

## Report of Multi-Stakeholder Forums held in Region Two

This report has two parts

- **Part One** (pages 1-11) comprises a summary of the 17 conversations held at the community level between March 11<sup>th</sup> 2006 and April 16<sup>th</sup> 2006.
- **Part Two** (pages 12-22) is a summary of the outcomes of the Regional Conference held on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 for Region 6 as well as the points raised at the community level

The information in this report is based on the information discussed at the community and regional conversations. The information has not been verified through any research or follow up enquiries.

### INTRODUCTION

Each of the ten Administrative Regions of Guyana participated in an exercise that was labelled the "Multi-Stakeholder Forum". Generally, every Region was expected to conduct a prescribed number of sessions under the guidance of at least two facilitators, per session. The specific objective of the activity was "To create a safe space for Guyanese to agree on strategies for overcoming ethnic and other differences and to focus on how best they can contribute to the development of their community and country.

This report focuses on the conversations that were conducted in 15 of the 17 local points of Region #2 Pomeroon-Supenaam. These took place in various geographical areas within the Administrative base. Herein is the participants' perspective of the positives as well as the areas of concern. There are statements in relation to their vision of Guyana, areas of conflict and the possibility of the escalation of these concerns, and recommendations for an improvement in those areas. However, in some cases no recommendation was made. It would also appear that there is no potential for conflict as it relates to the category **Law and Order**.

According to the reports, the first conversation was held on March 11 and the last on April 15, 2006. One conversation was postponed because only two persons attended, whereas twenty-eight were expected. Two reports are still to be submitted.

The information in relation to attendance gave scope for interesting analyses.

<b>Total Number of Consultations Planned</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total Number of Participants</b>	<b>356</b>

### Summary Table of Participation

Area	Venue	Date	Attendance
Huist T'Dieren - Essequibo	Huist T'Dieren	March 11, 2006	30
Charity	Charity Secondary School	March 23, 2006	12
Hackney, Pomeroun	Hackney Primary School	March 23, 2006	55
Anna Regina Municipality	Anna Regina Multilateral Centre	March 25, 2006	09
Siriki	Siriki Primary School	March 25, 2006	35
Anna Regina	Hampton Court	March 26, 2006	09
Anna Regina	C.V. Nunes Primary School	March 29, 2006	23
Johanna Cecilia	Johanna Cecilia Primary School	March 30, 2006	25
Sparta	Sparta Fisherman	April 2, 2006	27
Mainstay	Mainstay Multipurpose Centre	April 8, 2006	28
Henrietta, Essequibo	Taymouth Manor Primary School	April 8, 2006	05
Lower Pomeroun River	Marlboro Primary	April 13, 2006	27
Wakapao - Amerindian Community	Wakapao Primary School	April 15, 2006	23.
St. Monica's Mission - Amerindian Community	Village Hall	April 15, 2006	25
Kabakaburi Mission - Pomeroun River, Amerindian Community.	Kabakaburi Meeting Benab	April 15, 2006	23

#### 1. What does Region Two celebrate as positives in Guyana?

Nine of the fifteen conversations stated some positive features that were obvious in their Region. Four said that there was nothing that they could have identified and two regarded the "conversation as a stepping stone for more conversations where they could air their voices".

A small section of the conversations described Guyana as a relatively peaceful country; blessed not only with many resources, cultures and religions, but there was racial and religious tolerance as well. There seems to be a re-emergence of traditional values. There is the introduction of specific periods during which the culture of a particular ethnic group is emphasized, for example the Amerindian Heritage Month.

Some contributions pointed to improvements in the provision of school, drainage, roads, health, housing, water facilities, and electricity, as well as in the field of sports and tourism. It was too noted that some members of staff, for example, schoolteachers and health workers, were recruited from the community. They lauded the NDC for the work that they did in relation to drainage and irrigation in areas such as Columbia, Queenstown, Affiance, Henrietta and Anna Regina.

