

**PEACE
OPERATIONS
WORKING
GROUP**



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POWG

The Peace Operations Working Group (POWG) is a project of Peacebuild - The Canadian Peacebuilding Network. It seeks to provide a focus for in-depth research and civil society-Government dialogue on peace operations and related Canadian and international policy issues.

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NEWS AND ARTICLES

This edition of the POWG Newsletter includes articles sorted by peacekeeping context:

DR Congo – Somalia –
Sudan – Chad & CAR – Liberia -
Cote d'Ivoire – Haiti – Kosovo -
Cyprus – Golan Heights - Nepal

In addition, this section includes miscellaneous news about peace operations.

ACTIVITIES

Ottawa University, (CIPS):
"After the Taliban: Nation Building
in Afghanistan" (Feb. 10)

Civilian Peace Service:
"Women Building Peace" Conference
(Feb 15 – 17)



Launch of voter registration for Cote d'Ivoire elections (Source: UN.org)



James Dobbins

IN THE NEWS

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

[Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo have both been directly helping rebels fighting in eastern DR Congo](#), according to an Experts' report. Rwanda is accused of supplying aid and child soldiers to Tutsi rebels. Rwanda has denied such accusations previously. The report, submitted to the UN Security Council on December 12, also says the Congolese army collaborates with the Rwandan-Hutu militia

On December 14, the armies of Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and southern Sudan announced that they had launched a [joint military offensive](#) against rebels from northern Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army in a remote northeast corner of Congo. The armies destroyed Kony's main camp, codenamed Swahili, the countries' military chiefs said in a joint statement. MONUC said no decision had been taken on what role U.N. peacekeepers would play in the anti-LRA offensive in Orientale province.

On January 20, up to [4,000 Rwandan troops](#) poured over the border into the DRC for a joint operation with the Congolese army against the Rwandan Hutu FDLR militia. DR Congo's ambassador to the UN, Atoki Ileka, said the operation, was necessary to end the violence in the east of the country. However, Congolese President Joseph Kabila has been criticised for not informing parliament about the invitation to Rwandan troops.

In a surprising development, [Laurent Nkunda was arrested in Rwanda](#) on January 22 after resisting the joint Rwandan-Congolese military operation. Nkunda's arrest is seen as "a startling about-turn" by Rwanda, which has long been accused of supporting the renegade general. The first [signs of Gen Nkunda's downfall](#) emerged earlier this month, when his chief-of-staff, Gen Bosco Ntaganda, announced that the group's leader had been relieved of his duties because "of a failure of political leadership". Then Gen. Ntaganda announced his forces would work with the Congolese army to fight the Hutu militias, and eventually integrate into the army. It is expected that Congo will seek Nkunda's extradition from Rwanda to be tried for war crimes.

The joint military operation in eastern DRC [region does not involve United Nations blue helmets](#), the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the country, Alan Doss, stressed on January 21, 2009. Mr. Doss urged the parties to ensure the protection of civilians and to fully adhere to international humanitarian law, adding that MONUC will uphold its mandate in protecting civilians. The joint military operation by Congo and Rwanda [caught the UN by surprise](#): "The special envoys in the region, the international community, MONUC, – we did not get any official warning. We were not informed," says Roeland van de Geer, the European Union's special representative to the Great Lakes region.

However, [MONUC has demanded](#) to be given a role in joint military operations by Congolese and Rwandan armies against Hutu rebels, according to Reuters, saying they feared for civilians otherwise. MONUC's military spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Jean-Paul Dietrich stated, "We have to play a role.

They have to discuss the operation with MONUC. We are on the ground ... and our mandate is to protect civilians. "

[UNHCR has also voiced its concerns](#) about the military build-up in North Kivu created by the joint operation, noting that the humanitarian situation in the province is already "dramatic." "Drawing from our past experience in this region, we fear that these operations could create new and massive displacement of the civilian population," Ron Redmond, spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), told reporters in Geneva.

