

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:

Sudan – Haiti – Somalia
Chad & CAR – DR Congo
Georgia – Lebanon – Liberia

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

ACTIVITIES

uOttawa: Sima Samar on human rights in Afghanistan
(June 2)

CCIC: Ernie Regehr & Mirwais Wardak on peace in Afghanistan
(May 22, 26, 28)

CDAI: David Collins on situation in Pakistan
(June 10)

UQAM: Dr. Nicolas Bergeron on humanitarian assistance
(May 26)



MONUC convoy passing displaced persons near Goma (Source: guardian.co.uk)



Sima Samar, Head of AIHRC
(Source: eoc.vic.gov.au)

IN THE NEWS

SUDAN

Darfur rebels launched an unprecedented attack on the Sudanese capital of Khartoum on May 10. Within a few hours, however, the Sudanese government said the attempt had been [crushed](#).

According to Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Marie Guéhenno, the incident underscores serious [shortfalls in UNAMID's resources](#), especially aerial reconnaissance capabilities, and indicates that the Darfur conflict could lapse into another [major cycle of violence](#).

[UNMIS](#) announced on May 17 that a tentative [agreement on Abyei](#) had been reached, ending a new round of [fighting](#) over the area between SAF and SPLA. This flare-up may jeopardize the CPA and therefore raised concerns of a [return to all-out civil war](#), even as conflict in the western region of Darfur rages on.

During a meeting of the Sudan consortium of donors in Oslo on May 7, donor countries pledged a preliminary [\\$4.8 billion](#) in assistance to Sudan for the [continued implementation](#) of the CPA.

HAITI

Ericq Pierre, Haiti's newly defeated nominee for prime minister said that [parliament rejected](#) him because he refused to accept bribes in exchange for ministerial appointments. Pierre's nomination was defeated by Haiti's lower house of parliament, the Chamber of Deputies, five days after he won overwhelming approval in the Senate.

Slum leaders in the southern town of Les Cayes who started Haiti's recent food riots did not follow through on their [ultimatum](#) to lawmakers to install a new government within a week or face more protests. However, the situation remains [volatile](#).

In early May, the Head of [FAO visited Haiti](#) for talks with top officials including President René Préval. Discussions focused on questions linked with [food security](#) and FAO's response to the rapid rise in food prices. A few days earlier, the Inter-American Development Bank had announced it would give \$27 million in [grant money](#) to Haiti to deal with higher global food prices and to revive agricultural production.

SOMALIA

Anti-terrorism officials in the Horn of Africa are on high alert following the [killing](#) of Shaykh Aden Hashi Ayro, the military leader of al-Shabab, in a May 1 strike by U.S. ship-launched Tomahawk missiles.

Meanwhile, al-Shabab and other insurgent groups are [continuing](#) their [guerrilla war](#) against Ethiopian and TFG troops. Thousands of people have been killed during the ongoing insurgency.

On May 16, peace talks on Somalia [broke up](#) without any face-to-face discussions between the [government](#) and the main [opposition](#) alliance. After four days meeting UN diplomats in Djibouti, the two sides agreed to attend further talks starting May 31.

On May 15, the UN Security Council [called on Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon to continue [contingency plans](#) to deploy a possible United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia and to relocate its political office UNPOS from neighbouring Kenya.

Soaring food prices, a devalued currency and drought mean [millions](#) of people in Somalia [cannot feed themselves](#). And the crisis will get much worse if April-June rains fail or are well below average.

CHAD & CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UNHCR is voicing concern about the [escalating violence](#) in eastern Chad, where two gendarmes guarding a refugee camp were shot dead and an [increasing](#) number of vehicles have been [carjacked](#).

In early May, a senior [aid worker was killed](#) in the same region. Faced with frequent armed robberies, many aid groups say EUFOR, deployed there since February, is [not doing its job](#) of [protecting](#) them.

A rebel attack on Khartoum in early May raises the [prospect of a border war](#) between Chad and Sudan; both believe the other is using rebels as proxy fighters.

The signing on May 9 of a ceasefire between the government of the CAR and the only [rebel group](#) that had yet to join a national peace process has drawn [mixed reactions](#) from within the country.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The UN is investigating allegations that MONUC peacekeepers committed [sexual abuses](#). The inquiry is focusing on Indian peacekeepers accused of paying for sex with underage girls.

