

Women at Work: Preventing Gun Violence

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Main story

Bulletin No. 11 July 2007 also available at: www.iansa.org/women

Strength in solidarity The Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network

Manipur is a state located in India's Northeast which has been affected by low intensity conflict for the last five decades.

Over 10,000 people have been killed through armed violence in a region where over 30 armed groups operate. In addition to non-state actors, more than 40 battalions of the national army and various state forces are also active.

Women in Manipur are particularly vulnerable to violence and intimidation at gunpoint, often used as a deliberate military and political tactic during armed conflict. Women and girls continue to be tortured, killed and raped at gunpoint, while many are traumatised by the deaths of family members. Not a day in Manipur passes without a gun killing.

However, women are not just passive victims of gun violence: they are first and foremost survivors; they are also caregivers, peacemakers and activists for change. The Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network was established by women to help the survivors of gun violence, to control the use and spread of small arms and to find ways to heal the scars that decades of violence have caused to the community.

The Network is involved in a wide range of activities including: making small grants

enabling women to earn an income when they become the main wage earners after a husband or partner has been killed; helping women to open bank accounts to provide them with financial security; documenting instances of gun violence in local languages; sponsoring education and support to the children of survivors, and developing a public exhibition to raise awareness of the range of people affected by gun violence.

Through such activities, the Network encourages women to become involved in small arms policy and practice including reform and enforcement of national gun laws, conflict resolution, peace building and development. Women and girls now have somewhere to turn when they need support, advice and solidarity.

"An entire family dies even when a solitary bullet is fired at someone. In the killing fields of Manipur, stories of suffering heaped on families through acts of violence are legion."

Binalakshmi Nepram



Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network. Photo by Binalakshmi Nepram

News

The Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence

Here are some of the ways in which WN members marked the 2007 Week of Action:

Afghanistan and Pakistan: HEWAD held a convention which attracted a large number of female participants from political, social and cultural spheres. Women teachers and students also participated.

Argentina: The Asociación de las Madres del Dolor prepared a special information brochure for distribution at the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires on 15 June.

Catalunya, Spain: The Fundació per la Pau translated the publication 'Survivors: Women affected by gun violence speak out' into Catalan.

Croatia: The Women's Network Croatia widely circulated a media kit on how women are affected by gun violence.

El Salvador: Cemujer launched the Week of Action with a press conference followed by a public event where 2500 leaflets were distributed highlighting the problem of gun violence against women. They also collected 3500 signatures to petition Congress for a law to prevent domestic violence offenders from owning guns.

Fiji: The Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, the National Council of Women Fiji and the Pacific Foundation for the Advancement of Women held a press conference to highlight links between culture, masculinity and guns.

Gambia: WANEP issued a press release and unveiled a billboard calling for the ratification of the ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons as well as the global Arms Trade Treaty.

Guatemala: IEPADES held a press conference, a roundtable discussion with young people, made a video presentation to the government and participated in a Festival for Life.

story continued overleaf...

People's Consultations on an ATT

As reported in our last issue (Bulletin 10) Women's Network members have been involved in the People's Consultations on an Arms Trade Treaty earlier in the year.

They include the Movement Against Small Arms in West Africa (MALAO) in Senegal, Sou da Paz in Brazil, PhilANSA in the Philippines and the Uganda Action Network on Small Arms.



A prospective WN member! Macedonia. Photo by Natasa Dokovska

The Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network was involved in their local People's Consultation. Participants demanded that state as well as non-state actors who have access to guns should act in accordance with human rights and international humanitarian law. The resolutions passed during the People's Consultation were sent to the Government of India and called for positive participation in the ongoing United Nations Secretary General's Consultations on the International Arms Trade Treaty.

In Fiji, the Pacific Foundation for the Advancement of Women (PACFAW) led many women's groups in the People's Consultation. The Outcome Document incorporates a wide range of views and opinions based on participants' experiences of armed conflicts in the Pacific region, and demands that governments take action to strengthen international arms controls.

The Women's Institute for Alternative Development in Trinidad and Tobago, with members of the Caribbean Coalition of Civil Society Organisations, held People's Consultations events in the Caribbean including St Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, Antigua and Barbados. Each consultation consisted of seminars and workshops with space for discussion and input into the outcome document.

For more information about the People's Consultations, see: www.controlarms.org



A Week of Action women's event, Afghanistan

Continued from page 1 - The Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence ...

Haiti: The Organisation de Femmes Pour le Développement de Thomonde gained much media attention with radio interviews, articles in the national press and meetings with elected representatives to raise awareness about the Week of Action.

India: The Manipuri Women Gun Survivors Network collected testimonies of women gun survivors, helped to open bank accounts and provided practical assistance and support to women.

Macedonia: Journalists for Children and Women's Rights and Protection of the Environment partnered in a press conference in Skopje and held an art competition for young women and girls.

Mali: On 18 June, Fatoumata Maiga made a presentation about women and armed conflict during a public lecture by the National Committee Against The Proliferation of Small Arms.

Namibia: Pauline Dempers from Breaking the Wall of Silence was interviewed by the Damara>Nama service as part of a talkback radio program, and two articles were published in The Namibian.