On January 26, a [former Congolese militia leader went on trial](#) at the International Criminal Court (ICC). Thomas Lubanga pleaded not guilty to six charges of recruiting and using hundreds of children aged under 15 to fight in DR Congo's brutal five-year conflict, which ended in 2003. Opening the prosecution, Luis Moreno-Ocampo said Mr Lubanga had used the children to "kill, pillage and rape". The case is the first to come to trial before the ICC in The Hague.

SOMALIA

On 2 December 2008 the Security Council adopted a resolution calling on all countries and regional organizations with the necessary capacity to deploy naval ships and military aircraft off the Somali coast to [fight rampant piracy](#) that is impeding United Nations efforts to feed millions of hungry civilians. The Council asked Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to report within three months on ways to ensure long-term security off the coast of Somalia, notably for UN World Food Programme (WFP) deliveries, and on a possible coordination and leadership role for the UN in rallying Member States and regional organizations for such a goal.

On 10 December 2008 the United Nations convened a two-day international conference in Nairobi, Kenya, to [discuss the rampant piracy off the coast of Somalia](#). The gathering, hosted by the Kenyan Government, brought together technical experts to discuss the issue. "It is clear that the problem of piracy is linked to the need for peace and stability in Somalia itself," said Mr. Ould-Abdallah, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia "We hope that this high-level Conference will lead to greater international attention and cooperation between countries, regional and international organizations."

Meanwhile, the Red Cross has warned that Somalia is in danger of [descending into famine](#) while the world's attention is focused on the problem of piracy off its coast. for aid agencies to operate. About half of Somalia's population is dependent on food aid.

On December 2nd, [Ethiopia announced that its troops would leave Somalia](#), by the end of the year, in accordance with an agreement signed at peace talks in Djibouti in November. Ethiopia entered Somalia two years ago to remove the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC), elements of whose leadership had been making provocative and aggressive statements about Ethiopia. However, the reality is that [Ethiopian intervention](#), backed by the US and others, seems to have bolstered precisely the elements of the UIC, al-Shabab, that are most at odds with Ethiopia's interests and may very well have fatally undermined any chance Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG) had of gaining legitimacy.

Days later, in a surprise announcement Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi told parliament that [African Union peacekeepers in Somalia want to leave](#). He said Ethiopian troops, due to pull out of Somalia at the end of December, would cover their withdrawal. The 3,000 strong AU force, AMISOM, from Uganda and Burundi, had been expected to stay and even beef up its presence to make up for the planned Ethiopian pull-out. Mr Meles dropped his bombshell about the AU peacekeepers during prime minister's questions in parliament. Uganda denied that this was its position.

The [resignation of on Somalia's interim president](#) on December 29 plunged the country into turmoil and uncertainty. Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed resigned after disagreements with parliament and his prime minister, as well as pressure from the international community. Yusuf's resignation comes days after the man he appointed as prime minister, Mohamed Mahamud Guled, resigned - in defiance of parliament. Yusuf, a former warlord, was elected four years ago to a five-year term in the hope that he would bring peace and stability to the country. According to local sources, Yusuf, in a resignation speech, told parliament he had failed to do so, and blamed both Somalis and the international community for his failure. Yusuf and the Prime Minister Nur Hassan Hussein had clashed over attempts to negotiate a peace deal with the Islamist-led armed opposition. Yusuf was opposed to peace talks held in Djibouti which brought together representatives of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and a faction of the Eritrea-based opposition group, the Alliance for the Reliberation of Somalia (ARS), led by Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed.

On January 16, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution [agreeing in principle to a peacekeeping force in Somalia](#). It also renewed the mandate of the current African Union force but delayed a decision about a UN force until June. The US and AU have been pushing for a UN presence but finding troops to participate has been difficult because of the dangers in Somalia. Meanwhile, huge crowds in Mogadishu celebrated the withdrawal of Ethiopian troops from the capital. The Ethiopian mission to prop-up the interim government is widely regarded as a failure as various Islamist groups have recently advanced and once more control much of the country. The UN Security Council resolution comes as talks continue in Djibouti between the government and moderate Islamists on power-sharing.

