

**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.

Visit:
www.peacebuild.ca/working/powg

CONTACT

Stefan Lehmeier
Coordinator POWG
powg@peacebuild.ca
(613) 232-0647

NEWS AND ARTICLES

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

Sudan – DR Congo – Somalia –
Chad – Lebanon – Timor-Leste

In addition, this section includes news on UN peace-keeping.



EUFOR helicopter in Chad (Source: answers.com)

ACTIVITIES

NPSIA hosting Romanian Amb. Elena Stefoi
(Apr. 2)

Nicholas Schmidle on Pakistani Taliban
(Mar. 25)

CDAI hosting Brig.-Gen. Thompson
(Mar. 31)

Matt Waldman (Oxfam) on aid and peace in
Afghanistan
(Apr. 8)



Nicholas Schmidle (Source: voanews.com)

IN THE NEWS

SUDAN

The United Nations has wasted tens of millions of dollars in its peacekeeping operations in Sudan over the past three years, according to the [findings of UN auditors](#).

UNAMID is in danger of [failing even before it begins](#) its mission because of bureaucratic delays, stonewalling by the Sudanese government and reluctance from troop-contributing countries to send peacekeeping forces into an active conflict.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the initiative to set up a group of ["Friends of UNAMID"](#). The new group is tasked with supporting the deployment of the mission. Its first meeting was convened by the United States and Canada in New York.

Cash-flow problems and logistic headaches are blighting preparations for [Sudan's census](#). The largest civic exercise in Sudan's history is to take place between April 15-30, the Sudanese authorities claim, in spite of complaints in the south about disorganization.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

[Sexual violence](#) against women is rampant in the DRC but the majority of perpetrators, especially in "no-law" zones, go unpunished, according to a UN independent human rights expert.

The January 15 deadline for FDLR (Rwandan Hutu) fighters to [voluntarily disarm](#) has expired without guns being handed in, because Kinshasa lacks the capacity to resolve the problem, analysts said.

Violence between Bunda dia Kongo (BDK) and police in western Congo has wrong-footed MONUC, leaving it [scrambling](#) to try to end the latest violence in the vast country.

Three MONUC officers deployed with the North Kivu Brigade have [allegedly raped](#) a woman in South Africa during their holiday there. The Indian Defence Ministry has ordered a probe into the incident.

SOMALIA

The Somali transitional government announced that it would like to [engage opposition](#) groups in dialogue – a step considered by analysts as an important policy shift.

The international community should seize a [window of opportunity](#), despite the difficult security and humanitarian situation in Somalia, to bring peace to the war-ravaged country, the UN has said.

One year after the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) deployed its first peacekeepers to Mogadishu, [assessments](#) of its performance and relevance remain mixed.

As the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance continues to grow due to internal displacement, there are fears a [poor rainy season](#) could lead to drought and famine.

CHAD

The [deployment](#) of EUFOR was resumed on February 12 after being suspended due to fierce fighting in the capital N'Djamena.

EUFOR is facing critical [logistical challenges](#), starting with difficulties related to the projection of the force into the area of operations.

The Chadian army has launched numerous [cross-border raids](#) on villages in north-western Central African Republic (CAR) in recent weeks, killing civilians, burning villages, and stealing cattle.

The presidents of Sudan and Chad signed a [peace agreement](#) to suppress attacks by armed groups operating along their shared border.

LEBANON

UNIFIL, which has become an integrated force of 13,000 soldiers as well as 1,000 civilian employees, celebrated the 30th [anniversary](#) of its peacekeeping mission in South Lebanon.

An [Israeli warship](#) entered Lebanese territorial waters before being intercepted by an Italian UNIFIL vessel. Israeli jets regularly violate Lebanese airspace, but it is rare for warships to enter Lebanese territorial waters.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed concern over the effects of the ongoing political crisis, arms smuggling and Israeli overflights in a [new report](#) on compliance with the Security Council decision that helped end fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in 2006.

TIMOR-LESTE

Timor-Leste's parliament has extended a [state of emergency](#) imposed after attacks on the nation's top leaders. The emergency rule, which will be in place for another 30 days, includes a ban on rallies and a night-time curfew.

The UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1802, extending the [mandate](#) of the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) at the current level.