Pakistan: In Peshawar, Blue Veins gained extensive media coverage for their activities including a call for establishment of a National Commission to address gun violence and to support implementation of the UN Programme of Action on small arms. In Lahore, the Organisation for Peace and Development held a press conference and participated in interviews to highlight the misuse of guns in the country.

Sierra Leone: iEARN Sierra Leone and the Sierra Leone Action Network on Small Arms (SLANSA) participated in an hour long talk show on Radio Kallion FM in Freetown and members of the Girl's Club held a seminar.



The Girls Club celebrating the Week of Action. Photo from iEARN Sierra Leone



Posting letters to the UK government during the joint Women in Black and WN vigil, London, UK. Photo by Lucie Carezza

UK: The IANSA Women's Network and Women in Black held a silent vigil in London to mark the Week of Action and gave out leaflets about the impact of guns on women's lives.

For more information, see: http://www.iansa.org/campaigns_events/woa2007/index.htm

Network News

West African WN activism

Women's Network member Mimidoo Achakpa of the Nigeria Action Network on Small Arms attended the ECOWAS Heads of State Summit in Abuja, Nigeria. President of the ECOWAS Commission, Dr Mohamed Ibn Chambas, called on West African states to support the global move towards an Arms Trade Treaty.

"West Africa has suffered from gun proliferation and misuse for too many years. The ECOWAS Commission fully endorses the Global Week of Action and urges Member States to submit their views on an Arms Trade Treaty to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, calling for a strong and effective treaty," said Dr Chambas at a conference held jointly by the ECOWAS Secretariat and IANSA.

From the 20-21 August, the first sub-regional civil society consultative forum on the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Small Arms Control Programme (ECOSAP) took place in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The forum was jointly organised by WAANSA (West African Action Network on Small Arms) and ECOSAP.

Around 100 members of civil society and delegates from 13 ECOWAS member states participated. WN members were also present, including Pamela Cole from the West African Network for Peace-building (WANEP) in The Gambia and Christiane Agboton-Johnson of the Mouvement contre les Armes Légères en Afrique de l'Ouest (MALAO) in Senegal.



Mimidoo puts IANSA pin on Brownie Samukai, Jr. Minister, the Ministry of National Defence of Liberia. Photo by Valerie Yankey

Earlier at the ECOWAS Summit, Mimidoo had the honour of meeting President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of Liberia, Africa's first elected female head of state. Mimidoo gave WN materials and an IANSA pin to President Johnson-Sirleaf.

"Small arms are West Africa's weapons of mass destruction. Governments in the sub-region must now follow strong words with strong action, especially in promoting a global Arms Trade Treaty that prevents weapons being used to commit atrocities and undermine sustainable development."

Mimidoo Achakpa

Remedy and reparation

"Reparations should provide women and girls with the tools to rebuild their lives, not as they were prior to war or conflict, but in ways that transform sociocultural injustices and structural inequalities."

Ariane Brunet of Rights and Democracy

IANSA supports an international campaign calling for sweeping revisions to reparations programs for women who suffer sexual violence during times of war and other conflict.

The campaign, led by the Coalition for Women's Human Rights in Conflict Situations, aims to give victims more say in reparation programs.

The Nairobi Declaration on Women's and Girls' Right to a Remedy and Reparation is a tool to be used by governments and other organisations to design reparation programs that better reflect the needs of female victims and survivors.

It is hoped that the Declaration will help to convince women and girls to speak up and make their voices heard.

For more details about the Nairobi Declaration, see: http://www.dd-rd.ca/site/what_we_do/index.php?id=2101&ubsection=themes&subsubsection=theme_documents



Women at the Nairobi meeting © Rights & Democracy

Domestic violence and gun laws

Some of our members have identified the need for a user-friendly handbook on domestic violence (DV) and national gun laws. The purpose of the handbook is to increase awareness of policies to separate batterers from guns and to provide a range of models for those working to protect women affected by domestic violence.

Legal firearms are the primary weapons used in domestic homicides and for every woman killed or injured by firearms, many more are threatened. In some countries there are a variety of policies to separate perpetrators from firearms such as laws that authorize police to remove firearms when responding to a DV complaint, and laws to authorize courts to order guns removed from batterers through a protective order.

We hope that the handbook will include examples from a selection of countries and focus on legal reforms that connect arms control legislation and DV prevention laws. We also hope to include a section which can be used for lobbying/advocacy purposes including questions for parliamentarians.

We welcome your contributions to the handbook. If you have relevant data or information about laws, can interview police officers about DV and guns or have experiences to share, we would like to hear from you.

New Nigerian member raises alarm over arms acquisition

New Nigerian member, Women in Peace-building Program (WIPNET) have decried the problem of arms proliferation in Nigeria which has an adverse impact on vulnerable groups such as women and children. WIPNET invites others to join in building a partnership for the development of National Action Plan against small arms. Read more at: <http://allafrica.com/stories/200705300573.html>

Network News

South Africa Women, violence and guns

In Brazil women adopted the slogan: "Choose gun-free! It's your gun or me." Laura Pollecutt of The Ceasefire Campaign asks, "Should South African women be doing the same? Given the statistics perhaps they should."