Sheikh Sharif Ahmed was elected as Somalia's new president on January 31st, by the Somali parliament. The [moderate Islamist leader](#) won the presidency in an all-night parliament session in neighbouring Djibouti and vowed to end conflict in the Horn of Africa nation, make peace with neighbours and rule with honesty and justice. But experts say Somalia's first Islamist president will need outside financial support and must placate the nation's myriad clans to have any chance of stabilising the country after 18 years of violence. Crowds poured into the streets in [celebration](#) of Ahmed's election and hopeful of a more peaceful future. Analysts say Ahmed has a real possibility of reuniting Somalis, given his Islamist roots, the backing of parliament and support from once hostile Western nations. However, a spokesman for al Shabaab said that [the election was "not something to be supported"](#).

SUDAN

The recent [aerial bombardment](#) by the Sudanese government and ground offensive against the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) marks the [worst violence in Darfur in a year](#), according to Sudan expert Alex de Waal. "Sudan is in a state of high tension at the moment, and we face a dangerous month ahead," de Waal said. "Parts of Darfur are again in flames, with the worst fighting in the region since the beginning of 2008." The fighting, which started in mid-January around Muhajiriya in South Darfur, has forced thousands of civilians to flee their homes, with many heading north of the town, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Continued fighting in the town has since forced about 3,000 people to camp near UNAMID's base. Tension has increased in the region ahead of an expected decision by the [International Criminal Court](#) on whether to issue an arrest warrant against Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir on charges on orchestrating war crimes in Darfur. Whilst there is support for prosecuting Mr. Bashir, foreign diplomats, regional leaders and many Sudanese, [dread what could happen in Sudan as a result of the indictment](#) of a serving president by an international court.

Two Sudanese groups have [formally requested the ICC not to issue an arrest warrant](#) for President Omar al-Bashir. Experts warn that the motion filed could lead to a delay in the judges' decision on whether to issue a warrant. The Sudanese government has always refused to deal with the ICC. But some see the two groups - the Sudan Workers Trade Unions Federation and the recently-formed Sudan International Defence Group - as government proxies. On January 14th, a veteran Islamist opposition leader Hassan al-Turabi was arrested after saying President Bashir should hand himself in to face the ICC charges.

In the face of a surge in hijackings of United Nations and non-governmental organization (NGO) vehicles in Sudan's Darfur region, the joint UN-African Union mission in Darfur (UNAMID) handed over [equipment for two new Sudanese police posts](#) in the southern area on December 10. The posts, to be located at the eastern and southern entrances to the UNAMID compound in Nyala, capital of South Darfur province, will serve as permanent checkpoints, mainly in supporting the night patrolling carried out by the Sudanese emergency police and national security forces.

UNAMID peacekeeping troops tasked with protecting civilians, [foiled an attempted abduction](#) of several women who had strayed outside a makeshift camp in the war-torn western flank of Sudan. A patrol from the hybrid force, was dispatched on January 14 to the Hassa Hissa internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in West Darfur after being alerted that six women had been snatched while collecting firewood in nearby fields. The kidnappers released the women when they saw the UNAMID team, made up of protection force personnel, police and military observers, approaching the scene. The incident follows a series of violent incidents surrounding the Hassa Hissa camp last month, with the latest involving unidentified gunmen having shot dead the traditional leader or "sheikh" in the camp.

On 5 January, two new contingents of Nigerian police officers trained in high-risk operations joined the mission, bringing the total number of Formed Police Units (FPU) serving with the mission to five, following the earlier arrival of units from Bangladesh, Indonesia and Nepal.

