



Gender and Security Sector Reform Ticker:

May 2008

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1) Announcements:

European Parliament (EP) Adopts Resolution on Situation of Women in Prison and the Impact of the Imprisonment of Parents on Social and Family Life, European Parliament

On 13 March 2008, the European Parliament has adopted a resolution on the particular situation of women in prison and the impact of the imprisonment of parents on social and family life. In this resolution the Parliament recalls the "specific nature" of women's prisons and insists that security and reintegration arrangements aimed at women should be put in place. For more information:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0102+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

“Challenges in protecting civilians - Women targeted or affected by armed conflict: what role for military peacekeepers?”, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).

The conference is organized in cooperation with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), in collaboration with the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and both on behalf of the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. The conference will examine the gaps that exist in relation to their role and the impact of their activities on women, examining practical measures by which greater protection may be provided. Conference will be taking place on 27-30 May, 2008, in Wiston House, Steyning, W. Sussex, United Kingdom (UK). For more information:

<http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/themes/regions/conference.aspx?confref=WP914>

2) Call for papers/ applications:

Gender, Peace and Security Vacancy at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) is currently looking for a UNV Gender, Peace and Security Project Officer to provide technical advice and support to the PIFS programme of work on gender issues in relation to conflict, peace and security. This post is funded by the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Project of the UNDP Pacific Centre. The duration of the assignment is 12 months based in Suva, Fiji Islands. To apply for this post, please submit your CV and a letter explaining your suitability and motivation to Mr. Thomas Shanahan (thomas.shanahan@undp.org) and/or Ms. Joanne Lee Kunatuba (JoanneLK@forumsec.org.fj). Applications for the position will be closed on Friday 14th June 2008 at 5pm Fiji time.

UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (VAW) Is Accepting Grant Applications, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women is accepting applications for its 13th grant cycle (2008) for projects that support the implementation of national policies, laws and action plans on ending violence against women. Applications should be centered on supporting implementation of national policies, laws and action plans on ending violence against women. For more information:

http://www.unifem.org:80/gender_issues/violence_against_women/trust_fund_guidelines.php

Call for participants: The International Peace and Development Training Centre in cooperation with the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) and Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania (PATRIR) calls for applicants for a Designing Peacebuilding Program (DPP), Cluj-Napoca, Romania

DPP is a five-day international training programme for staff of national and international organizations, the United Nations, and governmental and non-governmental organizations. The programme has been designed to assist organizations developing / implementing programmes in peacebuilding and conflict transformation. The training will be held 22-26 September, 2008, in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. For more information please find attached the DPP flyer.

CLEEN Foundation calls for applicants for an internship position, Nigeria

CLEEN Foundation is running an Internship / Training Programme on Promoting Police Reform in West Africa. The primary objective of the Internship Programme is to expose participants to policing and human rights issues on a global level. They will become familiar with the challenges facing civil society in Nigeria and have the opportunity to offer concrete assistance to grass root organizations. Interns will be involved in various interactive sessions with other Civil Society Organizations, Media Organizations, Criminal Justice Institutions and Donors. In addition they will also be engaged in a training session on Project Management and Development. It is also an opportunity to acquire new skills and to develop new abilities. Closing date for applications: 16 May 2008. For more information: <http://www.cleen.org/career.html>

3) Reports and Publications:

"Conflict, Security and Development", Routledge

This article written by Marsha Henry, argues that gender is vital in any discussion of security and development since women are affected by war, conflict and poverty in different ways to men. It also illustrates the ways in which gender systems are bound up with other 'differences' and how these are specific to individual contexts.

For more information:

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/routledg/ccsd/2007/00000007/00000001/art00004>

4) News:

Sweden: "Sweden to Evaluate Prostitution Law by 2010 Amid International Interest"

Sweden appointed a special investigator Thursday to evaluate the effects of a law that targets the buyers of sex instead of the prostitutes. Justice Minister Beatrice Ask said the evaluation, to be completed by 2010, is warranted partly because of the growing international interest in the law. Many countries considering a similar law are eager to find out whether it has reduced the sex trade in Sweden, or merely driven it underground.

For more information: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/04/24/europe/EU-GEN-Sweden-Prostitution-Law.php>

Afghanistan: "Criminal Law Reform and Combating Serious Crimes in Afghanistan"

Efforts have been underway to reform and strengthen the Afghan criminal justice system since 2003. The criminal justice system will play a critical role in restoring order, governmental legitimacy and protecting citizens rights. A permanent legal framework is now being put into place through a consultative process involving Afghan institutions and the international community. To aid in the law reform process, USIP, in partnership with the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), organized a workshop on law reform in Afghanistan held at ISISC's headquarters in Siracusa, Italy from April 22-28, 2008 for Afghan policymakers, Afghan and international members of the country's Criminal Law Committee, and comparative criminal law experts. This workshop focused on criminal procedure reform challenges and issues, addressing serious crimes challenges through criminal law reform, and resource needs when implementing new laws.