UN investigators have been accused of "ignoring, minimizing or shelving" numerous charges of gold smuggling and arms trading by UN peacekeepers in the DRC. Human Rights Watch had released internal U.N. documents, which it said show [serious allegations](#) of wrongdoing by Pakistani and Indian peacekeepers.

Two agreements signed since the end of 2007 offer [some hope](#) for an end to violence in eastern DRC, even if [fighting has continued](#) and a lasting solution has yet to be found to the presence of Rwandan Hutu rebels.

The "Pooled Fund" which was established in 2006 and is coordinated by the UN has allocated \$60 million to 163 [humanitarian projects](#) in the DRC. Some \$55 million will go toward interventions across

DRC, while \$5 million will be held in reserve to provide a rapid response in case of humanitarian emergencies.

The Guardian examined the [roots of violence](#) in eastern DRC. To the outside world it has become as known as Africa's First World War. To some of those who have fought it is a matter of the very survival of nations, while to others it is the prospect of immense wealth that drives them.

GEORGIA & RUSSIA

Georgia's breakaway region of Abkhazia [shot down](#) a total of five Georgian spy drones in May, its defence ministry said. But Tbilisi denied it had flown any spy drone missions over Abkhazia and dismissed the allegations.

A group of [European Union](#) foreign ministers visited Georgia in mid-May. French Foreign Minister [Kouchner](#) contacted Moscow directly to intervene on Georgia's behalf. The EU and [NATO](#) said that Russia had fuelled tensions by deploying [extra troops](#) in Abkhazia.

In response to the developing situation, [UNOMIG](#) intensified its monitoring in all areas concerned but did not observe anything to substantiate reports of a build-up of forces on either side.

Georgia wants the EU to send [police](#) to the separatist region of Abkhazia. At the moment, Russia maintains a peacekeeping force separating Georgian and Abkhazian troops.

LEBANON

After almost a [week of street battles](#) that left scores dead and threatened to push the country into open war, long-simmering [Sunni-Shiite tensions](#) have sharply worsened.

On May 15, Arab mediators reached a deal to end the fighting and create a framework for the [talks](#), hosted by [Qatar](#) and attended by [leaders of rival factions](#).

Some [UN Security Council](#) members are considering whether the Council can add its voice in a constructive way to calming the crisis.

UNIFIL is intentionally [concealing information](#) about Hezbollah activities to avoid conflict with the group, senior sources in Jerusalem have said.

LIBERIA

UNMIL, the 15,000 strong UN peacekeeping force deployed in Liberia since 2003 has started [pulling out](#). Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon said the [draw down](#) process would proceed in a cautious and gradual manner that would allow the government sufficient time to assume full responsibility for the nation's security.

WFP has identified Liberia as one of 37 countries facing a [hunger crisis](#) as a result of food price hikes. Liberia currently imports 90 percent of its rice – the staple of its 3 million people – from Asia and the US, despite having fertile uplands and lowlands ideal for rice production.

Despite UNMIL's efforts to support security sector reform, the current police force in the Liberian capital Monrovia is [unable to combat](#) an increase in violent crime and many of the city's residents have created their own [civil defence](#) groups.

MISCELLANEOUS

More than 100 countries gathered in Dublin, Ireland on May 19 to [negotiate](#) a new [international treaty](#) aimed at [banning cluster munitions](#). Participating countries are scheduled to [adopt](#) the final text of the treaty on May 30.

The Economist quoted a [new study](#) by Paul Collier et al. (The security challenge in conflict-prone countries) arguing that more spending on peacekeeping could significantly reduce the risk of renewed conflict.

The [UN should stay](#) in East Timor until at least 2012, President Jose Ramos Horta has said. He told the BBC there was still great potential instability and the country needed more time to organize its police and the economy.

The US and the UK outlined steps to make [African peacekeeping](#) missions more effective, in talks on security ties between the UN and the African Union. Meanwhile, several African nations are concerned that the African Union will [not be able to fulfill](#) its peacekeeping ambitions because the armed forces of its member states tend to be overstretched, underfunded and struggling to meet existing commitments.

Jean-Marie Guéhenno, qui a dirigé les Casques bleus ces huit dernières années, [fait le bilan](#) de son action pour «Le Figaro».