On February 11, President and Nobel laureate Jose Ramos-Horta was shot twice, while Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao escaped unhurt in [coordinated attacks](#) blamed on rebel troops.

UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING

The General Assembly formally established a new [Department of Field Support](#) and a senior-level position to run it, as it also approved a record \$5.25 billion budget for the 13 active peacekeeping operations it will oversee.

The UN appointed [Susana Malcorra](#), one of Latin America's leading businesswomen, to head the new Department of Field Support. In the new post, Malcorra will direct all support for the 32 U.N. field operations, currently comprising more 100,000 military, police and civilian personnel.

Jean-Marie Guéhenno of France told staff within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Services that he intends to [leave his post](#) when his contract expires in mid-2008.

Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, [warned](#) that in some countries, at the very moment when international assistance is most needed, the attention of the world is waning (DRC, Sudan, Ethiopia & Eritrea).

Further delay in the payment of past [US dues](#) to the United Nations could lead to negative consequences for global peacekeeping operations and development programs, independent groups are warning.

IN-DEPTH REPORTS

Centre on International Cooperation: "[Annual Review of Global Peace Operations.](#)"

Global demand for peacekeepers continued to rise in 2007. By the end of the year, there were over 160,000 peacekeepers in the field. The UN remained the centrepiece of the international peacekeeping system, providing nearly 50 percent of all peacekeepers in the field. Non-UN organizations – primarily the European Union (EU), the African Union (AU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) – maintained over 78,000 military and police personnel in the field.

OHCHR & UNAMID: "[Report on Human Rights Violations in Darfur.](#)"

Attacks on villages in West Darfur in January and February by the Sudanese armed forces amounted to a "deliberate" military strategy, the United Nations said. The scale of destruction of civilian property, including objects indispensable for the survival of the civilian population, suggests that the damage was a deliberate and integral part of a military strategy.

International Crisis Group: "[Kosovo's First Month.](#)"

The first month of independence has mostly gone well, but violence in Mitrovica shows that the opponents of independence can still threaten the new state and that there is a risk that Serbian-inspired partition will harden and Kosovo become a frozen conflict.

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik: "[The Chad Crisis and Operation EUFOR Chad/CAR.](#)"

Recent fighting between three rebel groups and the Chadian army calls into question the deployment and purpose of Operation EUFOR Chad/CAR, which the Council of the European Union launched on 15 October 2007. The escalation of violence and open French political and military support for the authoritarian regime of President Idriss Déby have fundamentally changed the political circumstances under which the EU operation will be deployed. Therefore, the EU should re-examine EUFOR's underlying purposes. It should also consider abandoning the entire operation.

Government Accountability Office: "[Somalia – Several Challenges Limit US and International Stabilization, Humanitarian, and Development Efforts.](#)"

Several challenges have limited international efforts to stabilize Somalia. A shortage of troops has hindered AMISOM's ability to achieve its mission. In addition, the most recent attempt at political reconciliation was limited, in part because several important opposition groups were not involved. According to many officials, Somalia's Transitional Federal Government lacks institutional structures and national acceptance. To mitigate these challenges, the international community is taking steps that include encouraging all parties to participate in reconciliation discussions.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT-CANADA (WFM-C)

On March 7, the World Federalist Movement – Canada organized a full day consultation entitled "Civil Society Consultation on Prospects for an International Coalition on the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)." The event brought together a diverse group of non-governmental actors who discussed the challenges and possibilities for a civil society coalition to promote the R2P agenda. Similar consultations were held in seven other national capitals around the world. For more information contact Mr. Fergus Watt, 613.323.0647, wfcnat@web.ca.