On 21 January 2009, UNAMID announced that [hundreds more troops will arrive in Darfur](#) within the next two months in an effort to boost protection of civilians. Additional troops are expected to arrive

by March from Egypt, South Africa, Senegal and Bangladesh, and later this year, further troops will arrive from Nepal, Nigeria, Egypt and Ethiopia, UNAMID said. Tanzania has also announced it will send an entire infantry battalion of about 900 personnel and an advance party, including engineers crucial to UNAMID's plan to expedite its deployment target. The announcement followed a meeting in Addis Ababa between the UN, African Union and the Government of Sudan to discuss ways of accelerating the deployment of UNAMID to reach the strength of 26,000 military and police personnel authorized by the Security Council. However, as the mission marked its first anniversary earlier this month, Mr. Ban confirmed that troop levels have exceeded 60 per cent of the full authorized strength.

[Sudanese forces violated international human rights law](#) by using lethal force in "an unnecessary, disproportionate and therefore unlawful manner," when they fired on a crowd in a displaced persons camp in Darfur last August, killing 33 civilians, states a new United Nations report. The report, issued on January 23 by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the UN-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), is the result of an investigation into the 25 August incident at the Kalma camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in South Darfur, which also left 108 civilians wounded.

CHAD & CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

On 14 January 2009, the Security Council unanimously [approved the deployment of some 5,500 United Nations peacekeepers](#) to replace European troops in of Chad and Central African Republic (CAR) until 15 March 2010. The UN Mission in CAR and Chad (MINURCAT) is scheduled to take over from the European Force (EUFOR) on 15 March. Some 4,900 troops and police backed by helicopters are to be deployed in eastern Chad and 500 troops will be stationed in northern CAR to provide force protection for one consolidated site, project limited longer range patrols, maintain a quick reaction force and undertake air field maintenance at Birao. The resolution stressed that the multidimensional presence in Chad and military presence in the CAR is intended to help create the security conditions conducive to a voluntary, secure and sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons. The resolution empowers MINURCAT to "take all necessary measures, within its capabilities" to contribute to protecting civilians in danger, particularly refugees and IDPs, facilitate delivery of humanitarian aid and the free movement of humanitarian personnel, and protect UN personnel, facilities, installations and equipment.

LIBERIA

A record number of over 100 [newly-trained women police officers](#) now make up two-thirds of the cadets completing the training for the Liberia National Police (LNP). Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, the Deputy Head of the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) hailed the progress made since the first batch of recruits passed through the gates of the National Police Training Academy in 2005. "LNP now has 3,800 officers trained in modern policing methods and techniques," she said, speaking at a graduation ceremony on Saturday. That total exceeds the initial UN target of 3,500, she added, including 150 new officers of which 104 are women. Almost 2,900 officers have now been trained in the protection of

women and children, criminal investigations, traffic investigations, media relations and firearms instruction, in a bid to create a force able to meet the policing needs of all communities.

COTE D'IVOIRE

On 27 January 2009, the Security Council [extended the UN Mission in Cote d'Ivoire \(UNOCI\)](#) for another six months. In a unanimously adopted resolution, the Council renewed the mandates of the mission and of the French forces which support it until 31 July, "in particular to support the organization in Côte d'Ivoire of free, open, fair and transparent elections." The resolution urged all political actors in Côte d'Ivoire to agree without delay on a "realistic" time frame for the long-postponed elections in the West African country. In doing so, the 15-member body also decided to reduce the level of authorized military personnel with UNOCI from 8,115 to 7,450. The mission was requested, within its existing resources, to support the full implementation of the Ouagadougou Agreement and subsequent accords, aiming to bring peace and stability to the country, which has been divided since 2002 between the Government-held south and a northern area dominated by the rebel Forces Nouvelles. In addition to the holding of the elections, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has cited the disarmament of the former combatants, the dismantling of the militias, the reunification of Ivorian security forces and the redeployment of State administration throughout the country as critical remaining tasks for the nation.

HAITI

A new [United Nations-backed urban security plan](#) launched by the Haitian national police on December 9, aims to slow down the staggering rise in acts of banditry, including kidnapping, with an increased presence and nighttime patrols. Under Operation Blue Shield of the UN Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), UN peacekeepers are expected to make up a substantial part of the patrolling force and will also double the number of mobile checkpoints.