IN-DEPTH REPORTS

International Crisis Group: "[Dem. Rep. of Congo: Four Priorities for Sustainable Peace in Ituri.](#)"

The risk of renewed violence in Ituri is limited today by the presence of the UN Mission in the Congo (MONUC), the dismantling of the majority of armed groups and the local population's war weariness after years of suffering and destruction. To ensure lasting stabilization, however, it is essential to tackle simultaneously the conflict's root causes and abandon purely reactive or short-term approaches. As local elections in 2009 approach, the absence of inter-community reconciliation and persistence of impunity for the majority of crimes committed during the war are also extremely worrying.

Security Council Report: "[Building Sustainable Peace: Post-Conflict stabilisation.](#)"

On 20 May, the Council will take up a new British initiative on securing peace in post-conflict situations. It is expected that the Council will be addressed by a number of countries which have recently emerged from conflict. Moreover, in recognition of the fact that the issues raised in the UK initiative include aspects which are clearly within the province of other parts of the UN system, a briefing from the World Bank is also expected.

Institute for State Effectiveness: "[An Agenda for State-Building in the Twenty-First Century.](#)"

Stability in the twenty-first century will only be achieved when trust is established between citizens and their states across the globe. Failure or fragility of the state has been at the heart of this crisis of governance and human rights violation. Loss of legitimacy is the primary cause of the fragility and failure of states. The vicious cycle begins with loss of trust in the state to create an inclusive political, social, and economic order made predictable by rule of law.

Center for International Security and Cooperation: "[The Geography of Insurgent Organization and its Consequences for Civil Wars: Evidence from Liberia and Sierra Leone.](#)"

This article investigates the determinants of armed group organization and the downstream effects of organization on civil wars. It demonstrates that the interaction between geographical and technological factors influences the types of hierarchical organizations that armed groups develop. It then argues that variations in the types of hierarchies developed by armed groups have important consequences for principal-agent relations, which in turn affect groups' overall level of military effectiveness.

FRIDE "[Food crisis in Haiti: Exposing key problems in the process of stabilisation.](#)"

Haiti has been hard hit by the global food crisis. Major progress had been made during the last year - violence had diminished and the UN peacekeeping operation (MINUSTAH) had reoriented its efforts to focus on state building. It is still too early to evaluate the real impact of the turmoil. With a new government to be sworn in, some observers already say the effects are catastrophic. The impact of a global food shortage in a country already suffering from a profound structural crisis could seriously undermine all achievements made to date by MINUSTAH and the international community.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

PEACE OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP

When the Afghanistan Compact was launched in early 2006, it was presented as a blueprint for Afghanistan's rebuilding and as recognition of the international community's long-term commitment to the Afghan nation-building project. Only a few months later, the assumption of relative stability upon which the Compact was premised was undercut by a new and largely unexpected wave of armed violence. According to some analysts, the Afghan government and its international partners initially reacted by deviating from the Compact's systematic, long-term approach. They seemed to favor short-sighted, quick fixes and to largely work around, not through, the new democratic institutions. Two years later, we are seeing the emergence of a fairly wide consensus on the need to rethink aid efforts and to tackle vital structural issues. Against this background – and one month before the upcoming Paris Conference that will review progress on the Afghanistan Compact – Peacebuild's Peace Operations Working Group, World Vision, Oxfam Québec, Oxfam Canada, CARE and CCIC organized a roundtable discussion on May 8 to examine to what extent the international community is able to act upon this consensus and summon the resolve to make a decisive change in the way it assists the people of Afghanistan in their quest for peace and development. For more information contact POWG Coordinator Stefan Lehmeier (slehmeier@gmail.com).

RESEAU FRANCOPHONE DE RECHERCHE SUR LES OPERATIONS DE PAIX

Le 14 avril, Jacques Sémelin, professeur à Sciences Po., Paris, et directeur de recherche au CERI/CNRS participait dans une conférence intitulée "Penser les massacres: Holocauste, Rwanda, Bosnie." Il présentait le fruit de ses recherches sur les violences extrêmes. Sémelin est l'auteur de *Purifier et détruire. Usages politiques des massacres et génocides* (Seuil, 2005). Il dirige actuellement une encyclopédie électronique des massacres et des génocides : www.massviolence.org. La conférence avait été organisée par le Réseau d'études sur l'Amérique latine (REAL) et la Chaire de Recherche en Histoire de l'Amérique latine.

