A full day-advanced level pre-conference workshop on

THERAPEUTIC PROCESS AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF TRAUMA

Convenor and Co-facilitator: Dr Jeannie Higgins.

Co-facilitator: Dr Kathy Steele

Co-facilitator: Dr Onno van der Hart

Co-facilitator: Dr Karen Zelas.

Specific trauma interventions only explain a tiny proportion of the variance in outcome studies and are generally conducted on highly selected populations. Severely distressed people often do not participate or drop out. Experienced practitioners will explore the “how” of therapeutic work with multiply traumatised people.

The co-facilitators will cover pertinent theoretical and empirical issues and be concerned with their integration in taking critical therapeutic decisions. Jeannie Higgins will bring a metatheoretical, clinical and empirical perspective to understanding therapeutic relationships and the recovery process. Kathy Steele and Onno van der Hart will elucidate phases of treatment, attachment issues and dissociation. Karen Zelas will explore the choice of intervention, special needs and an integrative approach to our work. Generous but discriminating use of clinical material will illustrate key issues. Adherence to the principles of adult education and an experiential focus will parallel the type of integrated therapeutic approach that appears so central to the recovery of multiply traumatised people.