

IFOR/WPP Africa Desk
Network Writing Forum 2009
26th – 27th October 2009
Nairobi, Kenya

The Africa Desk of IFOR's Women Peacemakers Program (WPP) just concluded a 2-day Network Writing Forum, in line with its goal of documenting and disseminating information of the work of African women peacemakers. This forum served as a platform for the women to write and compile their compelling stories.

The event, held in Nairobi, Kenya from the 26th to the 27th of October 2009 brought together 55 participants representing 22 African countries. The forum was co-facilitated by *Philomena Ikonya*, President of the PEN Kenya Centre and *Dr. Lilian Kaviti*, Lecturer at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

African women peacemakers were guided in the writing of their own stories (on challenges, experiences and lessons learnt), especially as regards the role of WPP in empowering them.

The Writing Forum resulted in:

- A Deepened understanding of the role of daily documentation in effective peacebuilding
- A Developed database of the experiences and feats of WPP alumni



A cross section of participants at the Network Writing Forum organized in Nairobi, Kenya from the 26th to the 27th of October 2009

The best outcome yet of the forum is the compilation of the stories of African women peacemakers to be published shortly in English and French versions. For the vast majority of these women, it is the very first time that their stories are seeing the light of day. It is our hope that the resultant compilation would serve as a guide and source of motivation for all women.