- A woman is killed by her intimate partner every six hours in South Africa;
- Access to a gun increases the risk five-fold;
- A gun in the home increases the risk of a household member being murdered by 41%;
- In South Africa one in three women killed by their husbands is shot;
- Weapons were referred to in 37% of applications for protection orders in one year;
- Firearms were primarily used to threaten.

It was this stark reality that led The Ceasefire Campaign to explore why gun violence is so prevalent in South Africa. Ceasefire worked with other organisations to plan and implement workshops on South African history and gun laws to equip women in abusive relationships with the tools to make use of relevant laws.

From the early days of colonialism, guns have been associated with the oppression of the indigenous people. The apartheid regime became part of this continuum and guns became symbols of power and subjugation. The militarisation of South African society promoted the male stereotypical images of the macho-gun-toting man. The response from the oppressed peoples of South Africa was initially one of passive resistance until, out of frustration, they resorted to the armed struggle. Guns then became highly desirable items and because of their symbolism continue to be so today.

Unfortunately guns are not used to keep hearth and family safe. More often than not they are used to undermine family relations. Guns are used to threaten women in the home, and women and children run a high risk of being shot when there is a gun in the house. South Africa legislation recognises this and both the Domestic Violence and the Firearms Control Act provide remedies for the removal of the weapon.

Ceasefire, Gun Free South Africa and Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre (TLAC) held a workshop on 19 April 2007 on 'Women, violence and guns: Domestic Violence Act and Firearms Control Act.' The workshop was extremely hands-on. In addition to teaching the basics of the laws, the participants were also informed about how to ask for the removal of the weapon. Included in this advice was that when applying for a protection order, applicants must tick the box on the form to request an order for the police to remove the firearm.

The workshop covered the historical perspective on violence and guns, an overview of the Domestic Violence Act and the prevalence of guns in domestic violence. The workshop also offered practical advice and suggestions on requesting the removal of a gun. It used the legislation available as well as analysis of, and recommendations to improve, the Firearms Control Act. An emphasis was also put on the section of the Firearms Control Act which says that the applicant cannot be awarded a competency certificate if he has been convicted for breaching a protection order under the Domestic Violence Act.

Participants included legal personnel and paralegals, fieldworkers, human rights activists, and others in positions to help women exercise their rights under the legislation. Lisa Vetten from TLAC also presented findings from her paper "Mapping the use of guns in violence against women: findings from five studies".

For more information about the Firearms Control Act (2004) see: <http://www.gca.org.za/FirearmsControlAct/ta/bid/1066/Default.aspx>

For more details about the Domestic Violence Act (1998) see: <http://www.info.gov.za/gazette/acts/1998/a116-98.pdf>

The Survivors Project

As we know, almost all guns are bought and sold, owned and used by men. And guns kill and injure more men than women. But women suffer heavy consequences from the presence of guns in their homes, communities and countries.

This is why the IANSA Women's Network is working on the Survivors Project, to include even more voices of women and girls and build on the success of last year's publication 'Survivors - Women Affected by Gun Violence Speak Out'. We hope to develop it further as a media resource and advocacy tool to highlight links between gender based violence and small arms.

Just one contribution from your country would be valuable to highlight the links between violence against women and small arms, in any of the following ways:

A gun in the house increases the chance of domestic violence being lethal; Guns do not have to be fired to cause harm, they can be used to threaten and intimidate; Women are burdened with duties of support and care when male relatives are killed or disabled by gun violence; Women suffer 'indirect' negative impacts from gun crime, eg: stress on social and public services; Guns exacerbate the threat to women of male sexual violence in war and peace; The failure to decommission guns after war impedes the transition to a secure everyday life; Widespread gun ownership by men and boys conditions society to mistakenly regard violence as a natural and necessary element of masculinity.

Contributors can remain anonymous if they wish. If you have been personally affected by gun violence or know a woman or girl who is willing to share their story with others, please get in touch by email at women@iansa.org



Pam Crowsley (right), a Steering Committee member of Gun Free South Africa presenting Survivors: Women Affected By Gun Violence Speak Out to the South African Deputy Vice President H.E. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (left).
Photo from Gun Free South Africa

Network News

Meet the Women's Network team!

An update on the WN team. WN Coordinator Sarah Masters joined the IANSA Secretariat in March 2007. Sarah worked for six years as Information and Communications Coordinator at the International Coordination Office of Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML), an international feminist solidarity network. Prior to this she spent 2 years working with a network of women's organisations in the Dominican Republic. With experience of working and volunteering in many countries and contexts, Sarah will build upon the progress made by the WN and continue to support its members.

Lucie Carena has been a WN intern since February 2007. This six month internship forms part of her French Masters degree in International Cooperation and Multilingual Communication. Lucie's interest in the WN developed after reading 'Survivors: Women affected by gun violence speak out' which she linked to her own experiences of living and working with women in Tamil Nadu, India. