

This year there are four vacant places on the Council of Management, and we have received three valid nominations. The AGM will be asked to approve the appointment of these three candidates to the Council.

Please find below the statements from each of the nominated members.

Susan Edith Branford

I have been chair of War on Want for almost three years. I think War on Want has made big advances during this period, the most important of which has been the appointment of a highly competent and dynamic new Executive Director. One can feel the enthusiasm of the staff when one walks into the office and one can see it in the media, where War on Want's voice is increasingly heard. I would like to be involved for a few more years in this exciting phase of the organisation's development.

To tell you a bit about myself: I am a journalist and spent 12 years in Latin America, mainly Brazil, working at different periods for *The Financial Times*, *The Times* and *The Guardian*. More recently, I have worked as a Latin America analyst for the BBC World Service. I have published seven books, including one on Brazil's landless movement (MST) and, most recently, one on the aerial spraying of powerful herbicides on peasant families in Colombia.

I greatly support War on Want's courage and tenacity in defending an agenda of radical political change. At a time when many NGOs are becoming increasingly cautious, War on Want is sticking to its principles and advocating the far-reaching change that is desperately needed if we are to end global inequalities and injustice. At a time of tumultuous upheaval throughout the world, it is more important than ever that War on Want's voice is heard loud and clear.

Mansoor Mirza

I am delighted to be nominated to serve on War on Want's Council of Management as a Trustee. War on Want has been at the forefront of fighting poverty since its inception and the impact it has had on alleviating poverty around the world is significant.

War on Want achieves its aims through developing international programmes and delivering hard-hitting campaigns highlighting the root causes of poverty and injustice. This approach enables the organisation to build long-term partnerships around the world as well as ensuring the high impact of its work by maintaining a high media profile. Already proving immensely successful, this dual strategy places the organisation in a strong position for the future.

My own background lies in developing independent media in conflict zones and developing states. Working for a number of international organisations such as the ***Institute for War and Peace Reporting*** and the ***British Council***, I have delivered projects in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, the Caucasus, Central Asia and Africa. Typically, these projects have involved training and capacity building of local journalists and civil society organisations, and the development and support of independent local media institutions.

As a Trustee, I would work to ensure War on Want's continued presence at the vanguard of the fight against the root causes of poverty and hope that my regional experience as well as my background can make a significant contribution to the work of the organisation.

Dave Spooner

I've supported War on Want for over 25 years, originally as a War on Want campaign worker based in Manchester in the early 1980s, building links between unions in the UK and the South, and subsequently through my work with unions and labour NGOs in Asia, Africa and the UK.

I now work for *Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing* (WIEGO), the international network of trade unionists, researchers and development professionals working in support of informal economy workers. I am also a Board member of the Global Labour Institute (GLI) and a trustee of the GFTU Educational Trust.

If elected, I will continue to promote War on Want's distinct critical cutting edge in both campaigns and programmes. I support strong relations with trade unions, including the development of alliances with Global Unions and progressive trade union solidarity and development organisations in Europe and North America, and naturally I am strongly supportive of War on Want's work with informal economy workers' organisations.