According to the greatest proportion of the contributions Guyanese are a hardworking and tolerant people. They do not create too much fuss over problems, they cooperate in times of disaster and at times of pleasure; the various ethnic groups celebrate each other's religious and cultural events - working and socializing together. There is no segregation. Religious tolerance, freedom of movement and speech are obvious. Guyanese show eagerness to unite and work for the development of Guyana. Residents of Region Two enjoy safety and security "we look out for each other".

## **2. What are Region Two's Elements of a vision for Guyana**

This sub-section would highlight the area that was focused on and offer statements in relation to their perspectives but basically they all point to anticipated national growth and development.

### **2.1 Access to Opportunities and Resources**

People see a Guyana where job opportunities are available for all Guyanese in all the Regions in order to minimize the poverty level. They see a branch of the University in Region 2, contributing to skills training for everyone. Computers should be accessible to all. Specifically there should be motivational support and equal educational opportunities for Amerindians. Besides this, spouses should not be made to work away from home (village or Region) for prolonged periods.

### **2.2 Economy/Markets**

People see the exploitation of natural resources only in so far as it relates to the development of human resources. Communities tap into natural resources e.g. making greater use of the bamboo. Small farmers receive a better market for their produce. Workers receive improved wages and salaries. Additionally, less foreign and more domestic investment is flowing in and more regulations are put in place to regulate foreign investment. The wealth of Guyana should be explored and available for everyone to enjoy. Tourism should also be well developed. This should result in the Guyana dollar becoming as strong as the US dollar, thus helping to realize an improved standard of living.

### **2.3 Equity**

The distribution of house lots would be done in a transparent manner and in sufficient quantities. Leaders of Guyana seek the interest of the poor and not just the rich, so equal opportunities would be available to all Guyanese; resulting in equal and fair development for all the communities, particularly on the coast.

### **2.4 Governance/Democracy**

People hope that in future all political parties collaborate, thus encouraging political stability. The elected Government does its best for all Guyanese and Government officials pay frequent visits to the communities. Public service officials (police, health) respond speedily; and all

Guyanese enjoy the democratic right to which they are entitled, whether or not they have migrated.

### **2.5 Infrastructure**

In relation to this aspect of the vision, a few statements were specific to the local situation. There is the dream to have improved housing, water supply, telecommunication, and drainage and irrigation, but generally, the roads should be built in such a manner as to cause all Guyana to be accessible. Garbage disposal should be better managed.

### **2.6 Law and Order**

There is the hope for a crime-free Guyana; a Guyana where institutions ensure that the constitution functions effectively and justice is enforced. The Government would re-visit laws especially those dealing with land and property.

### **2.7 Morals/Values**

People desire to live in a country, which has high moral/spiritual standards, where honest work is valued and there is love and respect for one another, particularly senior citizens. They want to live in unity and help each other. They want their political party leaders to look to God, work constantly and consistently for a better Guyana, and therefore serve as better examples and guides to younger ones.

### **2.8 Social Inclusion/Cohesion**

There should be the demonstration of honesty, peace, love, and unity among all races, as they live with respect for one another. All races should unite and work for the good of Guyana. Guyanese have changed their perception of and attitude toward each other as they live in a country that recognizes the worth of all, particularly the indigenous people of Guyana. Everybody should have access to equal opportunities for all Guyanese. They want to live in a Guyana that is free from fear; corruption; discrimination and political victimization. They want everyone to have a job.

### **2.9 Social Issues**

The concerns were in connection with improved NIS benefits for the ageing, recreational facilities particularly for the young. There should also be schools, which are well developed; reduced illiteracy rates; secondary schools in riverain areas; better educational facilities for rural areas; sporting facilities throughout the country; and in community centres. All community entities such as hospitals, and schools should be fully equipped.

### **2.10 Health**

A cure should be found for HIV/AIDS. The level of absenteeism in the health sector, particularly, should be reduced. Medical and adequate supplies must be made available and properly dispensed.

## Summary Table of Issues

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>28</b>		
<b>Electricity and Water</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Absence</li> <li>- Costly</li> <li>- Unfair estimation (<i>False accusation of tampering with meters by GPL and GWI</i>)</li> </ul>	4	Anna Regina, Henrietta, Hampton Court, Hackney	The community must be willing to undertake some form of self-help.
<b>Electricity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High cost</li> <li>- Purchasing of poles and wires from GPL, then transferring ownership to GPL.</li> <li>- Consumers accused of meter tampering.</li> <li>- Lack of, or poor street lighting.</li> </ul>	7	Anna Regina, Huist T'Dieren Hampton Court, Sparta, Henrietta, Charity, Hackney	Government should provide financial support to residents to facilitate them having electricity in their homes.
<b>Water</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None or unreliable water supply; and</li> <li>- Inadequate water facilities.</li> <li>- No proper well in Hill Top in Mainstay.</li> <li>- Irregular and poor quality water being used for domestic purposes</li> </ul>	8	Hampton Court, Anna Regina, Sparta, Henrietta, Johanna Cecilia Huist T' Dieren, Mainstay, Hackney	GWI must place pipeline on Lima sea dam road shoulder.
<b>Drainage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poor drainage</li> <li>- Culvert between Lima/La Belle Alliance needs attention.</li> <li>- Collapsing sea dam.</li> <li>- Flooding</li> <li>- Overtopping</li> </ul>	6	<i>C.V.Nunes Primary, Anna Regina, Sparta, Johanna Cecilia, Siriki Hackney.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- De-silt all trenches and canals;</li> <li>- reopen [<i>Unclear which one</i>] sluice, and clear the canals of reeds.</li> <li>- Build more sluices and kokers.</li> <li>- Local authority should re-dig Lima connecting drain.</li> <li>- Seek urgent attention from Drainage and Sea Defence Boards.</li> <li>- D&amp; I Boards must re-install water gauges. Government should drop the level of the water to 18 inches</li> </ul>

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
			below the current level in order to prevent flooding.
<p><i>Telecommunication.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Absence of land line phones.</li> </ul>	3	<p><i>Sparta</i> <i>Henrietta, Hackney</i></p>	There should be the extension of the telephone system.
Unfair allocation/redistribution of house lots.	4	Siriki, Anna Regina, Hackney, Marlboro.	Revise and adhere to the procedures used to issue land titles.
<p><b>EDUCATION</b> <b>ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES and RESOURCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education - Tertiary</li> <li>- Lack of textbooks</li> <li>- Drop-outs</li> <li>- Learning space and facilities</li> <li>- Absenteeism</li> <li>- Corporal Punishment</li> <li>- Quality of Teaching staff</li> <li>- Quality of teaching staff</li> <li>- Scholarship</li> <li>- School Curriculum</li> </ul>	13	<p>Hackney Hampton Court, Sparta Mainstay, Johanna Cecilia St. Monica's, Anna Regina Siriki, Wakapao, Marlboro, Pomeroun River. Henrietta Huist T'Dieren Johanna Cecilia</p> <p>Kabakaburi</p> <p>Charity</p> <p>Mainstay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Convert part of Anna Regina Multilateral Centre into a branch of the University of Guyana</li> <li>- The Government should support school children by providing them with text books.</li> <li>- Children should have better job opportunities despite their qualifications.</li> <li>- Add a secondary department to the school to absorb the dropouts and spear the transportation costs to the next available secondary school.</li> <li>- Construct a bigger school with modern amenities to absorb primary and secondary aged children.</li> <li>- Address the Headmistress's absenteeism</li> <li>- School floor should be re-set.</li> <li>- A special commission must appoint school boards.</li> <li>- Stop corporal punishment,</li> <li>- Provide trained teachers and dormitory facilities at Kabakaburi.</li> <li>- Provide financial assistance for the training of teachers.</li> <li>- Scholarships should be offered to children of the community.</li> <li>- Fence school compound.</li> <li>- Parent and church officials should help in promoting</li> </ul>

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
- Parent Participation		Johanna Cecilia Marlboro	good morals, and lobby for Government to offer provision for the gainful involvement of their children.
<b>Education CON'T</b> - Lack of opportunities to educate, irrelevant curriculum - Unsuitable curriculum.	3	Wakapao Huist T'Dieren, Hackney	Provide more teaching staff and relevant curriculum..
<b>ECONOMY/MARKETS</b> - Lack of job opportunities.	12 9	Hackney  Charity St. Monica's Huist T' Dieren, Kabakaburi. Johanna Cecilia, Hampton Court, Anna Regina Henrietta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish a processing factory.</li> <li>- Attract investment by developing information and technological opportunities.</li> <li>- Large scale production of handicraft.</li> <li>- Improve workers' wages and benefits.</li> <li>- ERC to look into the process of job allocation, the Chairman of the ERC must visit Region #2.</li> <li>- Developmental works should be conducted in all areas.</li> </ul>
- Exploitation and Discrimination - Foreign Companies	3	Siriki, Kabakaburi Hackney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of resource persons to assist in educating the community.</li> <li>- Better marketing of produce to encourage farmers.</li> <li>- Reintroduce a logging concession as well as a reforestation programme to address the logging and environment issues.</li> </ul>

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No compensation/consideration for financial losses due to negligence of regional authority.</li> <li>- Unemployment; political discrimination; victimization; contracts given to one group only.</li> </ul>	6	Anna Regina, Huist T'Dieren; Johanna Cecilia, Marlboro Hackney, Wakapao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There should be budgetary allocations for farming implements for large scale farming.</li> <li>- Low interest loans and grants World help.</li> <li>- Create developmental projects to provide jobs for the unemployed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>EQUITY</b></p> <p>Public Administration</p>	4	Huist T'Dieren Anna Regina, Kabakaburi, Hackney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Equal and fair distribution of land.</li> <li>- Impose severe sanctions for default and sloppy work.</li> <li>- Better accountability to central Government by Regional authorities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LAW and ORDER</b></p> <p>Escalating Crime</p> <p>Illicit Drugs</p> <p>Illegal Guns</p> <p>Police Corruption</p> <p>Police Protection</p>	6	<p>Wakapao Henrietta</p> <p>Hackney</p> <p>Anna Regina</p> <p>Anna Regina</p> <p>Anna Regina Johanna Cecilia. Kabakaburi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community police stations are needed.</li> <li>- The Government is supposed to stop crime in Guyana.</li> <li>- The death penalty, cat-o-nine should be implemented in order to curb murders and _robberies.</li> <li>- Enforce the law in relation to sub-standard work.</li> <li>- Penalties for illegal weapons find must be increased.</li> <li>- Enforce laws;</li> <li>- River patrol is needed.</li> <li>- Establish a truth and rights commission.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MORALS/VALUES</b></p>	7	Sparta, Henrietta, Charity, Huist T'Dieren, Marlboro, Anna Regina, Hackney.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practise seeking answers from God.</li> <li>- Parents and church leaders should be mentors and lobbyists in order to boost the outcomes of the education programmes.</li> <li>- Curb the negative trends and issues in the society, for example prostitution, drug sale and addiction..</li> </ul>

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
<b>GOVERNANCE/ DEMOCRACY</b>	<b>10</b>	Huist T'Dieren, Charity; St Monica's, Kabakaburi, Johanna Cecilia, Anna Regina, Sparta, Hackney Marlboro. Siriki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Employ accountable public officers;</li> <li>- Better and more effective local Government managers.</li> <li>- Introduce a regional community complaints desk at the Office; Stamp out corruption from top to bottom . Land reserves must be professionally developed and distributed..</li> <li>- There is need for a Captain in Siriki.</li> </ul>
<b>SOCIAL INCLUSION/COHESION</b>	<b>5</b>	Henrietta,  Mainstay,   Kabakaburi  Hackney  Malboro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Uniting and working together regardless of one's political persuasion.</li> <li>- People in authority must act with fairness and respect for all with whom they come into contact.</li> <li>- Contracts within indigenous communities must be given to residents.</li> <li>- Provision of a comfortable environment for development.</li> <li>- Pay attention to the continuation of elements of their culture.</li> <li>- The 2006 floods - while some communities are neglected others seem to be compensated - The authorities must endeavour to be fair and just.</li> </ul>

