



**PGA UN NEWSLETTER**

**July 2011**

---

**1. Third UN ATT PrepCom**

From 11-15 July, 2011 the Third set of Preparatory Committee Meetings took place among the Member States of the United Nations at UN Headquarters in New York to continue deliberations/negotiations on an Arms Trade Treaty.

Within the parameters of PGA's Peace & Democracy Programme, PGA brought a prominent Delegation of MPs from India, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Uruguay and Sweden who participated in the ATT PrepCom as officially accredited Members of their national Delegations to the PrepCom. Together with a PGA Member MP from Pakistan, all of these Legislators also participated in a PGA organized Side Event – hosted by the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations – on 12 July, 2011 on 'Legislators and the ATT – A Vital Role'.

For further information on PGA's involvement in the Third UN ATT PrepCom and the PGA Side Event, please view the following links:

<http://www.pgaction.org/uploadedfiles/ATT%201%20Dr%20Wijdenbosch%20Presentation.pdf>

[http://www.pgaction.org/Legislators\\_and\\_ATT.html](http://www.pgaction.org/Legislators_and_ATT.html)

<http://www.pgaction.org/uploadedfiles/July2011attprepcomPR.pdf>

<http://www.pgaction.org/uploadedfiles/Michelini%20UN%20ATT.pdf>

**2. Southern Sudan**

UN experts expressed concern over atrocities in Sudan's Southern Kordofan region on July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011

This is of particular relevance to PGA's International Law and Human Rights Programme insofar as it relates to the Rome Statute of the ICC and the current international arrest warrant pending against the President of Sudan, as issued by the ICC for Darfur related atrocities.

For more information in this, please view:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=39127&Cr=kordofan&Cr1=>

**3. Bahrain**

On 30 June 2011 UN SG Ban Ki Moon welcomed setting up of Independent Commission to probe violent repression of pro-democracy protests and on July 5, 2011 the UN SG Ban Ki Moon welcomed the start of the National Dialogue process in Bahrain and on

---

This is of particular interest to PGA, in which several Bahraini legislators have been active in recent years, from both the governing and opposition parties as well as to the International Law & Human Rights Programme of PGA which closely monitors anti-impunity efforts around the world. The Chair of the Independent Commission, Prof. C. Bassiouni is also an Advisor to PGA's International Law & Human Rights Programme.

For further information on this, please view the following links:

<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/un-welcomes-bahrain-probe-unrest-031340773.html>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=38947&Cr=bahrain&Cr1>

#### **4. Children and Armed Conflict**

On 12 July, 2011, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1998 that calls for parties that attack schools and hospitals to be held accountable.

To the extent that attacks of this kind in situations of armed conflict constitute grave breaches of international humanitarian law, this development is of interest and relevance to the work of PGA's International Law & Human Rights Programme.

For further information on this, please view:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=39013&Cr=children&Cr1=armed+conflict>

---