



International Peace Bureau

WWW: Working together for a World Without War

IPB News

28th September 2007 edition

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 \$1204 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.

Ban Ki-moon launches 'unprecedented' group to boost Africa's development

UN Secretary General convened international development leaders that agreed to collaborate with Africa's ones to boost its efforts in achieving MDGs. Read full text of UN News Centre press release at <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=23809&Cr=millennium&Cr1=development#>

Swedish member organisation sponsored field study of the costs of gun violence in South Africa

Recently, two Swedish medical students made a field research trip to SA to examine the economic costs of injuries caused by small arms at a Cape Town hospital. They found that the average cost for the treatment of each patient amounted to \$ 2300, 20 times the reserved annual budget for each person. Click [here](#) for the article.

New UNODA Update available

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs just issued its 4th update bulletin. Read about Ban Ki-moon's calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the need of breaking the stalemate on Conference on Disarmament, advances in biological weapons, small arms and arms trade matters. Read more at <http://disarmament.un.org/update/>

Public weapons burning ceremony hold in Cambodia

To mark the end of a four-year Japanese arms reduction project in Cambodia, 6600 surrendered guns have been burnt under the eyes of 5000 people on September 19th. Project officer of the Japanese Assistance Team for Small Arms Management in Cambodia (JSAC) speaks about the atmosphere of trust they create among civilians, building confidence between the authorities and the public. Read article at

<http://www.iansa.org/>

US war budget jumps for 2008 to nearly 200 billions!

After the first draft of 2008 war budget, the Bush administration is now requiring \$47 billions more, the whole budget so reaching the astonishing amount of 195 billion dollars. If accepted, 2008 would be the most expensive year of the war so far. Read full article at

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-na-warcosts22sep22,0,1873387,full.story?coll=la-home-center>

UN statement of support for Oslo Process

Last week at the Oslo Landmine Week events, the UN announced its new position on cluster munitions including its support for the Oslo Process and a ban on cluster bombs that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

War means windfall for CEOs

In this article, Michael Brush shows the amazing profits and paychecks for defence contractors and their CEOs generated by U.S. military buildup and war in Iraq. Read full article at

<http://articles.moneycentral.msn.com/Investing/CompanyFocus/WarMeansAWindfallForCEOs.aspx?page=1>

Weapons of Mass Destruction

New issue of Washington Nuclear Updates - BASIC

Latest arms control news on nuclear arms and policy development from the US, UK, North Korea and Iran by the British American Security Information Council (BASIC).

Check new edition at <http://www.basicint.org/update/WNU070913.htm#05>

Previous editions also available at

<http://www.basicint.org/update/wnu.htm>

Bomb Scare: the History and Future of Nuclear Weapons

In his new book, Joe Cirincione, U.S. arms control expert, presents nuclear weapons history from its beginnings to the current Iran crisis, allowing for a better understanding of the dynamics at work. He ends the book in an optimistic manner offering the outlines of a solution to the world's proliferation problems. Read more and order at

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cup/catalog/data/978023113/9780231135108.HTM>

Norway's Foreign Minister calls for more anti-nuclear activism

On the occasion of Civil Society Conference at the 10th Anniversary of the Mine Ban Treaty in Oslo, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jonas Gahr Støre said he was worried about the lack of public outrage over the nuclear disarmament issue. He also pointed out the crucial role of civil society actors in setting agendas, mobilising support, formulating issues and identifying solutions. Whole lecture at <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/ud/About-the-Ministry/Minister-of-Foreign-Affairs-Jonas-Gahr-S/Speeches-and-articles/hovedtaler/481118.html?id=481118>

Aftenpost english version article at

<http://www.aftenposten.no/english/local/article2001500.ece>

Central Europe Socialists reject U.S. missile shield

U.S. plan to build part of its missile defence shield in Poland and the Czech Republic has been rejected on 13th September by socialist parties from Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia after talks in Prague. Read complete article by Reuters at

<http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSL1427381320070914?sp=tr>
[ue](#)

Resources

IPB Report on Corruption in the Arms Trade

IPB has published a new paper on corruption in the arms trade and its effects on democracy in Africa. The paper was written by the campaign assistant/intern Emma Henriksson for the disarmament-development campaign. It highlights several important aspects of corrupt practices in relation to arms deals, including more far reaching perspectives on the situation in Africa. Click [here](#) for the publication (50pp.)