UN peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy undertook a [five-day field visit to Haiti](#) on 27 January, discussing with national and local leaders the Organization's mission in the impoverished Caribbean country where it has been seeking to promote stability and development since an insurgency in 2004. "We are here to help the Haitian Government," Alain Le Roy said after meeting with local authorities. Mr. Le Roy, also met with President René Préval and Prime Minister Michèle Duvivier Pierre Louis and reiterated the goal of MINUSTAH to help the national Government build a strong state. He also discussed UN support to local authorities on judicial and police reform and human rights. Le Roy visited the Cité Soleil neighbourhood of the capital city Port-au-Prince and heard how [MINUSTAH has been key to returning law and order to the area](#), which was formerly controlled by armed gangs. "MINUSTAH's presence has permitted us to re-establish security," Haitian Police Inspector Rosemond Aristide told Le Roy, adding: "Now the population of Cité Soleil can pursue their normal occupations."

KOSOVO

On 9 December 2008, after nine and a half years of policing Kosovo, the United Nations mission began [phasing out its police component](#), handing over to European Union's Rule of Law Mission known as EULEX. The move is part of the reconfiguration of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), which was set up in 1999 to run Kosovo after NATO forces drove out Yugoslav troops amid deadly fighting with the majority ethnic Albanian population there. EULEX is set to police throughout Kosovo under the overall authority of the UN after UNMIK succeeded in establishing from scratch a local police force that is well respected in Kosovo and the region. The UN is neutral on the question of the status of Kosovo, which proclaimed independence in February 2008, a move that Serbia rejects. In his latest report to the Security Council last month, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called for the reconfiguration of UNMIK in response to the "profoundly changed reality" on the ground.

KFOR and EULEX carried out their [first-ever joint exercise](#), which took place at the KFOR base Novo Selo, in Camp De Lattre De Tassigny. The French and Romanian Special Police Units of EULEX worked closely together with KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM) and helicopters units. Several hundred soldiers and police officers took part in the scenario, which involved EULEX calling for KFOR support, during a violent demonstration. In case of disturbances in Kosovo, the first line to deal with the situation is the Kosovo Police. They can be supported by EULEX Special Police Units and, if the situation deteriorates, then KFOR will be brought in as a third line responder. "From my point of view it went very well. It was an opportunity to perform an exercise, coordinate forces, and integrate forces in action," said the Portuguese Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Jocelino do N.B. Rodrigues, commander of the KTM Unit of KFOR.

CYPRUS

On 12 December 2008, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations [peacekeeping mission in Cyprus \(UNFICYP\)](#) by six months, welcoming September's historic launch of talks between the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities aimed at reunifying the Mediterranean island. The Council voted unanimously to keep the mission, which has been in operation since 1964 after the eruption of intercommunal violence between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, in place until 15 June 2009. The negotiations have created "the prospect of a comprehensive and durable settlement," the resolution said, urging the sides to take full advantage of the opportunity by stepping up the pace of talks and maintaining the existing atmosphere of trust and goodwill. The 15-member body also called on the sides to continue to consult with UNFICYP on the demarcation of the buffer zone.

GOLAN HEIGHTS

On 12 December 2008 the Security Council voted unanimously to [extend the mandate of the UN Disengagement Observer Force \(UNDOF\)](#), the United Nations force that observes the ceasefire between Israel and Syria on the Golan Heights, for a further six months, until 30 June 2009. The mission was established in May 1974, The extension follows the recommendation by Secretary-General

Ban Ki-moon in his latest report on the mission. "The situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained generally quiet," he wrote. "Nevertheless, the situation in the Middle East is tense and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached."

NEPAL

On 23 January 2009 the Security Council [extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal \(UNMIN\)](#) for a further six months, and endorsed Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's proposals for a phased, gradual drawdown and withdrawal of the world body's staff. In its resolution, the Security Council, expressed its continued readiness to support the [peace process](#) in Nepal, where an estimated 13,000 people lost their lives during a decade-long civil war that came to an end when the Government and the Maoists signed a peace deal in 2006. In addition to assisting the country with the holding of landmark elections last year, UNMIN is also monitoring the management of arms and armed personnel of the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) and the Nepal Army. In extending the Mission's mandate until 23 July, the Council "concur[s] with the Secretary-General's view that the current monitoring arrangements cannot be maintained indefinitely, and underlines the need for the Government of Nepal to consider necessary measures to reduce UNMIN's monitoring requirements."

MISCELLANEOUS

The 18 United Nations peacekeeping operations worldwide are carrying out their work well under [circumstances that are often extremely difficult](#) and in areas where no other major organizations or countries are prepared to be involved, according to Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. "We are going where others do not want to go," Le Roy said in an extended interview with the UN News Centre to mark the first of its [Newsmaker](#) profile series. "Sometimes we are easy scapegoats. [But] on the contrary, on my field visits I see missions that in the vast majority of cases are being executed well."

[U.N. peacekeeping is headed for a crisis](#), with demand for blue helmets around the world skyrocketing, financial contributions dwindling and reserves of well-trained soldiers drying up, according to the International Crisis Group. The \$7.1 billion dollar peacekeeping budget now dwarfs that of the U.N. secretariat itself. But U.N. officials say even that budget is insufficient as the United Nations prepares for a mission to Somalia and to expand current missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Chad and the Central African Republic. There are other problems. With some 112,000 mostly Third World forces spread across the globe, some of the traditional U.N. troop contributors say they are running out of troops. Western states complain that Iraq and expanding commitments in Afghanistan mean they have no spare soldiers for other U.N. missions and urge states like Russia to step up.

23 January 2009 – [Addressing a open debate on peacekeeping](#) in the Security Council on January 23, Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, said that "2009 needs to be a year of ideas as much as a year of operational success," "It needs to be a year of cooperation and

problem-solving,” he added. With no end in sight to a massive surge in peacekeeping operations, now is the time to make sure ongoing missions are successful and fully supported and, at the same time, to tackle systemic challenges needed for the future. On the one hand, he said, enormous current challenges – such as those in Sudan’s Darfur region and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) – must be dealt with successfully, and current gaps in troops and materiel must be closed through both short-term fixes and the mobilization of new troop contributors. “We need to bolster, and in some instances mend, the global partnership that we need for a healthy and well-functioning United Nations peacekeeping system. UN peacekeeping is effective only if all actors have a shared vision of what this instrument can and cannot achieve,” he said. Beginning in 2000, he added, a surge in peacekeeping saw deployment figures leap from less than 14,000 personnel to nearly 40,000 that same year. That surge had not abated with operations spread more widely than ever before, more robust mandates and 112,000 deployed.

[34 United Nations staff members killed by malicious acts in 2008](#), and ten peacekeepers in Darfur are among them according to the Staff Union. Although the figure represents a slight decline from the previous year, “2008 was another harsh year for United Nations personnel around the world,” Staff Union President Stephen Kisambira said in a press release. One of the most deadly incidents occurred when a joint police and military patrol was ambushed by at least 200 attackers on horseback and armed SUVs between Gusa Jamat and Wadah, North Darfur on 8 July, killing seven peacekeepers and wounding 22 from the African Union-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

REPORTS & PUBLICATIONS

International Crisis Group: ["Somalia: To Move Beyond the Failed State"](#).

Since 1991 Somalia has been the archetypal failed state. Several attempts to create a transitional set-up have failed, and the current one is on the brink of collapse, overtaken yet again by an Islamist insurgency, despite the support of an Ethiopian military intervention since December 2006. Over the last two years the situation has deteriorated into one of the world's worst humanitarian and security crises. The international community is preoccupied with a symptom – the piracy phenomenon – instead of concentrating on the core of the crisis, the need for a political settlement. The announced Ethiopian withdrawal, if it occurs, will open up a new period of uncertainty and risk. It could also provide a window of opportunity to relaunch a credible political process, however, if additional parties can be persuaded to join the Djibouti reconciliation talks, and local and international actors – including the U.S. and Ethiopia – accept that room must be found for much of the Islamist insurgency in that process and ultimately in a new government dispensation.

