

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

has the pleasure of inviting you to a public launch and discussion on:

“Security Sector Reform in Challenging Environments”

On Tuesday, 17 February 2010
12:30-14:00

WELCOME

Tbd. Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

CHAIR

Koenraad Van Brabant
Head of the Reflective Practice Unit, Interpeace

SPEAKERS

Dr Albrecht Schnabel
Senior Fellow in the Research Division at the Geneva Centre for the
Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Dr Caty Clément
Faculty Member and Head of the Conflict and Peacebuilding Programme at the Geneva
Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

Eleanor Pavey
Training Coordinator in the International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) at the Geneva
Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Dr Hans Born
Senior Fellow in the Research Division at the Geneva Centre for the
Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Ideally, security sector reform (SSR) is part and parcel of democratisation processes and the strengthening of good governance in transition societies, putting security institutions in the service of an empowered society. However, the reality of SSR comes closer to muddling – rather than charting – through constantly changing, unpredictable and highly political realities.

In order to design and implement feasible and effective SSR programmes, one needs to understand better the challenges and obstacles that SSR activities face, the opportunities that might arise in different environments and the approaches that permit SSR to make meaningful progress despite the obstacles standing in the way. Empirical, bottom-up experiences are therefore invaluable in developing norms for workable, feasible SSR processes, capable of coping with challenging environments without losing sight of the long-term objective of generating good, affordable and democratic governance of the security sector. The 2009 DCAF Yearbook on “Security Sector Reform in Challenging Environments” examines these experiences and lessons in the context of the Central African Republic,

Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Morocco, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

The presentations at the book launch will focus on an assessment of the ideal and real SSR environments, drawing from an extensive survey of practitioner experience in various SSR contexts; on examinations of the inception, design and implementation of national SSR programmes and activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sri Lanka; and, based on the UN approach to SSR as a benchmark, on conclusions that were drawn from the country case studies about the scope and nature of SSR in post-conflict and transition states.

The seminar will gather peacebuilding professionals, both from an academic and practitioner background. We invite you to join us for this topical discussion and encourage you to share this invitation with any colleagues who may be interested. To register, please simply reply to this email with your full contact details (gpp@gcsp.ch) **by Friday 12 January, 18h.**

A light sandwich lunch will be served in the bar area on the **ground floor** from 12h.

Venue: WMO/OMM Building, 7bis Avenue de la Paix,
Room C1, level -1