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
<b>SOCIAL ISSUES</b>	11	Mainstay, Sparta, Wakapao, Charity Henrietta, Marlboro, Johanna Cecilia Kabakaburi, St Monica's Hackney Huist T'Dieren.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for a Government that looks after the welfare of all citizens;</li> <li>• Removal of child labour;</li> <li>• Health care, health professionals and drugs are needed.; provide better educational facilities;</li> <li>• Make provision for the housing of senior citizens.</li> <li>• Provide multi-purpose training for residents, particularly school dropouts.</li> <li>• There is need too for a health Centre in the Pomeroun .</li> <li>• Work towards greater unity and religious tolerance.</li> <li>• Teach indigenous languages and discuss various aspects of the culture with the children - make this a part of the curriculum.</li> <li>• There is need for more doctors and pharmacists.</li> </ul>
<b>HEALTH</b> - Limited access to health care;. - The storage of vaccines. - Irregular visits by the Doctor. - Poverty.	6	Siriki, Marlboro Wakapao, Huist T'Dieren, St Monica's, Hackney	Provide more teaching staff and relevant curriculum.. Offer health care to every community. Health providers must live in the community.
<b>Access to Opportunities and Resources</b> - Breadwinner working away from and community.	2	Wakapao, Siriki, Henrietta.	Jobs created on the coast would cause the breadwinners to remain in the area and in their homes.
<b>Morals/Values</b> - Involvement in prostitution, drug trafficking as a means of living.	5	Charity, Huist T'Dieren. Wakapao; Siriki, Hackney	The police must become more active in patrols, and the residents more supportive of the policemen's efforts.

Present local conflicts/areas of tension	No. of Commun	Community	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
<p><b><i>Public Administration</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The non-existence of a Captain.</li> <li>- The procedure used to issue land titles - travelling to Georgetown is costly as well as time consuming.</li> <li>- Political and racial victimization.</li> <li>- No compensation from Regional Authorities.</li> <li>- Regional authority deliberately misleading residents in relation to rates and taxes.</li> </ul>	5	Siriki, Marlboro, Anna Regina, Mainstay, Hackney	An unofficial captain could be elected in the interim to regulate their affairs. A cooperative agency could be formed to aid developmental activities. Government officials should pay frequent visits.

## PART TWO

### REPORT OF REGIONAL CONFERENCE REGION #2

DATE	May 18, 2006
VENUE	Lake Mainstay
FACILITATORS/SCRIBES	Pandit Chrishna Persaud, Arlene Dinally, Karen Vansluitman-Corbin, Ms Judy Davson and Ms. Andrea Prescott.
ATTENDANCE	100

#### 1. Key points repeated from the community conversations

Many of the issues that were raised at the local community level were aired again at the regional level. Among those were the following

##### Infrastructure

- There is a need for infrastructural works in relation to the maintenance of playfields and surroundings.
- Government and other agencies to assist in providing facilities for community projects.
- Participants reminded the meeting about the urgent issue of broken water gauges – something they had expected to be solved by now, as this was reported during the local conversations.

##### Poverty and employment

- Fight poverty by creating employment through, for example, the establishment of cottage industries.

##### Education

- The Ministry of Education should ensure a fair and equal distribution of school resources so that students from the far flung areas can access equal opportunities.
- Provide secondary schools with qualified teachers.
- Provide more local scholarships to help our young people, they need them now!
- Teachers of science subjects.
- A University campus in Region 2.
- Security guards at schools in the Pomeroun.
- The implementation of religious practices in schools in Region 2.
- Everyone to be educated as well as to learn a skill.
- Reactivate pre-vocational subjects in schools.