PEARSON PEACEKEEPING CENTRE

The PPC has released the second edition of its new Mission Monitor, a quarterly report that provides factual information on current UN and other missions, including summaries of key changes and developments. Given the PPC's interagency and integrated focus, the Monitor concentrates on multilateral United Nations Security Council-authorized missions under Chapter VI, VII, or VIII of the UN Charter. The term 'missions,' as it is used here, refers to peacekeeping, peace enforcement, and reconstruction and stability operations. While PPC does not include political missions in this understanding, a list of UN Political and Peacebuilding missions is provided for each continent. For more information visit <http://www.peaceoperations.org/web/la/en/pa/0CFC51A4711E4857B2FF9DF92580E4C6/template.asp>.

CANADEM

The CANADEM RAP-Fund saw six rapid deployments in April. CANADEM, working with the government of Canada, deployed a humanitarian advisor to join UN OCHA in Bolivia. Additionally, an emergency logistics officer was deployed to Madagascar; a child protection officer was deployed to Kenya; a protection coordinator was deployed to Zambia; and both a regional coordinator and a logistics officer were deployed to Namibia to join UNICEF emergency response efforts in each of these countries. Also in April, CANADEM held an election observation training session in conjunction with the International Election Monitors Institute to brief former parliamentarians on the roles and responsibilities of election observers. 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

On March 16, Ishmael Beah gave a presentation entitled "Child Soldiers Can Recover with the Right Assistance" as part of the Peacebuilding, Development and Security Program's (PDSP) "New Challenges in War to Peace Transitions" Seminar Series at the University of Calgary. The hundreds of thousands of child soldiers forcibly conscripted into armed conflicts around the world are not a "lost generation". With the right care and support it is possible for the human spirit to recover even from the brutal traumas these children have endured and for them to still make something of their lives. This was the message for the 500 Calgarians who crowded into the University of Calgary's MacEwan Ballroom to hear twenty six year old Ishmael Beah. Beah, a former child-soldier from Sierra Leone and the author of "A LONG WAY GONE: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier". Beah is now a UNICEF ambassador for Children Affected by War and a member of Human Rights Watch's Children's Rights Division Advisory Committee. Beah's experiences provide a window into the challenges and efficacy of programs by international and national humanitarian agencies to rehabilitate child soldiers. Along with all ex-combatants, the long-term reintegration of child soldiers is a critical issue for countries emerging from war. To see a full briefing note on this issue prepared by Valerie Yankey and Lara Olson visit: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pdsp/seminars/beah>.

WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT-CANADA (WFM-C)

Prof. Walter Dorn (Canadian Forces Staff College) was the guest speaker at a meeting on April 25 in Montreal organized by WFM-C. Over 60 people took part in the powerpoint presentation on "Canada in UN Peacekeeping: Proud Past, Absent Present, Strong Future?"

For more information on this event as well as other activities organized by WFM-C, contact Mr. Fergus Watt at wfcnat@web.ca or 613.232.0647.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

On April 22, AI called on the UN and governments in Central Africa to take immediate action to secure the release of more than 350 men, women and children thought to have been abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in recent weeks. The abductions took place in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Southern Sudan while the LRA was ostensibly preparing to sign a peace agreement with the Ugandan government meant to end more than 20 years of a civil war that has been characterized by war crimes, including abductions and widespread unlawful killings and mutilation of non-combatants. "As in Uganda, these people – including scores of women and children – are likely to be used as child combatants and sex slaves, and yet none of the governments in the region have done anything to try to secure their release," said AI. "The governments of Sudan, the CAR and the DRC – with the assistance of the UN – must join forces to secure the safety and release of those kidnapped immediately and bring those responsible to justice."

The most recent abductions took place near Obo, a town on the south eastern corner of the CAR, bordering the DRC and Sudan. The LRA appears to have moved their operations to southern CAR in a bid to avoid the arrest and transfer of their senior commanders to the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague, where they are wanted on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. Recent information suggests that the fighters have since crossed into the DRC, taking the abductees with them. There are currently five security forces operating in the CAR – the CAR Army, EU forces (EUFOR), UN forces (MINURCAT), multinational Central African forces (FOMUC – Force Multinationale en Centrafrique) and French government forces. AI is calling on the UN and other forces operating in the area – including UNMIS in Southern Sudan, and MONUC in the DRC – to assist the regional governments to secure the release of those kidnapped. The organization also called on international peace-keeping and government forces in the region to cooperate to arrest and surrender any person subject to an ICC arrest warrant, including leaders of the LRA.

