

PROGRAMME

Reclaiming the Protection of Civilians under International Humanitarian Law

Oslo Global Conference 23 and 24 May 2013

Venue: Oslo Kongressenter, Oslo, Norway
Registration: Wednesday 22 May from 17.00 at Oslo Kongressenter
Thursday 23 May from 07.30 at Oslo Kongressenter

Thursday 23 May

09:00 Opening

Mr Espen Barth Eide, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, will preside over the opening session.

Following his introductory remarks, the session will feature opening statements by representatives from the co-chairs countries: Indonesia, Argentina, Uganda and Austria.

Mr Muhammad Anshor, Director for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Directorate General of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia

HE Ms Susana Ruiz Cerutti, Ambassador, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina

HE Mr Henry Oryem Okello, State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda

HE Mr Helmut Tichy, Ambassador, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria

09:45 - 10:30 Setting the Scene: Main Challenges for Civilians in Conflicts

This session will be moderated by Director General Aud Lise Norheim, Department for UN, Peace and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway. A short film will introduce the session, followed by presentations by:

Ms Christine Beerli, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Ms Kyung-wha Kang, Deputy United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and Assistant-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Major General Robert Mood, the Norwegian Army

10:30 – 12:00 Working Session I: Reducing Harm against Civilians in Military Operations

This session will discuss the main challenges faced in implementing IHL and protecting civilians during military operations. The aim is to identify concrete measures that may be taken by the parties to a conflict, both before, during and after hostilities, in order to improve the protection of civilians. The presentations will be followed by a plenary discussion open for all delegations.

Moderator: Lt. Col Godard Busingye, Director Foreign Liason, Chieftaincy of legal Services, Ministry of Defence Uganda

Civilian casualty tracking cell and indirect fire policy: the case of AMISOM

Ms Sarah Holewinski, Executive Director, Center for Civilians in Conflict

Minimizing civilian casualties: the case of ISAF

Colonel Dag Sørberg, the Norwegian Army

Preventing harm from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas

Mr Richard Moyes, Managing Partner at Article 36 and joint Coordinator of the International Network on Explosive Weapons

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

13:30 – 15:00 Working Session II: Strengthening the Protection Provided by Humanitarian Actors to Civilians in Armed Conflicts

This session is intended to focus on the main challenges facing civilian actors in providing protection of civilians in armed conflicts and some of the methods they use to overcome these challenges. How can individual states, humanitarian actors, civil society and other actors work to prevent and reduce the consequences of impact of armed conflict on the civilian population, including attacks on civilians and the alleviation of suffering? Experts- and field representatives from humanitarian organisations will provide presentations, followed by a plenary discussion open to all delegations.

Moderator: Mr Muhammad Anshor, Director for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Directorate General of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia

Providing protection for forcibly displaced populations – challenges and opportunities

Ms Louise Aubin, Deputy Director of International Protection at the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR)

Humanitarian principles and access - contributing to the protection of civilians

Ms Ingrid MacDonald, Resident Representative Geneva, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Measures to prevent and reduce negative consequences of armed conflicts on civilians

Mr. Tonderai Chikuhwa, Team Leader, Programmes in the Office of the United Nations Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 17:00 Working Session III: Improving Respect for IHL during Warfare Situations

The third session is intended to focus on how the international community, states or other organisations can work to improve the understanding of and respect for IHL. This includes the obligation to protect civilians, among those parties to conflicts, both state and non-state actors, who do not operate in accordance with IHL. What measures may be taken to influence their behavior, in order to prevent further violations? The presentations will be followed by a plenary discussion open to all delegations. *Moderator: HE Mr Helmut Tichy, Ambassador, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria.*

Enhancing the respect for IHL by parties to armed conflicts

Mr Laurent Gisel, Legal Adviser of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Promoting implementation of IHL through training: the case of Indonesia and ASEAN

Colonel Riza Yasma, Chief of Law, Regulation and Human Rights at the Legal Development Agency of the Indonesian National Defense Forces

Enhancing respect for IHL by non-state armed groups

Ms Elisabeth Decrey Warner, President of Geneva Call

19:00 Reception and buffet for all participants at the Oslo Opera House

Friday 24 May

09:00 – 10:30 Working Session IV: Enhancing Documentation

What kind of measures may be taken to enhance documentation of the effects of hostilities on civilians during armed conflicts? One main focus of this session will be what states and militaries can do to ensure that the effects on civilians of military operations are properly documented, how transparency can be strengthened and how such information could be used to improve protection of civilians both during and after armed conflicts. The session will also focus on the role of the media and social media in documenting civilian harm during conflict situations. Presentations on these issues will be followed by a plenary discussion open to all delegations. *Moderator: Mr. Rodolfo Lucero, Secretary of Embassy, Legal Advisory Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina.*

Learning and institutionalizing lessons about protecting civilians during armed conflict

Colonel Dominic McAlea, Deputy Branch Chief, Operations, International Military Staff at NATO Headquarters

Casualty recording and documenting harm to civilians: The need to know

Mr Hamit Dardagan, Co-Director of Every Casualty Programme, Oxford Research Group

Protection of journalists and role of media in documenting harm to civilians

Mr Monir Zaarour, Coordinator for the Arab World and Middle East, International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)

The role of social media in documenting harm to civilians: the case of USHAHIDI

Ms Angela Oduor, Community Developer Liason at USHAHIDI

10:30 – 12:00 Working Session V: Strengthening Accountability

The final working session will focus on the main challenges with regard to ensuring that those responsible for violations of IHL are held responsible, and on possible new avenues that could be explored, both on a national or international level, to ensure accountability for IHL violations. What kind of measures could be taken to strengthen accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide? The presentations will be followed by a plenary discussion open to all delegations. *Moderator: Director General Rolf Einar Fife, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway.*

Measures to promote accountability, including the role of fact finding missions

Ms Mona Rishmawi, Chief, Rule of Law and Equality Branch,
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Transitional justice: lessons learned

Mr Thomas Unger, Researcher, Antonio Cassese Initiative on Justice, Peace and Humanity

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

13:30 – 15:00 Recommendations and Conclusion

Mr Espen Barth Eide, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, will chair the closing session. Concrete and practical recommendations on how to enhance the protection of civilians in armed conflicts will be the main focus. In addition, the session will focus on how this dialogue may be continued, both on a global, regional and national level. both on a global, regional and national level.