



*** PRESS RELEASE ***

***PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM AROUND THE WORLD GATHER IN TBILISI, GEORGIA TO DISCUSS
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS CONTROLS AND REGULATION***

*Tbilisi/New York
June 9, 2006*

WHEN: 9-10 June, 2006
WHAT: Regional Parliamentary Workshop on Small Arms and Light Weapons
WHERE: Parliament of Georgia
WHO: 30 Legislators from 15 Countries Worldwide

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), in association and with the support of the Parliament of Georgia, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), The George Soros Foundation and Safer World is organizing a major Regional Parliamentary Workshop on Small Arms and Light Weapons in Tbilisi, Georgia from 9-10 June, 2006.

The main objective of this Workshop will be to sensitize Parliamentarians from Georgia and certain other CIS countries to the need to improve controls on Small Arms and Light Weapons transfers from the region and to better regulate arms sales generally. In this connection, participants will be able to draw upon the experience of Parliamentarians from other countries also invited to participate in this important event event.

By way of general background, the issue of Small Arms and Light Weapons regulation is one of particular importance in the region and is also high on the agenda at the United Nations in New York where a major Review Conference will take place at the end of June/early July 2006. This Workshop therefore provides a unique opportunity for legislators to agree on a Plan of Action containing priorities for the region and internationally in advance of this UN Conference.

Note to Editors:

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is a network of approximately 1,350 Parliamentarians from 114 elected parliaments worldwide, engaged in a range of action-oriented initiatives that promote democracy, peace, justice and development throughout the world. Using its global network of parliamentarians which serve as bridges between their local constituencies, national governments and the international community, PGA is experienced in fostering policy dialogue among a wide cross-section of actors and stakeholders to address complex social problems that evade exclusively local solutions.

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