Amnesty also condemned the recent threats against humanitarian workers in Somalia made by Muqtar Robow Abu Mansur, a leader and spokesperson of al-Shabab and [released a report](#) on the dire human rights and humanitarian crisis facing the people of Somalia. First-hand testimony from scores of traumatized survivors of the conflict is included in the report, which exposes the violations and abuses they have suffered at the hands of a complex mix of perpetrators. These include Ethiopian and Transitional Federal Government (TFG) troops on the one hand, as well as armed groups on the other. For many civilians, there is nowhere to go to escape the violence.

NON-MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITE DE QUEBEC A MONTREAL

La Chaire Raoul-Dandurand en études stratégiques et diplomatiques, conjointement avec l'Institut d'études internationales de Montréal (IEIM), la Faculté de science politique et de droit de l'UQAM, l'Institut des Nations Unies pour la Formation et la Recherche (UNITAR), CANADEM et l'ACNU-Grand Montréal, organise deux séminaires d'approfondissement consacrés aux missions de paix et aux opérations humanitaires. Dans ce cadre, deux grandes conférences sont ouvertes au public. L'allocution de M. Edmond Mulet, Sous-secrétaire général adjoint aux opérations de maintien de la paix des Nations Unies sur les «Défis du maintien de la paix en 2008» a eu lieu le 5 mai, devant une salle comble. Ne manquez pas: "L'évolution du système humanitaire contemporain" par le Dr Nicolas Bergeron, Président de Médecins du Monde Canada. **Date:** 26 mai. **Heure:** 3:00 pm. Inscription / Renseignements: Lyne Tessier / IEIM / (514) 987-3667 ou tessier.lyne@uqam.ca.

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

CCIC and various partner organizations are inviting you to a roundtable talk on "Building Peace in Afghanistan: What can be done?" Presentations will be given by Mr. Mirwais Wardak, Program Director with the Kabul-based NGO, Co-operation for Peace and Unity (CPAU), Mr. Ernie Regehr, founder and former Executive Director of Project Ploughshares, and Surendrini Wijeyaratne, Policy Analyst with CCIC. For more details contact swijeyaratne@ccic.ca.

Date: May 22. **Time:** 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. **Venue:** Centre 7400, 7400 boul. Saint-Laurent, Montréal.

Date: May 26. **Time:** 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. **Venue:** Amphitheatre, St. Paul's University, 223 Main Street, Ottawa.

Date: May 28. **Time:** 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm. **Venue:** Development and Peace Toronto Office, 10 St. Mary St., Room 420 (the Tom Johnston Board Room). As space is limited, please RSVP by May 27 by email or phone to Simon Appolloni simon.appolloni@devp.org or 416-922-1592 #238.

CCIC has prepared an analysis of CIDA's "Part III Estimates: Plans and Priorities for 2008/09" released in April. The CIDA report suggests that Canada's aid programs may be more closely aligned with current Canadian foreign policy priorities. Further details on CIDA's priority focus countries were also provided but, unfortunately, unlike previous "Plans and Priorities", this year's report gave almost no details on the components of the International Assistance Envelope, which had included indicative figures for the various Branches of CIDA. CCIC's analysis of the "Part III Estimates: Plans and Priorities" is available at www.ccic.ca/e/docs/002_aid_2008-04_cida_estimates_2008-09.pdf

WORLD VISION

On May 27 & 28, World Vision will host representatives of the Parents Circle-Families Forum (PCFF) who will present a message on "Reconciliation not Revenge: Possibilities for Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." PCFF, a grassroots organization of bereaved Palestinians and Israelis, promotes dialogue, understanding and reconciliation as an alternative to hatred and revenge. World Vision, a supporting organization of the Parents Circle, invites you to hear the stories and messages of two members, Robi Damelin, Israeli, and Ali Abu Awwad, Palestinian, and to view an award-winning documentary "Encounter Point" which features their work (visit <http://www.encounterpoint.com/> to view a short trailer).

Date: May 27. **Time:** 7:00 pm. **Venue:** Amphitheatre at Saint Paul University, Guigues Building, Room 1124, 223 Main Street, Ottawa. Viewing of the award-winning documentary and an open Q&A session with the Parents Circle members. Admission is free.

