

EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of *Disarmament Forum* examines the relationship between human rights and human security. Human security and human rights share common values, and a discussion of one demands consideration of the other. It has been argued that human rights offer the conceptual and normative framework for implementing the concept of human security and that opportunities exist to build upon the fundamental connections between the two areas to strengthen this synergistic relationship. Others are more cautious, fearing that 'folding' human rights—a body of norms codified in international law—into the 'new' concept of human security could seriously weaken or minimize the importance of the human rights regime. This issue of *Disarmament Forum* explores these themes, as well as the links between human rights and WMD, the challenges of measuring human security, small arms control as a human rights issue, and a review of the existing human rights mechanisms from a human security perspective.

The next issue of *Disarmament Forum* will examine the state of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, looking ahead to the 2005 NPT Review Conference. The recent Preparatory Commission in New York ended with adoption of only parts of its final report, and many key issues remain undecided regarding the Review Conference. In this issue we will be examining the current state of the regime—and exploring how the NPT could best react to recent events. Articles will focus on the criticisms of the NPT, recent developments, questions concerning supply networks, new responses (such as the Proliferation Security Initiative), disarmament obligations and safeguards.

The Group of Governmental Experts on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development concluded its work on 28 May with the adoption of the Chairman's Report. The Report will be presented to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly. UNIDIR served as consultant to the group.

In July UNIDIR will host a meeting with Dr George Perkovich to present the initiatives proposed by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) to revamp non-proliferation strategy and the NPT, to address implementation and compliance, and to strengthen the UN component in nuclear non-proliferation. The CEIP's report, entitled *Universal Compliance: A Strategy for Nuclear Security*, is available at < wmd.ceip.matrixgroup.net/UniversalCompliance.pdf > .

In September UNIDIR will be presenting the results of its Weapons for Development project at a two-day conference in Tokyo entitled 'Towards Participatory Disarmament: Lessons Learnt from UNIDIR's Weapons Collection Programme Evaluation'. The conference will review the project's findings from Albania, Cambodia and Mali. The participants will discuss participatory designing and planning of weapons collection, incentives, assessment criteria, and funding and resource mobilization with the objective of refining approaches to weapons collection programmes.

During the production process, two errors were mistakenly introduced into the article by R. Roy-Chaudhury entitled 'The United States' Role and Influence on the India-Pakistan Conflict', which appeared in the last issue of *Disarmament Forum*. The corrected text is available on our website at < www.unidir.org/bdd/fiche-article.php?ref_article=2117> . Our apologies to the author for the errors.

Kerstin Vignard