Chatham House Report: ["Against the Gathering Storm: Securing Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement"](#), Edward Thomas, January 2009

This report assesses the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army and the Government of Sudan in 2005. It focuses on three areas of current or former conflict in Southern Sudan, Southern Kordofan and Darfur. The report argues for sustained and committed international engagement to ensure that the provisions and principles of the CPA are adhered to. It also sets out areas that may be problematic over the next few years.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

PEACE OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP

The POWG has received funding from DFAIT's Global Peace Operations (GPOP) fund to implement Phase IV of the Peace Operations Monitor project (www.pom.peacebuild.ca). The POM is an online information and analytical resource on select peace operations: Afghanistan, Haiti and Sudan. The POM functions as a platform for the engagement of civil-society organizations, opinion leaders, the policy community, media, the Canadian public and other analysts with an interest in peace operations. Phase IV of the POM project is the consolidation of the POM's web presence with a focus on peace operations in Afghanistan, Haiti and Sudan through continuing content development. A peace operations "Best Practices" section will also be developed in order to further enhance the analytical aspect of the website. The project will conclude at the end of March.

PEARSON PEACEKEEPING CENTRE

On January 7, 2009 PPC started its sixth United Nations Integrated Mission Staff Officer Course (UNIMSOC), continuing to advance Canada's contribution to global peace and security. The six-week course brings twenty military officers from twenty different countries together at the PPC's training centre in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. Course participants will learn the fundamentals required by staff officers deployed in a United Nations Integrated Mission Headquarters as part of a contemporary peace operation.

"This course offers men and women realistic experiences in a variety of conflict scenarios, all simulated within the safety of a secure learning environment," said Suzanne Monaghan, President of the PPC. Using the PPC's hallmark activity-based learning methodology, experienced facilitators draw on the specific skills and knowledge of individual participants who approach scenarios differently depending on their professional and cultural background. Field trips to select Canadian Forces centres in eastern Canada further enhance the experience by giving participants a glimpse into how the Canadian military prepares for peace operations. The UNIMSOC course is funded by the Canadian Department of National Defence's Military Training Assistance Programme (MTAP).

CANADEM

CANADEM's RAP-Fund saw four rapid humanitarian deployments throughout December and January. In response to requests from UNICEF-Zimbabwe for humanitarian experts, CANADEM, through CIDA-funding, deployed a child protection expert, a logistics and supply expert and an information manager to Harare. These three experts are currently working to assist UNICEF's emergency response effort to the humanitarian crisis in Zimbabwe. CANADEM also deployed a veteran aid worker to join UNICEF in Dungen, DRC as the Head of a Sub-Office. This expert will coordinate the activities of UNICEF and its

partners in their response to the humanitarian emergency in Dungu that has followed from recent violence in the DRC. More information about CANADEM's RAP-Fund humanitarian deployments can be found at: www.CANADEM.ca/RAP-fund. The Canadian Governance Support Office (CGSO) in Kabul, Afghanistan received a new expert in early December. Technical Advisor Charles Agobia was deployed to Kabul to work as a Senior Strategic Advisor to the UNAMA Agricultural Task Force of Afghanistan. In January, another Technical Assistant, Ishwor Dhungel, was deployed to Kabul. He will work as a Senior Technical Advisor on Strategic Policy and Capacity Development with the Independent Directorate for Local Governance. For more information about CANADEM, or any of the projects listed above, please visit: www.CANADEM.ca.

WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT-CANADA (WFM-C)

During the week of January 26, the World Federalist Movement international secretariat in New York hosted the inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. The founding of this coalition follows seven regional consultations in capitals around the world. The Ottawa consultation (March 2008) was co-organized by WFM – Canada and CANADEM. The report from all seven regional preparatory consultations ("[Global Consultative Roundtables on the Responsibility to Protect: Civil Society Perspectives and Recommendations for Action](#)") is now available online. Steering Committee members for the new R2P Coalition include: the East African Law Society (Tanzania), the West African Civil Society Institute (Ghana); International Refugees Rights Initiative (Uganda), Initiatives for International Dialogue (Philippines), Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES) (Argentina), Human Rights Watch and Oxfam International. WFM NY will co-host a coalition secretariat; the second secretariat location is still to be determined.

NON-MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

CIVILIAN PEACE SERVICE

The Civilian Peace Service in cooperation with the The Canadian Department of Peace Initiative and The Canadian Institute for Conflict Resolution, is hosting a Women Building Peace Conference on February 15-17, 2009 to be held at Université Saint Paul University, 223, rue Main Street, Ottawa, K1S 1C4. For further details and registration information, click [here](#).

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, OTTAWA UNIVERSITY

"After the Taliban: Nation Building in Afghanistan". A talk by James Dobbins, Director, International Security and Defense Policy Center, RAND National Security Research Division, Washington, D.C. Mr. Dobbins' talk will be based on his newly published book, *After the Taliban: Nation-Building in Afghanistan*, which won the 2008 Douglas Dillon Award for Distinguished Writing on American Diplomacy. James Dobbins previously served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Europe; Special Assistant to the President for the Western Hemisphere; Special Adviser to the President and Secretary of State for the Balkans; Ambassador to the European Community; Clinton administration's Special Envoy for Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo; Bush administration's first Special Envoy for Afghanistan; Bush administration's representative to the Afghan opposition in the wake of September 11, 2001.

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2009; **Time:** 1:00pm; **Location:** Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Ave. E. Ottawa, Room 3120. Registration is not required. This event will be in English.

JOBS

PROGRAM MANAGER, SUDAN

The Forum of Federations is a non-profit, international organization based in Ottawa, Canada. It is the world's leading network dedicated to mutual learning among the world's existing and emerging federations (visit our website at www.forumfed.org). It is seeking a Program Manager to lead implementation of its Federal Governance and Peace in Sudan program (FGPS, Phase 2). This contract is to start as soon as possible until March 31, 2010, with possibility of extension. The Program Manager will be responsible for the effective implementation of the Program, including the day-to-day running of the Sudan office. S/he will report to the Africa Director based in Addis Ababa, and works in close collaboration with the Africa Program Officer, based in Ottawa. S/he will supervise a national team of 3-5 professional staff as well as logistical and other support staff, all based in Sudan. This position involves frequent travel (25-40%) outside of Khartoum and may entail irregular working hours. For further details about this position, click [here](#).

SENIOR GBV COORDINATOR – KINSHASA

The International Rescue Committee is seeking a Senior Gender-Based Violence Coordinator to contribute to compelling humanitarian work by overseeing a large and high-profile program for IRC in one of the world's most devastating contexts for women and girls. The Senior GBV Coordinator will help strengthen IRC's current programming which includes emergency response to save lives and reduce suffering and post-conflict development activities to promote the empowerment and well-being of women and girls in eastern Congo. This is an opportunity to use skills in leadership, management, program design and advocacy in addressing both the immediate and long-term needs of survivors of sexual violence and advocating for greater protection of women and girls.

IRC is looking for a candidate with demonstrated commitment to women's issues, 5 years experience in program management in an international humanitarian or post-conflict setting, expertise in gender-based violence programming and ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English and French. This is a long-term accompanied position based in Kinshasa with frequent travel to field locations. For further details about this position, click [here](#).

For more information on vacancies visit:

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/res.nsf/doc212?OpenForm>

<http://www.developmentex.org/index.jsp>

<http://www.charityvillage.com/cv/main.asp>

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

[IGLOO Governance Village Job List](#)