Gandhi and Beyond: Nonviolence for an Age of Terrorism

In this book, U.S. peace activist and IPB consultant David Cortright offers a critical evaluation and refinement of Gandhi's message. A very interesting application of non-violence principles to today's challenges and an exhortation to apply its principles in everyday life.

More at

<http://www.paradigmpublishers.com/Books/BookDetail.aspx?productID=133987>

GICHD - A Guide to Mine Action and Explosive Remnants of War (third edition)

After an overview and explanation of international law and conventions applicable to mines, the manual presents the different aspects of mine action. A very complete and useful information resource on mine action by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Read more, download pdf version and order hardcopy at

<http://www.gichd.org/gichd-publications/guide-to-mine-action-and-explosive-remnants-of-war/>

Others

New Newsletter launched by the OCHA Human Security Unit: Human Security at the United Nations

The newsletter is aimed at sharing information with interested members of civil society on human security and related topics at the UN as well as promoting partnerships to advance human security amongst civil society, the UN and wider international community. You will find the first issue on the following link

http://www.un-ngls.org/docs/unocha/Newsletter_HS_240807.pdf

LS Coordinator to retire

Tony Hill will step down from his coordinator position at UN's Non-Government Liaison Service based at the Palais des Nations in Geneva after 21 years spent at the UN. He will be replaced on 30th September by New York based Elisa Peters. <http://www.un-ngls.org/>

UBUNTU Statement: UN and democratic world governance

IPB has signed a new statement from the World Forum of Civil Society Networks. For statement and list of signatures go to

<http://www.ubuntu.upc.edu/index.php?lg=eng&pg=2&ncom=23>

UN Secretary-General's Message for the International Day of Peace

In his message, Ban Ki-moon shows centrality of peace in UN's work, stresses combatants from around the world to observe a 24 hours ceasefire and urges every one to make peace a passion and act accordingly. Read entire speech and see the video of the speech at

<http://www.un.org/events/peaceday/2007/sgmessage.shtml>

Strong story about deadly cluster munitions on offer

Actiongroup landmine.de reports that despite the ban imposed by organizers, various weapons manufacturers have been caught offering cluster munitions at the Defence Systems & Equipment International Exhibition (DSEi) held in London. However no action has apparently been taken and manufacturers as well as exhibitors seem to show little concern about the ban. Read full article at

<http://www.landmine.de/en.titel/en.news/en.news.one/index.html?entry=en.news.0ef81d7f0df50000>

Appeal the Middle Powers Initiative (MPI) for a diplomatic and peaceful resolution of the Iran crisis

In order to avoid a dangerous escalation on the issues dividing the U.S. and Iran, the MPI has issued an appeal calling for negotiations between both parties and the need for compliance with international law and obligations. It stresses the point that the United States and other nuclear weapon states can more credibly insist on Iranian compliance with its international obligations if they meet their own nuclear disarmament obligations. IPB is a founder member of the MPI. Full statement at

<http://www.gs institute.org/mipi/archives/000332.html>

CODEPINK's protest action to call for Blackwater's expulsion from Iraq

After the fatal shooting of 8 Iraqi civilians by Blackwater private security forces working for the U.S. in Iraq, CODEPINK, a women's peace action

group, went to protest at the company's office and the State Department to call for their expulsion from Iraq. Read press release at <http://codepinkalert.org/article.php?id=3469>

Newsletters

IPB receives many e-newsletters, both from our members and non-member organisations. Click [here](#) for a list with hyperlinks.

Calendar

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

IPB wishes to thank Emma Henriksson for her excellent work at the Secretariat. This is her last IPB newsletter. We wish her good luck in the future.

We welcome Samuel Flückiger who replaces her as Publications Officer.

Message to IPB members: if you have reports of activities that are relevant to this newsletter please email them to the Secretariat.

To subscribe to or unsubscribe from this newsletter please email:

mailbox@ipb.org

Newsletter edited by Emma Henriksson - emma@ipb.org and Samuel Flückiger - samuel@ipb.org

International Peace Bureau, 41 Rue de Zurich, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: + 41 22 731 6429 / Fax + 41 22 738 9419
www.ipb.org