##### Morals and values

- Churches, non-Governmental organizations and welfare officers to work closely with children, youths and young adults so as to bring out morals and to foster a rounded and better generation in the future.

##### Drugs

- The police to help in the monitoring of the sale of **drugs** especially to school aged children.

## **2. Other and new issues**

### **Social Issues including**

- The use of cellular phones while driving or attending a meeting.
- The use of indecent language as the mode of communication, even by some bosses.
- Demanding a proper dress code at public places and institutions. This would reduce the level of temptation to sin.

### **Educational Matters**

- Making scholarships available to students.
- Changing the curriculum to include life skills issues.
- Funds should be made available to every single school for cleaners and sweepers, not only some schools.

### **Infrastructural works**

- Continuous dredging of sand banks in the Essequibo and Pomeroon rivers.
- GWI to provide water per household and water treatment plant.

### **Economy and Markets**

- Government should be more responsive to the needs of private sector development in the region.
- Establishment of a finance development bank.
- Re-visiting the criteria for boat licenses to make travel to Pomeroon cheaper.

### **Law and Order**

- Enforcing penalties on restaurant proprietors for selling drugs, alcohol and cigarettes to under aged purchasers.
- Magistrates should enforce penalties on those who commit crimes related to drugs and drug use.
- Helping the needy to solve land disputes; and travel costs.

Further, participants said that people should look for and highlight positive elements, rather than negatives. People should also try harder to understand, and show some regard for each other's culture, particularly the religious holidays. There should be an element of pride of heritage and a demonstration of integrity at all levels, therefore substandard work and work that is not durable should be rejected.

Political problems should have political solutions. Relevant officials must ensure that help gets to the deserving. Before the meeting concluded the participants nominated the Regional Representatives for the National Conversation.

There was an exchange between an RDC councillor and other participants about better advice to Amerindians on what to produce and the issue of local versus foreign expertise insofar as drainage and sea defences are concerned.

## **3. Residents'/Participants' reaction to Regional Conference**

The Regional conversation gave the residents greater latitude to express themselves. . By and large the

participants adhered to the ground rules, and hoped that similar opportunities would be made available in the near future since talking with each other is a necessary cleaning ploy.

#### 4. Process Issues

- The forum commenced with remarks from the Vice Chairman of the Regional Development Council, followed by remarks from the Chairman of the Ethnic Relations Commission, who encouraged persons to create the environment for national development, by promoting unity and political stability.
- Facilitators explained the objectives of the exercise, the ground rules and agenda. They also and explained how the summary regional reports compiled.
- In keeping with the original objectives of the MSF process, facilitators explained that the conversation sought to achieve the following:
  - i. To create a safe space for Guyanese to agree on strategies for overcoming ethnic and other differences; and
  - ii. To focus on how best Guyanese can contribute to the development of their community and country.
- Three participants presented the summary report (Part 1 of this report) by reading major sections of the report.

Facilitators encouraged participants to break up in smaller groups around topics of their choice. These themes for the small group discussions were

- Education and Access to opportunities
- Social Issues and Drugs and Alcohol
- Infrastructure, Economy and Markets
- Public Administration and Law and Order
- Social Inclusion Cohesion

2. SUMMARY TABLE OF ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON ISSUES AND BY WHOM

KEY ISSUES HIGH LIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/Agency to Assist
<b>Social Issues</b>					
Drugs and alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents need to monitor children more closely</li> <li>We should educate ourselves and our children</li> <li>Form lobby groups Report illegal activities to regional authorities</li> <li>Identify the problems related to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco</li> </ul>	Prevent the sale of liquor to under aged children  Change curriculum to include life-skills features	Liquor restaurant owners, the law enforcement agencies, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforce legislation on the sale of drugs to the under-aged</li> <li>The law-enforcers should cooperate with international agencies and Governments</li> <li>Institution of a law in order to implement punitive measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministries of Home Affairs and Social Security</li> <li>GPF</li> </ul>
Begging and prostitution		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There needs to be more vigilance with respect to begging and prostitution</li> </ul>	Police		
Involvement of parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents need to attend and participate in meetings and they can pool their resources thus causing things to happen</li> </ul>				
Morals and values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everybody must practice better morals and values</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The curriculum must include moral education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Education</li> <li>Religious bodies</li> </ul>		
Leadership in communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate oneself to take on the responsibility of captaincy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selecting a captain whose leadership qualities are recognized by others</li> </ul>			
Cellphones and disrespect for others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considered use of cell phones</li> </ul>				
Affirmation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Praise and reward those who worked successfully.</li> </ul>				