Date: May 28. **Time:** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. **Venue:** Pearson Boardroom, IDRC, 8th Floor, 150 Kent St., Ottawa. A lunch for civil servants and NGO colleagues where there will be a viewing of the documentary trailer, presentations by the Parents Circle-Families Forum members and an open Q&A session. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Carol De Haros by May 22, 2008. Carol_DeHaros@WorldVision.ca, 613-569-1888. Space is limited.

CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE

CDAI will be hosting David Collins, High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan, who will speak on current developments in Pakistan. The session will be chaired by Dr. John Scott Cowan, President of the CDA Institute. The roundtable will be conducted under a version of Chatham House rule (not-for-attribution). A sandwich lunch will be provided. **Date:** June 10. **Time:** 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm. **Venue:** Fleishman-Hillard boardroom, 13th floor 100 Queen Street, Ottawa. An RSVP is required, and space is expected to be at a premium. To reserve a spot, please contact Arnav Manchanda by email projectofficer@cda-cdai.ca or phone (613) 236-9903. First-come, first-served.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

The University of Ottawa's Centre for International Policy Studies is pleased to invite you to a public lecture on "A Regional Compact for Afghanistan." The keynote address will be given by Mr. Karl Inderfurth, John O. Rankin Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, George Washington University; and former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs. Mr. Inderfurth has called for a multilateral accord to address both Afghanistan's and Pakistan's political, economic and security concerns. **Date:** May 28. **Time:** 3:30 pm. **Venue:** Room 1120, Desmarais Hall, 55 Laurier Ave. East (at Nicholas). This event is free and open to the public. It will take place in English. Registration is not required.

The International Development and Globalization Program (DVM) of the University of Ottawa would like to invite you to a panel discussion entitled "The Reconstruction and Development of Afghanistan -

Challenges and Perspectives.” Sima Samar, Head of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) will give a presentation and participate in the discussion. This event will focus on perspectives on foreign aid and human rights determinants of aid in the post 9/11 era. Bob Fowler, Senior Fellow at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, will be the discussant. Nipa Banerjee of the University of Ottawa will moderate. **Date:** June 2. **Time:** 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. **Venue:** TBD. For further information please contact nipa.banerjee@uOttawa.ca or pierre.beaudet@uottawa.ca.

SWISS PEACE FOUNDATION

The Center for Peacebuilding KOFF of the Swiss Peace Foundation is happy to present the new training series 2008. This year, KOFF organizes four trainings on the following topics: (1) Working on trauma in communities affected by mass violence; (2) Reflecting on Peace Practice; (3) Do no harm; (4) Theory and Practice of Dialogue Facilitations. **Venue:** Switzerland (Bern). **Date:** September 24 – 25. Language: English. The Reflecting on Peace Practice training will examine questions such as “To what extent does peace building work contribute to sustainable processes and structures of social change?”, “How can efforts in peace building be planned in order to be most effective?” And finally “How can success be defined and measured in this field of work?” The main findings of the RPP Project initiated by the CDA Collaborative Learning Projects will be introduced, and participants will learn how to apply them to their own work. The training aims to offer practice-based food for thought and guidance for successful peace building. Training Cost: 200 CHF for KOFF members, 400 CHF for all others. In case you have any questions, contact KOFF by mail koff@swisspeace.ch or phone +41 (0)31 330 10 73. You can also find more information on the RPP training by visiting <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwt.nsf/db900SID/ASAZ-7EDJE3?OpenDocument>.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF AFGHANISTAN

As part of its Afghanistan Studies Seminar, AUAF held a public lecture on “The Weaknesses of the Afghan State and the Spread of the Insurgency 2002-2008.” The keynote address was given by Dr. Antonio Giustozzi on May 3 in Kabul. Giustozzi examined the causes of the insurgency’s success in moving from consisting essentially of cross-border raids to establishing roots deep inside Afghanistan. Giustozzi is research fellow at the Crisis States Research Centre at the London School of Economics. His next book, *Empires of Mud: War and Warlords in Afghanistan*, will appear in 2008. He is currently researching issues of governance in Afghanistan. To find out more about the May 3 event, contact mbehroozian@auaf.edu.af.

GLOBAL FACILITATION NETWORK FOR SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

The [sixteenth edition](#) of ssrbulletin, the monthly newsletter from the Global Facilitation Network for Security Sector Reform (GFN-SSR), has been released. In this edition you will find an overview of the Whole of Government approach to SSR conference recently held in the Netherlands, links to SSR document summaries on DRC, a look at the new £1 billion DFID research strategy and the Tswalu Protocol on Principles and Guidelines for Peace-Building Missions.

