

People's SAARC 2008

18, 19, 20 July, 2008, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Programme Schedule

Dear friends,

Greetings from People's SAARC Programme Committee!

Below please find the Final Programme Schedule for our meeting. This mail is also to appeal to you to take initiative in organising the parallel workshops. As our commitment to principles of diversity and inclusivity, it is decided that no single organisation and / or network will have any exclusive right to one workshop but all of you are requested to work in collaboration with other networks and organisations for the same. You can initiate the process and invite others to be co organisers with you. You are requested to send in your proposals to <jayavelankar@gmail.com> by 7th July with complete contact details. **We will then inform you about other proposals that we have received by 8th July. You then are requested to send in your collaborative proposals by 10th July.** The Programme committee will take the final decision on all the proposals that will be conveyed to you by 12th July. You will notice that there are some changes in workshop topics. We request you to kindly confirm the workshop topic that you want to organise in case you had written to us earlier. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Keeping the overwhelming sentiments of both the Regional Preparatory as well as Regional Steering Group meetings in Colombo that People's SAARC 2008 is not merely a one-off event or any other network meeting but a step towards creating New south Asia, we strongly urge you to kindly keep the following points in mind while organising workshops:

- Please keep in mind we are meeting as People's SAARC in 2008 to not only analyse the situation that prevails all over South Asia but mainly to discuss what resistance is being offered, what alternatives that are being offered and also what new alternatives we want to propose.
- The thrust must be on Future Strategies that will enable us to create the New South Asia that we all so passionately dream of.
- We strongly recommend that you have a moderation process that will stress on the above mentioned principles of resistance, alternatives and Future Strategies so that all the energy that we all will create in our workshops gets channelized into our Declaration and be an integral part of our Call For Action.

A Final Programme Schedule with all the names of organisations and speakers will be sent to you and be made available on our website by 12th July.

In solidarity,
People's SAARC Programme Committee

Date / Session	Time	Theme	Speakers	Organisations taking Responsibility (Informal)	Contact details of Orgs taking responsibility
<u>18th July, 2008 – Day 1</u>					

Morning Session	8.00 am - 10.00 am - 11.00 am	Registration Opening Ceremony Theme Song Welcome Remarks Opening Remarks			
Session 1	11.00 - 1.00pm	Plenary: South Asia Today and the New South Asia we want			
	1.00pm – 2.00pm	Lunch			
Afternoon Session	2.00pm – 5.00pm	Parallel Workshops: Movements, Resistance, Alternatives 1. National security Ideology, Policies & Practices 2. Nuclear Free South Asia 3. Democracy & Governance / People's participation 4. Hegemony Politics & Global War on Terror 5. Nation State & challenges 6. Refugees / IDPs 7. SAARC Convention on Trafficking 8. Regional Alternatives: People's Vision 9. Conflicts, Right to Protection & Transitional Justice 10. Films			
Evening Session	5.30 pm – 7.00 pm	Cultural Programme			
Date / Session	Time	Theme	Speakers		
19th July, 2008 – Day 2	9 am – 10.30 am	Plenary 1: Towards a New South Asia Plenary 2: Towards a New South Asia			
Morning Session	10.45 am – 1.15pm	Parallel Workshops: Movements, Resistance, Alternatives 1. WTO, South Asian Trade and FTAs 2. Livelihood and sovereignty over natural resources 3. Food Sovereignty, agrarian crisis			

		<p>and pro people alternatives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Debt Cancellation 5. Climate Change and ecological justice 6. Caste Discrimination & Social Exclusion 7. Burma 8. Migration : Internal & External 9. Diminishing Democracy & Human Rights 10. Men, Masculinity & Gender based Violence 11. LGBT Rights 12. Films 			
Afternoon Session	2.00 pm - 4.30 pm	<p>Parallel Workshops: Movements, Resistance, Alternatives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Migration and free movement of labour 2. Religious Extremism and communalism 3. Culture in the age of Globalisation 4. Urbanisation 5. Basic Needs - Health 6. Basic Needs - Education 7. Basic Needs – Housing 8. Labour Rights 9. FDI, Finance Capital, Neoliberal Economic Reforms & FTIs 10. Media & Right to Information 11. Films 			
	4.30 pm – 6.00 pm	Plenary : Dialogue with Parliamentarians / Politicians			
	6.00 pm – 7 pm	Cultural Programme			
20th July, 2008 – Day 3					
Morning Session	10.00am 11.00am	Plenary: People’s SAARC Declaration & Call for Action			
	11.00 am.— 12.30 noon	Plenary: Speakers in support of the Declaration from all the South Asian Countries			
	12..30 pm – 1.00 pm	Plenary: Solidarity Messages from Asia, EU & Africa	Walden Bello		

Afternoon Session	1.00pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch and Preparation for mass rally			
	2.00pm - 4.30 pm	Mass Rally & Cultural Pageant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greetings from South Asian Countries • Special Guest 			
	5.00pm --	Vote Of Thanks			