



## International Peace Bureau

WWW: Working together for a World Without War

IPB News

9th February 2007

### Disarmament for Development Programme

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (now totalling \$1118 billion); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development. Post 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach. Activities organised in pursuit of these goals include: seminars, publications, website, e-newsletter, exhibitions and a short film. National and international networks are gradually being developed.

### Control Arms at the World Social Forum (WSF)

Mary Robinson former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR) called for WSF participants to support and promote the global movement towards an Arms Trade Treaty. She believes human rights will be enhanced through the control of arms.

More...<http://www.iansa.org/index.htm>

### Nobel winners at World Social Forum echo demand for governments to reduce military spending

Nobel peace laureates Desmond Tutu, Shirin Ebadi, Wangari Maathai and Jody Williams speaking in the WSF urged governments to distribute their resources appropriately. They said money should be allocated to education and health rather than to military spending. As laureates, they promised to use their position to fight for global justice and peace.

More...<http://www.thedailystar.net/2007/01/25/d7012501149.ht>

### Spread of illicit guns in post-conflict Central American countries might risk Millennium Development Goals

Weapons left over from military conflicts in Central America in the 1970s and 80s notably from El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala have become a source of regional insecurity and destabilization. The illicit circulation of guns has increased crime and drug smuggling in the region. This may put at risk the Millennium Development Goals.

More... <http://www.iansa.org/regions/camerica/camerica.htm>

## **Bush's proposed budget to increase military spending under attack**

The US Democrat controlled congress attacked Bush's proposed budget as irresponsible. With the \$2.9 trillion budget he submitted to Congress, social spending will be squeezed notably education and health. Democrat members of congress call the proposed military spending "deceitful" and it is the highest overall level since the Korea war.

More...<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/05/AR2007020500208.html>

## **Gun-lobby groups press their case at US. Capitol**

Activists lobbied for a measure that would require unlicensed private sellers at gun shows to perform criminal background checks on firearms purchasers. Eleven-year-old Kailey Leinz urged US congress to close the so-called gun-show loophole.

More...[http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD\\_BasicArticle&%09s=1045855935264&c=MGArticle&cid=1149192670269&path=%21news%21politics](http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&%09s=1045855935264&c=MGArticle&cid=1149192670269&path=%21news%21politics)

## **Paris conference seeks ways to demobilize world's child soldiers**

Dozens of nations at Paris conference pledged this week not use children to wage war and to disarm and rehabilitate underage soldiers. Signatories to a new document included countries notorious for child fighters such as Sierra Leone, Liberia and Congo. Several other countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and all 27 nations of the European Union, also signed. At least 250,000 children are believed to be fighting in about a dozen conflicts worldwide, according to the United Nations.

More... [http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_38231.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_38231.html)

## **Weapons of Mass Destruction**

### **Pakistan to enhance its nuclear deterrent**

The Indo-US deal that will allow India to purchase nuclear power technology and materials from US is under increasing attack from Islamabad. The Pakistani Prime Minister thinks this deal will increase the quantities of fissile material for nuclear warheads in the region and his country would take measures to ensure the credibility of its deterrence. He was speaking in the North Atlantic Council meeting in Brussels.

More...[http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Pak\\_apprehensive\\_about\\_Indo-US\\_nuclear\\_deal\\_Aziz/articleshow/1546751.cms](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Pak_apprehensive_about_Indo-US_nuclear_deal_Aziz/articleshow/1546751.cms)

### **Promise of bioshield remains unfulfilled**

The ambitious program launched by Bush administration in an effort to counter bioterrorism attacks with vast new stockpiles of vaccines and treatments had not seen light yet. The \$5.6 billion Bioshield program has yet to define its course.

More...<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/15/AR2007011501142.html>

### Laureates call for a constructive US-Iran engagement

Women Nobel Peace Laureates call for constructive dialogue to resolve the Iran nuclear stalemate. The laureates urged President Bush to push for a constructive dialogue in resolving the nuclear issue with Iran

More... [http://www.nobelwomensinitiative.org/news.php?WEBYEP\\_DI=76](http://www.nobelwomensinitiative.org/news.php?WEBYEP_DI=76)

### UN warns of illicit nuclear material

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has warned that the case of a Russian man who allegedly tried to sell a small amount of weapons-grade uranium could be a sign of wider availability of such dangerous material.

More... <http://www.suntimes.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=368543>  
<http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/us/AP-Uranium-Sting-Security.html>

### US lawmakers pass a bill to increase 2007 nuclear non-proliferation funding

The US congress has passed a bill to boost the funding of nuclear non-proliferation. The US is very concerned about smuggling of nuclear fissile materials notably from stockpile left over from the former Soviet Union. The increased funding of \$50 million to the International Nuclear Material Protection and Cooperation program will strengthen their capacity to cooperate with Russia and curtail nuclear fissile material trafficking.