RESEAU FRANCOPHONE DE RECHERCHE SUR LES OPERATIONS DE PAIX

Le Réseau francophone de recherche sur les opérations de paix et le Canadian Defence & Foreign Affairs Institute offrent 12 bourses d'études à des étudiants en journalisme pour qu'ils suivent une formation sur le journalisme et les affaires militaires canadiennes. Les participants se verront accorder un certificat attestant des compétences acquises à l'issue de cette formation. Ces bourses représentent une excellente occasion d'acquérir une connaissance approfondie des opérations militaires canadiennes en général, et plus particulièrement du rôle des 2400 soldats de la base de Valcartier qui sont déployés en Afghanistan depuis août 2007. Le Réseau et le CDFAI remercient la Fondation Munk de son soutien financier. Le cours s'adresse à des finissants de premier cycle en 3e ou 4e année ou de maîtrise et doctorat inscrits à un programme canadien d'études en journalisme. Jusqu'à 12 candidats seront acceptés. Le cours de neuf jours (du 5 au 14 mai 2008) se déroule en français et permet aux participants de se familiariser avec le journalisme militaire et le rôle des Forces armées canadiennes, au pays comme à l'étranger. Pour plus d'information contactez : Marc-André Viau, 514-343-7536, marc.andre.viau@gmail.com.

PEARSON PEACEKEEPING CENTRE

Aleisha Arnusch, Research Analyst of the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre, will be in Kabul, Afghanistan from January – May 2008. Ms. Arnusch will be working as a civil-military liaison and knowledge manager on a web portal project designed to facilitate collaboration among the various actors involved in managing complex crises. She will be the first civilian to be thoroughly embedded in a military mission HQ and will be working, living, and writing notes from the field at HQ International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) for the duration of her stay there.

On 19 February 2008, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Alan Doss, met with a delegation from West and Central African country contributors to the UN Police, who visited the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) from 18-22 February. The visit was initiated by the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre, as part of the Civilian Police Capacity Development Program.

CANADEM

CANADEM, working with the Government of Canada, deployed four short term election observers to join the European Union Mission to monitor the February 18, 2008 elections in Pakistan. Additionally, two long term observers were in Armenia with the OSCE/ODIHR mission to monitor the February 19, 2008 Presidential Elections. Two forensics experts were also deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan on behalf of the International Criminal Defence Attorneys Association.

CANADEM, working with the Government of Canada, deployed four experts to Kenya through the CANADEM RAP-Fund. A Child Protection Officer, a Water Environment and Sanitation Expert, an Emergency Nutritionist and an Emergency Operations Officer will join UNICEF in its response to the humanitarian crisis which has resulted from post-election civil unrest. Additionally, through the RAP-Fund, a Water Environment and Sanitation Expert was deployed to join UNICEF in Somalia.

CANADEM continues to submit candidates for numerous position requests from the international community. For more information about CANADEM, please visit: www.canadem.ca or contact canadem@canadem.ca.

CENTRE FOR MILITARY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES

CMSS is pleased to announce the availability of new funding over the next three years for one Resident Fellowship per semester. The new infusion of funding is designed to provide release time from teaching and to encourage research projects that will enhance the Centre's overall research profile.

CMSS is also pleased to announce the availability of new research projects funding in the amount of \$15,000 for each of the next three years. The funds are to be used to support collaborative research projects both within CMSS (Fellows and Graduate Students) and without, involving major centres and institutes at the University of Calgary that touch on areas of mutual interest. Beyond Calgary, we wish to reach out to other universities, especially in Western Canada, such as the Institute for Global Studies at the University of Victoria, to partner with us.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty International has received evidence that the French government knew about the whereabouts of three detained senior Chadian opposition figures as early as 11 February, although they publicly denied having any such information. The revelation came as French President Nicolas Sarkozy prepared to visit Chadian President Idriss Deby in N'Djamena. The three prominent opposition figures "disappeared" on 3 February in N'Djamena, as armed opposition forces entered the capital.

NON-MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

THE NORMAN PATERSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

NPSIA and the Centre for Security and Defence Studies are pleased to welcome Her Excellency, Ambassador Elena Stefoi from the Embassy of Romania who will present: "Beyond NATO's Bucharest Summit: Vision and Commitments." This presentation is being given by Ambassador Stefoi on the occasion of the 20th NATO Summit being held in Bucharest Romania from April 2 – 4, 2008. **Date:** Wednesday, April 2. **Time:** 3:00 PM. **Place:** 2017, The Arts Faculty Lounge, Dunton Tower, Carleton University. **Contact:** Please RSVP by contacting Bryan Henderson at (613) 520-2600, ext. 1371 or bryan_henderson@carleton.ca.