JOBS

FUNDRAISING OFFICER – CANADA

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Office in Canada is hiring a fundraising officer. Key duties and responsibilities will include developing a comprehensive strategy aimed at raising private-sector funding in Canada for UNHCR's programs worldwide as well as designing, planning and conducting private sector fund raising (PSFR) campaigns in Canada. Contact CANOT@UNHCR.org for a full job description and application form. Interested candidates will need to complete a UN Personal History form (P11) and return with a covering letter by e-mail to CANOT@UNHCR.ORG citing "Fund Raising Officer (Ottawa) or by post to: UNHCR, 280 Albert Street, Suite 401, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5G8 or by fax: 613-230-1855. All applications must be received with a covering letter by 12:00 pm, **May 21**.

PRINCIPAL RESEARCHER – CANADA

The North-South Institute has a vacancy for a Principal Researcher to lead its Conflict Prevention team. This is a two-year contract position with the possibility of extension. Candidates should have a post-graduate university degree and 10 or more years of post-university research and an established record of research achievement in the area of conflict prevention and peacebuilding from a development perspective. Furthermore they should be considered an expert in the field of conflict prevention and peace-building. Please send a letter of interest, your CV and a 4-page writing sample to dpichette@nsi-ins.ca by **May 21**. NSI expects to hold interviews in early June. NSI would like to thank all applicants for their interest but regret that we will only contact those selected for interview.

HUMANITARIAN POLICY ADVISOR – SWITZERLAND

The role of this post is to effectively influence the policy of governments, UN bodies and other humanitarian agencies in Geneva, in line with the objectives of Oxfam's humanitarian campaign, helping make Oxfam a recognized authority on humanitarian issues. It complements the work done in capitals and OI offices in New York, Brussels and Addis Ababa. The post will also contribute to building the campaign globally, particularly in the area of policy development and analysis. Required skills include comprehensive knowledge of and exposure to a wide range of humanitarian assistance and related human rights issues, preferably with knowledge of INGO humanitarian operations and IHL as well as in depth knowledge of humanitarian institutions and good understanding of the role of the UN. Location: Geneva, Switzerland. Salary: circa CHF105,000 -110,000. To apply please send your CV/resume (MS Word format) and covering email to: recruitment@oxfaminternational.org. Closing date: **June 11**, 12:00 am GMT. Interviews (probably Oxford): w/c 30th June 2008



GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PROGRAM MANAGER – CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is hiring a Program Manager for its growing GBV program in the CAR. The GBV Manager for Nana Gribizi will be responsible for strategy development, program design, implementation, standardization, and evaluation of all GBV-related activities in Kaga Bandoro. Primary duties will include implementing GBV activities in Nana Gribizi prefecture, including in Kaga Bandoro and along the different axis. The primary focus is on program quality, with program progress being monitored and evaluated against quantifiable benchmarks. Requirements include a post-graduate degree in social work, social sciences, public health, community health, or related field as well as at least two years experience working in the field of gender-based violence, protection, gender or human rights in conflict-affected areas. Please use IRC's online system to create a profile. This is the most effective and expedient way to apply, as your resume/CV will be saved in IRC's database and available to all IRC recruiters. Open positions are listed on our Web site: www.IRCjobs.org. Closing date: **July 15**.

CHIEF HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION, D1 – HAITI

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is hiring a Chief of MINUSTAH's Human Rights Section who will be responsible for advisory and representative roles such as acting as the Principal Adviser to the SRSG and reporting on issues related to human rights and activities related to the work of the Human Rights Section (HRS) as well as other tasks. Successful candidates will have at least 15 years of progressively responsible professional experience at national and international levels in the human rights field and fluency in French and English. Location: Haiti (Port-au-Prince). Closing date: **May 28**. All applicants are requested to email the following documents to personnel@ohchr.org: 1) a completed United Nations Personal History form (PHP) or P-11, in PDF or Word; 2) a covering letter as attached document; 3) UN staff members must submit scanned copies of their latest Performance Appraisal System (PAS). Please note that you need to mention the reference number of the vacancy announcement in the subject header of your email: VA 08/OHCHR/032/MINUSTAH. Name any attached documents as follows: LAST NAME First name – Type of document.doc; example: SMITH Jacqueline –Cover letter etc.

For more information on vacancies visit:

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

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

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