



July 2014

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

...strengthening peace and security through disarmament



NEWSLETTER

China and UN convene meeting on Information and Cyber Security



(L-R): Mr. Li Baodong, Ms. Sharon Riggle, Mr. Jarmo Sareva, Mr. Fu Cong

International cyber threats are rapidly emerging and extremely complex, touching on many facets of everyday life. Building on the UN Group of Governmental Experts' (GGE) landmark international consensus of June 2013, this workshop, held in Beijing on 5-6 June, gathered, at the policy and technical levels, 85 senior officials from 25 countries, as well as representatives from academia, the private sector, civil society and UN organisations to discuss a range of cyber security issues. The discussion was interactive, wide ranging, and balanced, including debate on

possible responses to various cyber threats. The workshop also helped build trust at a time when international relations on cyber issues face increasing challenges.

Co-organised by UNRCPD, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of China, and the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association, the theme of the event was **Towards a Peaceful, Secure, Open and Cooperative Cyber Space**. Participants shared detailed information on emerging threats and challenges, the application of international law in cyber space, confidence building measures, capacity building, cyber crime, privacy, and internet governance.

The workshop fostered multi-stakeholder convergence around such issues as: the need to tackle cyber crime, developing international law and co-operation, calls for trust-building between all stakeholders, and the importance of a multi-stakeholder internet governance approach. The discussions also generated proposals for international norms for state behaviour. The event was marked by high regional representation, with over half of participants from Asia-Pacific countries.

Overall, participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive with many commenting that the workshop achieved relevant, frank and open discussion, which helped to build trust on this important issue at a pivotal time. Workshop participants expressed the hope that consensus could be reached at the forthcoming meetings of the UN GGE in 2014/15.



Read more at bit.ly/1nee3KE

UNRCPD ACTIVITIES

Supporting Myanmar to build capacity in small arms control

At the invitation of the Government of Myanmar, UNRCPD assisted government agencies involved in small arms and light weapons (SALW) to effectively implement the provisions of the UN Programme of Action (PoA). UNRCPD partnered with the Ministry of Defence to organise the workshop, which was the first time the Ministry has held such an event. The groundbreaking workshop, held on 15-16 May, brought together 18 departments and government agencies, as well as international experts, and focused discussions on both political and technical aspects of PoA implementation. In addition to hearing from the attending experts, the event allowed the participants to share best practices and learn about each other's work, via presentations on SALW control policies and practices made by government counterparts. The government representatives were also provided with key materials in their native language to facilitate future implementation.

The workshop was financed by the Government of Switzerland and supported by the Government of Germany.



Read more at bit.ly/1oszPQD



UNRCPD ACTIVITIES

Supporting the BWC in Nepal and Mongolia



Rapid developments in advanced life sciences and biotech industries in the region may outpace the capacities of states to address associated proliferation risks. So far, UNRCPD and UNODA Geneva Branch organised three national workshops in 2014 to promote implementation of the

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)—two in Nepal (20-21 February, 9-10 June, 2014) and one in Mongolia (28-29 April, 2014). The workshops formed the basis for developing an action plan for further national activities to implement the convention.

Read more at bit.ly/1pNj50N

Special issue marking 10 years of UNSCR 1540

During the past ten years, implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 has come a long way in the Asia-Pacific, and potential developments over the next ten years look equally promising. UNRCPD Director Sharon Riggie noted, with Michael McGinley, in the most recent edition of the *1540 Compass*, 'Despite concerted efforts from many actors over the past ten years, further work is still required to achieve universal and effective implementation of the resolution throughout the region'.

'It has become clear that only by developing a good understanding of the diversity of the region—including states' different needs and systems—is it possible to deliver effective implementation support'.

UNRCPD will be working with states and other stakeholders in the coming months and years to identify and provide assistance where needed.



Read more at bit.ly/1qehozZ

ATT: One year later, several steps closer to reality

Towards entry into force		Valid as of 14 July 2014
	Number of Signatory States	118
	Number of Asia-Pacific Signatory States	15
	Number of Ratifying States	41
	Number of Asia-Pacific Ratifying States	3
General Assembly vote to adopt the treaty: 154-3-23		

Marking the one-year anniversary of the opening for signature of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), eight new states ratified the ATT on 3 June, amongst them the Pacific states of Australia and Samoa. Together with Japan—the first Asia-Pacific country to ratify the treaty on 9 May 2014—this brings the total number of ratifications in the region to three, raising hopes that more states in the region will sign and ratify the Treaty. With 41 ratifications globally, only nine more are needed for the Treaty to enter into force, which occurs 90 days after the last deposit.

In July, UNRCPD participated in the Regional Asia and Pacific Parliamentary Workshop to Promote Signature and Ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty in Cambodia. In November, UNRCPD will organise a workshop to facilitate legal expert assistance to ATT signatories and other states in the Asia-Pacific region who have signalled their intent to sign and ratify the Treaty. The aim of the workshop is to examine the Treaty commitments and assist states in developing appropriate legislation and administrative measures. Taking place in Cambodia, this workshop is supported by the Government of Australia.

Read more at bit.ly/1j27GOT

Art for Peace Competition

For the third year in row, UNRCPD is holding its annual Art for Peace Competition (July 2014) in Kathmandu schools. Inspired by this year's UN International Day of Peace theme, 'The Right to Peace', UNRCPD will engage more than 500 Nepali schoolchildren on the subjects of peace and human rights, and have them reflect on what these themes mean to them.