KEY ISSUES HIGH LIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Dress codes	Implement a dress code.	Public places and institutions can demand an adherence to the proper dress.			
Indecent language	Refrain from using indecent language.	Magistrates should enforce greater penalties.	Judiciary		
Recreational facilities	Encourage youth to participate in activities	Provision of facilities, funding, materials for sports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Families</li> </ul>		
Budgeting	Financial planning		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>		
<b>Education</b>					
Adult education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share skills and knowledge with others in the community</li> <li>• Identify persons who can teach and share</li> </ul>				
Services and their funding in schools		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds for sweeping and cleaning should be allocated to every school</li> <li>• Provide adequate security for schools in the Pomeroun</li> </ul>			
Financial assistance to students				Make scholarships and sponsorships available to students	Private Sector
Career guiding		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guide students into careers that will benefit them</li> </ul>			
Health care in schools		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking each school in Pomeroun with a health clinic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RDC</li> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>		
More trained teachers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of secondary education and trained teachers in the Pomeroun</li> <li>• Provide financial assistance for the training of teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry of Education</li> <li>• Individuals can make a contribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational needs</li> <li>• Provision of trained teachers</li> </ul>	Ministry of Education
University campus needed				Provision of a University campus - the infrastructure	Government
School drop outs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programmes for drop-outs and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change the curriculum to include</li> </ul>	NGOs		

KEY ISSUES HIGH LIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
and special education	those who are not academically bent.	life-skills programmes.			
Lack of Textbooks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school children through the provision of text books</li> </ul>	Government		
Parent Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents and church officials should help in promoting good morals and lobby for Government to offer provision for the gainful involvement of children</li> </ul>				
<b>Infrastructure</b>					
Local population excluded from benefiting from contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supply resource personnel.</li> </ul>		Chamber of Commerce.		
Electricity	Community can provide poles to run wires for electricity.				
Development of Bamboo		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of lumber e.g. of Bamboo.</li> <li>Medicine to preserve the bamboo</li> <li>Need facilities to help to produce materials e.g. Green heart</li> </ul>			
Quality control	Projects should be done mainly by skilled, local persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work verification should be done by the qualified and knowledgeable</li> </ul>	Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical works.</li> <li>Seek international</li> </ul>	Internal and external agencies. Govern- ment

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Drainage, Collapsing sea dam, Flooding Overtopping		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment for drainage and irrigation e.g. a hymac.</li> <li>• Culvert between Lima/La Belle Alliance needs attention</li> <li>• De-silt all trenches and canals;</li> <li>• Re-open sluice, and clear the canals of reeds.</li> <li>• Build more sluices and kokers.</li> <li>• Seek urgent assistance in drainage matters</li> </ul>	RDC and Government.  Drainage and Sea Defence Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of sea defences</li> <li>• Continuous dredging of sand banks in the Essequibo and Pomeroon Rivers.</li> <li>• Re-dig Lima connecting drain.</li> <li>• Re-install water gauges</li> <li>• Drop the level of the water to 18 inches below the current level in order to prevent flooding</li> </ul>	Government. Local Authority D&I Boards
Electricity		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High cost</li> <li>• Purchasing of poles and wires from GPL, then transferring ownership to GPL.</li> <li>• Consumers accused of meter tampering.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to the poor street lighting.</li> <li>• Provide financial support to residents to facilitate them having electricity in their homes.</li> </ul>	Government
Water		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None or unreliable water supply; and inadequate water facilities.</li> <li>• No proper well in Hill Top in Mainstay.</li> <li>• Irregular and poor quality water being used for domestic purposes</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place pipeline on Lima sea dam road shoulder.</li> </ul>	GWI
Tele-communication.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of land line phones. There should be the extension of the telephone system.</li> </ul>	
<b>Economy and Markets</b>					
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create job opportunities.</li> <li>• Engage youths in micro-enterprises.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training is needed to improve skills.</li> <li>• Establish a processing factory</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigation into the process of job allocation</li> </ul>	ERC Chairman