More...[http://www.nti.org/d\\_newswire/issues/2007\\_2\\_1.html#33C23D3A](http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2007_2_1.html#33C23D3A)

### Other

#### Washington peace march against the war in Iraq

Thousands marched in Washington on January 27 to protest against the war in Iraq. They called for the immediate end of the war and want American troops back home. The demonstration was also aimed on put pressure to the congress not to support Bush's failed strategy in Iraq.

More...<http://www.wilpf.org/docs/jan27.html>

You can visualize the anti war protest through video link at:

[http://www.truthout.org/docs\\_2006/013007A.shtml](http://www.truthout.org/docs_2006/013007A.shtml)

#### Conflict-zone women lobby for increase participation on peace talks and politics

Women from countries with political instability and military conflict met in Washington to push for greater participation in political process. Sudanese and Ugandan women hope to see women's greater role in peace talks and politics in their various countries.

More... <http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=3041>

### Stalled Ugandan peace talks put civilians at risk warns Oxfam

Oxfam called for the international community to put pressure on Uganda government and the rebels to resume peace talks. They warned that the stalled peace talks between the government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) might renew violence and humanitarian crises.

More... [http://www.oxfam.org/en/news/2007/pr070119\\_uganda](http://www.oxfam.org/en/news/2007/pr070119_uganda)

### Group of 77 (G77) rejects dateline for UN restructuring

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon received a rejection letter from the G77 group and Non Aligned Movement regarding the fixed deadline of February 5 for the UN General Assembly plans to debate the restructuring of the United Nations. According to the letter "The Group (of 77) does not wish to have public disagreement with the Secretary-General," and "the Group does not support any artificial deadlines."

More... <http://www.asiantribune.com/index.php?q=node/4356>

<http://www.ipsnews.net/login.asp?redir=news.asp?idnews=36408>

### War crimes: Support the prosecution of Donald Rumsfeld.

The Center for Constitutional Right and the International Federation of Human Rights urges all peace lovers to support their complaint filed in Germany against Donald Rumsfeld former US Secretary of State and other US officials for torture and war crimes. For more on the complaint filed visit:

<http://www.ccr-ny.org/v2/GermanCase2006/germancase.asp>.

You can write directly to the prosecution to express your opinion using the contact details below:

Monika Harms, Der Generalbundesanwalt beim Bundesgerichtshof  
Brauerstraße 3076137 Karlsruhe, Email: [poststelle@generalbundesanwalt.de](mailto:poststelle@generalbundesanwalt.de)

Website: [www.generalbundesanwalt.de](http://www.generalbundesanwalt.de)

### Resources

#### Housmans Peace Diary 2007 with World Peace Directory

Housemans Peace Diary is a non-profit service to movements around the world working for peace, social justice and environment. This year's edition of the World Peace Directory has about 2000 national and international peace, environmental and human rights organisations in 150 countries. Pocket format includes notable dates and anniversaries with a forward planner for 2008.

Published October 2006, £8.95, ISBN 0 85283 263 X, ISSSN 0957-0136. Discount for multiple orders. Available online at: [www.housman.com](http://www.housman.com), email: [eorders@housemans.com](mailto:eorders@housemans.com).

## MUSEUMS FOR PEACE: A CONTRIBUTION TO REMEMBRANCE, RECONCILIATION, ART AND PEACE

The 5<sup>TH</sup> International Museums for Peace conference papers.  
Guernica-Lumo, 1 - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2005, ISBN: 84-933222-4-5. This book cost 20 euros plus postage and handling fee. For details check website at: [www.peacemuseumguernica.org](http://www.peacemuseumguernica.org), email: [museoa@gernika-lumo.net](mailto:museoa@gernika-lumo.net)

## IISS Armed Conflict Database, from the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

The Armed Conflict Database (ACD) offers a fast access to conflict summaries and other database services. Users can access latest updates on human security and military developments, background and timeline with links to strategic comments.

Visit, [www.ebookstore.tandf.co.uk](http://www.ebookstore.tandf.co.uk) or [www.online.taylorandfrancis.com](http://www.online.taylorandfrancis.com),  
Email: [reference.online@tandf.co.uk](mailto:reference.online@tandf.co.uk)

## Newsletters

- [1325 PeaceWomen E-news](#)
- [Campaign Against Arms Trade](#)
- [Campaign Against Depleted Uranium](#)
- [Civil Society Watch](#)
- [Faslane 365](#)
- [Global Campaign For Peace Education](#)
- [Global Security Institute](#)
- [IANSA](#)
- [International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms \(IALANA\)](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [Movement for the Abolition of War](#)
- [Lawyers' Committee on Nuclear Policy](#)
- [NGO Congo](#)
- [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#)
- [Nuclear Age Peace Foundation](#)
- [Pax Christi](#)
- [Peace Women Across the Globe](#)
- [Small Arms Survey](#)
- [Swisspeace - KOFF](#)
- [The Monitor- News from the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court](#)
- [UNIDIR Highlights](#)
- [War Profiteers](#)

## Calendar

Click [here](#) for IPB's international events calendar.

Message to IPB members: if you have reports of activities that are

relevant to this newsletter please email them to the Secretariat.

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[mailbox@ipb.org](mailto:mailbox@ipb.org)

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