INSTITUTE OF CURRENT WORLD AFFAIRS

Nicholas Schmidle's article "Next-Gen Taliban" appeared in the New York Times Magazine on January 6, 2008. Two days later he was deported from Pakistan. Come listen to his story. **Date:** Tuesday, March 25. **Time:** 7:00-8:30 PM. **Place:** Room 1130, Desmarais Hall, 55 Laurier Ave. East (at Nicholas). **Topic:** "The Pakistani Taliban: Taking Territory, Changing Tactics, and Threatening Stability." **Note:** This event will take place in English. It is free and open to the public, and registration is *not* required.

CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE

CDA Institute will host Brigadier-General Denis Thompson, Commander Headquarters - JTF Afghanistan (Roto 5), who will speak on, "Present Thinking on the Way Forward in Kandahar Province." **Date:** Monday, March 31. **Time:** 12:00-2:30 PM. **Place:** boardroom of Fleishman-Hillard Canada, 100 Queen Street, 13th floor, Ottawa. **Contact:** RSVP is required. To reserve a spot, please contact Mr. Arnav Manchanda, Project Officer at the CDA Institute, by email projectofficer@cda-cdai.ca or phone 613-236-9903. First-come, first-served - space will be at a premium.

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

The Halifax Branch of the Canadian International Council is organizing a workshop that is part of a larger Working Group exercise entitled "Canada's Intervention Dilemma: Matching Interests, Objectives and Means." The Working Group, which has been formed by Drs. David Black, Ann Griffiths and Michael MacKinnon, will examine the issue "Canada's Intervention Dilemma" through a multi-phase approach that will include this opening workshop, a public seminar and a publication process. **Date:** Monday, 31 March. **Time:** TBD. **Place:** Halifax. **Contact:** Mike MacKinnon for more information at 902.463.1410.

OXFAM CANADA

Oxfam Canada will host its Afghanistan Policy Director, Mr. Watt Waldman, for a presentation to members of the Afghanistan Reference Group and possibly also to the wider public. Mr. Waldman is the author of two recent Oxfam International papers on aid effectiveness as well as on community peacebuilding in Afghanistan. **Date:** Tuesday April 8, 2008. **Time:** 9:00 PM. **Place:** Office of Oxfam Canada. **Contact:** Please RSVP before April 1 by contacting Lina Holguin at HolguinL@oxfam.qc.ca.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Expected activities in the coming weeks and months with relevance to the work of the Council include a census is now planned for April in Sudan, a visit by the AU Peace and Security Council whom Council members invited to a joint meeting in New York on 16 April, local government elections scheduled for June in Sierra Leone, presidential elections in Côte d'Ivoire before the end of June 2008 and a meeting of states to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in small arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects planned for 14-18 July 2008 in New York. For more detailed information on the work of the UN Security Council click [here](#).

PEACE AND COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT NETWORKING

The Peace and Collaborative Development Networking is an open and free site to encourage learning and dialogue across disciplines among professionals working on issues of peace and conflict. The usefulness of the site will largely depend on the input of the members. Thus, everyone is encouraged to post their ideas, pictures, videos, blogs, and suggestions. For more information visit <http://internationalpeaceandconflict.ning.com/>.

RIDEAU INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Rideau Institute on International Affairs has announced its 2008 Board of Directors and Senior Advisors. The list comprises accomplished and well-known figures in the fields of international law, economics, diplomacy, Canada-U.S. relations, Arctic sovereignty, human rights, and international trade. For more information visit www.rideauinstitute.ca.

JOBS

MANAGER, MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS – CANADA

The Nobel Women's Initiative is hiring a Media and Communications Manager. The Manager is responsible for the overall direction, development and implementation of the media and communications program for the organization. Reporting to the Director, the candidate works in coordination with the Manager for Policy and Advocacy, and the 6 women peace Laureates who founded the Initiative, to develop and implement strategic media and communications plans that advance NWI's core advocacy agendas. Requirements include detailed knowledge of international media relations; established network of international media contacts in major media outlets, a Bachelor's degree; journalism or communications degree preferred, minimum of 6-8 years work experience, preferably more, primarily demonstrated media and media relations experience. Additional criteria: All applicants must be eligible to work legally in Canada for an extended period of time. Please send a cover letter, CV and short writing sample to jobs@nobelwomensinitiative.org. Media portfolio desirable. Only complete applications sent by email will be considered. Closing date: February 24.