Read more at bit.ly/1meyKcF

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Second ASEAN Regional Forum on Cyber Security, held in Kuala Lumpur on 25-26 March, explored specific proposals for practical cyber confidence-building measures in the Asia-Pacific region. A core aim of the workshop was to establish a network within ASEAN states that could be activated in times of cyber crisis. A corollary aim was to build confidence and reduce the risks of miscalculation and misinterpretation in cyber space, particularly in a region that is increasingly the target of cyber attacks. See bit.ly/1mqiCGO

At the 2014 Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague on 24-25 March, further agreements have been made on improving the security of radioactive material that can be used to make a 'dirty bomb', as well as on improving the international exchange of information and international cooperation. At the summit, Japan announced its intention to ship 500kg of weapons-grade highly enriched uranium and plutonium to the countries of origin (USA and UK). From the Asia-Pacific region, the Republic of Korea and Malaysia pledged to make resources of more than USD 1 million available for capability-building projects to counter nuclear material smuggling. See bit.ly/1DqQsG

The Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia was signed by the five official nuclear-weapon states on 6 May 2014. The Protocol commits nuclear-weapon states to respect the application of the Treaty in Central Asia as well as to neither use nor threaten to use nuclear weapons against the parties to the Treaty. This marks an important milestone for reinforcing both regional security in Central Asia and the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. See bit.ly/1mzFxMi





International Workshop on Information and Cyber Security

5-6 June 2014, Beijing



A full report on the conference will soon be available. For photo gallery and more information please visit <http://unrcpd.org/event/cyber-security/>



Quote of the Quarter

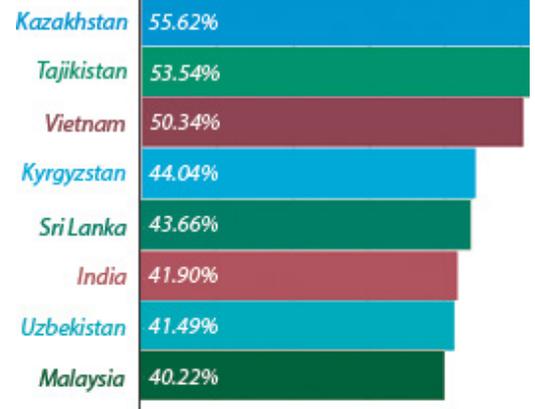
Confidence-building measures can promote trust and assurance among States. They can also help to reduce the risk of conflict by increasing predictability and reducing misperception and the risks of miscalculation.

Angela Kane
UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

DID YOU KNOW..?

★ 8/20

Of the top 20 countries where users face the highest risk of online infection, eight of them are in Asia



Cyber threats have become increasingly present in the Asia-Pacific region, making it crucial for the region to address these challenges for both regional and international security.

(Source: Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2013)

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2014 Special Issue on the 10th year anniversary of the adoption of UN Resolution 1540, *1540 Compass*, Center for International Trade and Security (CITS) and UNODA, Issue 6, Special Edition. cits.uga.edu/uploads/compass/compass6.pdf
- Trends in international arms transfers, 2013**, Siemon T. Wezeman and Pieter D. Wezeman, SIPRI, March 2014. books.sipri.org/files/FS/SIPRIFS1403.pdf
- 20th Anniversary Collection The Nonproliferation Review**, *Journal of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies*, MIIIS, Volume 21, Issue 1, 2014. explore.tandfonline.com/page/pgas/rnpr-20th-anniversary
- Women and Explosive Weapons**, ed. Ray Acheson and Beatrice Fihn, Reaching Critical Will, 2014. www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Publications/WEW.pdf
- The Nuclear Security Summit: Assessment of Joint Statements**, Michelle Cann, Kelsey Davenport and Sarah Williams, Arms Control Association and Partnership for Global Security, March 2014. pgstest.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/report_aca_pgs_nss_march2014.pdf

ABOUT UNRCPD

The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific assists countries in the Asia-Pacific region in achieving their peace, security and disarmament goals, through provision of substantive support; coordination of activities at the subregional, regional and international levels, and information sharing on global and regional activities. The Regional Centre is part of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.

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The 43 countries covered by the UNRCPD mandate

▶▶ Afghanistan ▶▶ Australia ▶▶ Bangladesh ▶▶ Bhutan ▶▶ Brunei
 Darussalam ▶▶ Cambodia ▶▶ China ▶▶ Democratic People's Republic
 of Korea ▶▶ Fiji ▶▶ India ▶▶ Indonesia ▶▶ Japan ▶▶ Kazakhstan ▶▶ Kiribati ▶▶
 Kyrgyzstan ▶▶ Lao People's Democratic Republic ▶▶ Malaysia ▶▶ Maldives ▶▶
 Marshall Islands ▶▶ Micronesia, Federated States of ▶▶ Mongolia ▶▶ Myanmar
 ▶▶ Nauru ▶▶ Nepal ▶▶ New Zealand ▶▶ Pakistan ▶▶ Palau ▶▶ Papua New Guinea ▶▶
 Philippines ▶▶ Republic of Korea ▶▶ Samoa ▶▶ Singapore ▶▶ Solomon Islands ▶▶ Sri
 Lanka ▶▶ Tajikistan ▶▶ Thailand ▶▶ Timor-Leste ▶▶ Tonga ▶▶ Turkmenistan ▶▶ Tuvalu ▶▶
 Uzbekistan ▶▶ Vanuatu ▶▶ Viet Nam



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