zealand hosts Muslim youth leaders from the region on an educational programme to help promote inter-religious and inter-cultural understanding. Youth leaders are able to exchange views and interact with New Zealand's Muslim communities, politicians, academics, officials, community leaders and organisations involved with interfaith dialogue, multiculturalism, youth affairs and ethnic affairs.	MFAT
Scholarships	Scholarships are awarded in areas agreed, wherever possible, with partner governments. For example, a key priority sector for Indonesian scholarships is peace – this includes scholarships for study in areas that promote cultural tolerance and interfaith dialogue.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, with national governments in Asia and the Pacific
Academic exchange	The programme supports institutional linkages and academic exchanges in the region, including interfaith focused activities and religious studies scholars.	MFAT
East Asia Regional Media Programme	<p>The forum brings together journalists from the East Asia Summit region with the aim of enhancing their understanding of critical international issues, particularly where politics and religion intersect.</p> <p>The inaugural Programme was co-sponsored by the European Union and Norway and was held in 2008 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The meeting involved senior journalists from across the region who report on culturally-sensitive issues, including conflict and terrorism. A second Programme was run with sponsorship from the European Union in March 2010, also in Jakarta. The Regional Media Programme is strongly supported by the Indonesian Government and the Indonesian Press Council.</p>	MFAT with co-sponsors

Youth exchanges	<p>The Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) focuses its limited resources on priority youth exchanges (such as the Ship for World Youth exchange programme).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ship for World Youth exchange programme (MYD, sponsored by the Japanese Government)</i> <p>Young people (aged between 18-30 years) apply for placement on the exchange programme. The aim of the programme is to broaden the perspectives of participants. Youth from Japan and around the world live on a ship for 42 days and participate in activities such as workshops, seminars and sports.</p> <p>From 11 to 14 February 2009, the Ship for World Youth programme made a Port of Call visit to Auckland. Participants consisted of 112 young people from Japan and 156 young people from 13 other countries.</p> <p>MYD worked with the Japanese Government to provide event and programme management for the Port of Call visit.</p>	Ministry of Youth Development
Annual graduate media scholarship	<p>MFAT has offered five media scholarships to young New Zealand journalists to intern at a media outlet in Southeast Asia for 4-5 weeks. The aim of the scholarship is to enhance New Zealand media knowledge of Southeast Asia particularly in relation to security issues.</p>	MFAT with Asia New Zealand Foundation support
Regional inter-cultural educational resources	<p>MFAT has developed a regional intercultural education resource called 'Know Your Neighbours'. The resource contains teaching and learning materials that help students to appreciate the commonalities and points of difference between their own and other cultures and faiths across Southeast Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. The resource is intended for use with young</p>	MFAT

	people (aged 13 to 18 years) and is currently being promoted in the region.	
Cross-cultural educational initiatives	<p>Support selected regional or bi-lateral cross-cultural educational initiatives in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supporting curriculum development in countries of the region</i> (MFAT/MoE) <p>Support regional or bilateral discussion that focuses on the inclusion of material on cross-cultural, 'civics' and human rights issues within national education curricula, to support inclusive education systems that are well-grounded in principles of good citizenship.</p>	Ministry of Education

Other updates

Activity	Description	Agencies
Alliance of Civilisations Group of Friends	New Zealand was an early member of this group and continues to attend and contribute to the Group's meetings. New Zealand co-sponsored the 2009 General Assembly Resolution on the Alliance of Civilisations.	N/A
Alliance of Civilisations Trust Fund	New Zealand made some early contributions to the Alliance's Trust Fund for projects in South East Asia. While no grants have been made to the Alliance's Trust Fund over the last two years, agencies (including MFAT through the Asia Security Fund) continue to support and pursue activities domestically and in our region that help implement the objectives of the AoC.	N/A
Alliance of Civilisations Rapid Response Media Mechanisms to Address Cross-Cultural Tensions	Undertake further work on how best to contribute to the Alliance's Rapid Response Media Mechanisms (RRMM) to address cross-cultural tensions. This work includes exploring nominations for a prominent person involved in cross-cultural issues, an author for	OEA

	<p>op-ed pieces and assisting in distribution of media material.</p> <p>Other work includes promoting the RRMM at media forums organised by OEA for faith leaders and media. Information on the RRMM was provided at the East Asia Regional Media Programme, in March 2010.</p>	
Alliance of Civilisations Clearinghouse (MFAT)	<p>New Zealand will consider what information it can contribute to the AoC on best practices and initiatives underway domestically.</p> <p>New Zealand plans to put links to the 'Know Your Neighbours' resource and the East Asia Regional Media Programme (both 2008 and 2010) on the AOC's Education Clearinghouse. .</p> <p>New Zealand is also considering contributing information to the newly established Online Community on Integration and Migration.</p>	OEA

PART 3 – LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEVANT TO NEW ZEALAND’S INITIATIVES

www.unaoc.org – the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations – for all Alliance documents, the original AoC Report, and the AoC Secretariat's Implementation Plans.

www.mfat.govt.nz – the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade – for New Zealand’s first National Plan of Action, and further information on New Zealand’s role in the Alliance of Civilisations, the Asia-Pacific, and activities lead by the Ministry.

www.oea.govt.nz – the Office of Ethnic Affairs – for further information on the Building Bridges programme, the Intercultural Awareness and Communication programme, media literacy activities, and New Zealand's ethnic communities.

www.msd.govt.nz – the Ministry of Social Development – for further information on youth activities (Ministry of Youth Development), and the Settling In programme with migrants and refugees.

www.dol.govt.nz – the Department of Labour – for further information on the New Zealand Settlement Strategy, Refugee Resettlement, and other initiatives for migrants and refugees.

www.minedu.govt.nz – the Ministry of Education – for further information on the New Zealand Curriculum and education system, and resources for educators.

www.hrc.co.nz/diversity – the Human Rights Commission – for further information the New Zealand Diversity Action Plan.