PROGRAM SPECIALIST, MINE ACTION & SMALL ARMS – US

The Conflict Prevention and Recovery Team of the Technical Advisory Services Cluster is responsible for providing intellectual leadership and technical advisory services to UNDP Country Offices in the areas of DDR, Small Arms Control, Mine Action and Justice & Security Sector Reform (JSSR). As part of the Conflict Team, the Armed Violence, Mine Action and Small Arms Unit is responsible for the development and implementation of UNDP's mine action and small arms policies, strategies and programs. The Armed Violence, Mine Action and Small Arms Unit actively contributes to UN-system wide efforts, while also enhancing the capacity of UNDP country offices in implementing integrated armed violence, mine action and small arms programs. Under the direct supervision of the Senior Program Adviser, the Program Specialist will provide strategic, technical and substantive policy and programmatic support on mine action and small arms issues for UNDP, and represent UNDP/BCPR in the wider mine action and small arms community of practice, including with the UN system and bilateral partners. **Location:** United States of America (New York). **Closing date:** 02 Apr 2008. For more information click [here](#).

SENIOR MANAGER, PROTECTION & ADVOCACY – SUDAN

Save the Children US seeks a Senior Manager Protection & Advocacy for its programs in West Darfur, Sudan. The objective of the position is to enhance protection within Save the Children Darfur's programs as well as advocate for protection solutions at national levels in coordination with other INGOs and UN agencies (UNHCR, UNDP, OCHA, etc). The Senior Protection Manager will ensure the integration of protection and implementation of Save the Children's policies within Darfur Programs and ensure staff has sufficient and relevant understanding of IDP and refugee rights. A major objective of the Senior Protection Manager will be to train and empower national staff members so that, after about a year, local managers will take over all aspects of the program. Empowerment of national managers

staff is a key responsibility and objective of this position. Darfur, Sudan is a nonfamily station. For more information click [here](#).

REGIONAL PROJECT COORDINATOR – BURUNDI

The Regional Project Coordinator will be responsible for managing regional projects in the Great Lakes and assisting with new initiatives under Search for Common Ground's organic expansion. Specific tasks will include managing the regional project funded by the Belgian Cooperation, supporting the Great Lakes component of Africa-wide project supported by the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, assisting with start-up and fundraising of SFCG's recently launched Rwanda program, and supporting the monitoring and evaluation component of SFCG's projects in the region. Successful realization of responsibilities will require close collaboration with SFCG's national programs in Burundi and DRC, as well as with the Africa Team. The position will be based in Bujumbura, Burundi, and will involve significant travel around the region. The position will be supervised by the Africa Director. For more information click [here](#).

COORDINATION OFFICER – HAITI

The UN Coordination Officer's principal task is to support the UN Country Team and assist the Resident Coordinator in promoting UN coordination and in implementing the UN Country Team Work Plan. Specifically, (s)he will coordinate the implementation of initiatives of the UNCT on behalf of the Resident Coordinator, set operational priorities of the RC Office, supervise and ensure follow-up and feedback. (S)he is specifically tasked with ensuring timely and quality; a) preparation for UNCT meetings/events; b) implementation of activities identified at UN Country Team meetings; c) alerting the RC of pending and important issues to be raised during the UN Country Team meetings; support the development and collective participation of the members of the UNCT to on-going planning processes, including the formulation of the CCA, the UNDAF, PRSP, and other common strategic exercises, as relevant. For more information click [here](#).

NATIONAL JUDICIARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT - SOMALIA

Under the overall supervision of the UNDP Head of Sub Office and direct supervision of the ROLS Area Project Manager - Judiciary, the incumbent will support ongoing UNDP ROLS Judiciary initiatives in the region and carry out activities related to the implementation of strategies to strengthen access to justice and training of law professionals. He/she will also support national planning processes, national capacities and project formulation. Specific tasks include assisting in the management and coordination of project activities, providing technical support for the implementation of projects to strengthen the judiciary and increase access to justice, and developing indicators for measuring improvements in access to justice, case and court management at the output and outcome level. For more information click [here](#).