KEY ISSUES HIGH LIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Political stability				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political stability.</li> <li>• Participatory governance.</li> </ul>	Local and national Government.
Efficiency	Be a part of the Chamber of Commerce.	Greater response to local efforts.	Government.		
Technical assistance in agriculture and forestry		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical training for production and production capacities in bamboo farming.</li> <li>• Cold storage facilities</li> <li>• Transportation and linkages with markets out of Guyana.</li> <li>• Get involved in organic farming and marketing.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance in seeking markets; international help in marketing products.</li> <li>• Re-introduce a logging concession as well as a reforestation programme to address the logging and environmental issues</li> </ul>	
Investment				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract investment by developing information and technological opportunities</li> </ul>	
Wages				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve workers wages and benefits</li> </ul>	
<b>Health</b>					
Garbage and Hygiene	Disposal of garbage by burying it.	Need garbage dump site and necessary equipment.	NDC RDC Municipality.		
Health education		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce training programmes for nurses, and health care givers as well as</li> <li>• Education programmes for schools within the region.</li> <li>• Visits to schools by Health Officers.</li> </ul>	Ministry of Education Ministry of Health.		
<b>Law and Order</b>					

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Escalating Crime				Community Police Stations needed Death penalty and cat-o-nine should be implemented to curb murders and robberies River patrol is needed	
Illicit Drugs					
Illegal Guns				Penalties for illegal weapons found must be increased	
Police Corruption				Establish a truth and rights commission	
Police Protection					
<b>Morals and Values</b>					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice seeking answers from God</li> <li>Parents and church leaders should be mentors and lobbyists in order to boost the outcomes of the education programmes.</li> </ul>				
<b>Social Inclusion/Cohesion</b>					
Contracts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracts within indigenous communities must be given to residents.</li> </ul>			
Fairness and Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uniting and working together regardless of one's political persuasion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People in authority must act with fairness and respect for all with whom they come into contact</li> </ul>			
Cultural Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pay attention to the continuation of elements of their culture.</li> </ul>				

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<b>Public Administration</b>					
Work performance				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impose severe sanctions for default and sloppy work</li> <li>• Better accountability to Central Government</li> </ul>	RDC
Governance				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ accountable public officers</li> <li>• Better and more effective local Government managers</li> </ul>	
Dealing with complaints				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce a regional community complaints desk at the Office</li> </ul>	
Land reserves				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land reserves must be professionally developed and distributed</li> </ul>	
Need for a Captain in Siriki					

## APPENDIX ONE

**Representatives for the National Conference from Region Two.**

#	Name of Sub-areas		Name of Representatives
1.	Upper Pomeroun	1.	Bonita Williams
		2.	Donard Corrica
2.	Lower Pomeroun	3.	Brian Ally
		4.	Weldon Damon
3.		5.	Darshan Persaud
		6.	Samuel Arjune
4.	Amerindian Communities	7.	Yvonne Pearson
		8.	Earl Thomas
5.	NDCs Charity	9.	Pastor Richard King
6.		10.	Richard Van-Slytman
		11.	
7.	Acerdeen-Zorgenlyqt	12.	Monica David
		13.	Keamwatie Bridgelall
8.	Rlverstown-Annandale	14.	Ruth Ramdin
		15.	Veronica Trotz
9.	Goodhope-Pamona	16.	Showkat Ali
		17.	Althea Woolford