Expert Workshop on Indicators of Armed Violence

14 – 15 December 2009, Geneva

Rationale

A growing body of research, advocacy reports, and UN documents (including the Secretary-General’s report on armed violence and development), demonstrate how armed violence and insecurity present often formidable obstacles to sustainable economic, social and human development.

Nevertheless, there are few widely-used, reliable, comprehensive and cross-cutting indicators that would allow easy tracking of changes in the scale and distribution of armed violence around the world, or in specific national, local or regional contexts. Nor is there a large body of comparative research examining the specific impacts of armed violence on the achievement of the MDGs. The development of appropriate indicators and benchmarks is essential for measuring and monitoring progress in armed violence reduction (AVR) and to firmly anchor such efforts within a wider development context.

The Small Arms Survey and the Geneva Declaration Secretariat has undertaken some preliminary work on establishing benchmarks and indicators to measure armed violence. In its report for the Geneva Declaration Secretariat – the Global Burden of Armed Violence (GBAV, 2008) – the Survey developed a preliminary set of indicators on the global and regional distribution of armed violence. It included an assessment of direct and indirect violent deaths, homicide rates and offered an overview on how to measure the economic costs in terms of lost product due to lives lost.

Expert Workshop on indicators of armed violence

The aim of the expert workshop on indicators of armed violence will be to review preliminary benchmarks and indicators of armed violence with a group of experts from a variety of disciplines and approaches. ‘Hard’ indicators, such as violent deaths and injuries may represent reasonably sound proxies of the dynamics of armed violence more generally (and their corresponding impacts on economic productivity, public and private service delivery, social capital, etc.). During the workshop, indicators to measure ‘softer’ and more indirect symptoms of armed violence (which are relevant to development) such as sexual
and gender-based violence, and reduced access to basic services (health, education, welfare) shall also be examined.

Specialists will be drawn from statistical and epidemiological fields, criminology and the justice sector, economics and development and other social sciences. A premium will be placed on thinking “out of the box” and reviewing possibilities for developing national and global datasets. On the basis of the expert workshop, the Small Arms Survey will develop a 15-20pg armed violence metrics paper for widespread distribution and discussion.

Agenda

Monday, 14 December 2009

Session One: Chair, Paul Eavis

09.00 – 09.30 Introduction/setting the scene
Objectives; Armed Violence Reduction; Goals, Targets, Indicators and monitoring the achievement of the MDGs

Speaker: Peter Batchelor

09.30 – 10.00 Goals, Targets, Indicators on Armed Violence
Indicators on Armed Violence in the report Global Burden of Armed Violence

Speaker: Prof. Keith Krause

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee Break

Session Two: Chair, Paul Eavis

10.30 – 11.30 Presentation on war-related violence
Expert 1 on indirect conflict deaths; Andrew Mack
Expert 2 on direct conflict deaths; Jorge Restrepo

11.30 – 13.00 Presentation on crime-related violence
Expert 3 on homicide rates; Steven Malby
Expert 4 on mortality rates due to interpersonal violence; Colin Mathers
Expert 5 on gender-based and sexual violence; Claudia Garcia-Moreno (tbc)

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

Session Three: Chair, Keith Krause
14.30 – 16.00  **Presentation on costs of armed violence**

Expert 6 on costs of armed conflict; Olaf de Groot
Expert 7 on macro and micro-economic costs of criminal and interpersonal violence; Gary Milante
Expert 8 on health and rehabilitation costs due to armed violence; Alex Butchart

16.00 – 16.30  Coffee Break

**Session Four: Chair, Keith Krause**

16.30 – 18.00  **Presentation on impact of armed violence on development**

Expert 9 on Crime Reporting to measure institutional development; Rodrigo R. Soares
Expert 10 on Indicators on human rights: Jana Asher
Expert 11 on Indicators for the justice sector: Sebastien Gouraud
Expert 12 on Armed Violence and the achievement of the MDGs, the case of Brazil; Renato Sérgio de Lima

20.00 – 22.00  Official Dinner

**Tuesday, 15 December 2009**

**Session One: Chair, Paul Eavis**

9.00 – 09.30  **Summary from Day 1**

Achim Wennmann

09.30 – 11.00  **Working Groups: All WGs to address questions below**

Four Moderated Sessions (2 x SAS; 2 x UNDP)

1. Which indicators are missing?
2. Comparability of data/measurement challenges?
3. How to measure risk factors of armed violence?
4. Monitoring indicators (surveillance, observatories, surveys and assessments)?
5. Developing a systemic approach to measuring impacts on MDGs?

11.00 – 11.30  Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00  **Continuation of Working Groups** (continuation of Session One)
13.00 – 14.30  Lunch

Session Two: Keith Krause to Chair


15.30 – 16.00  Coffee Break

Session Three: Peter Batchelor

16.00 – 17.30  Discussion and Conclusion
Confirmed Participants

1. Steven Malby, United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
2. Gary Milante, World Bank
3. Alex Butchart, World Health Organization (WHO)
4. Colin Mathers, World Health Organization (WHO)
5. David Meddings, World Health Organization (WHO)
6. Claudia Garcia Moreno, World Health Organization (WHO)
7. Peter Batchelor, UNDP BCPR
8. Paul Eavis, UNDP BCPR
9. Zack Taylor, UNDP BCPR
10. Chris O’Donnell, UNDP BCPR
11. Beth Daponte, UNDP HDR
12. Sebastien Gouraud, UNDP BCPR
13. Garry Conille, UNDP MDG Unit
14. Sharif Baaser, UNICEF
15. Luigi De Martino, Geneva Declaration
16. Elisabeth Gilgen, Geneva Declaration
17. Jorge Restrepo, Conflict Analysis Resource Centre (CERAC)
18. Dr. W. Rodney Hammond, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta
19. Jana Asher, StatAid
20. Professor Rodrigo R. Soares, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro
21. Renato Sérgio de Lima, Brazilian Forum on Public Safety
22. Ana Maura Tomesani, Brazilian Forum on Public Safety
23. Eric Scheye, Consultant
24. Professor Keith Krause, Small Arms Survey
25. Robert Muggah, Small Arms Survey
26. Achim Wennmann, Small Arms Survey
27. Maria Derks, Conflict Research Unit, Clingendael Security and Conflict Programme, Clingendael Institute, The Hague
28. Andrew Mack, SFU
29. Birger Heldt, Folke Bernadotte Academy
30. Ana Kantor, Folke Bernadotte Academy
31. Debarati Guha, CRED
32. Olaf De Groot, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin)
33. Nicolas Fasel, UN Office for High Commissioner of Human Rights, Geneva
34. Svein Erik Stave, FAFO Institute for Applied International Studies (Fafo AIS)
35. Sebastian Taylor, Landmine Action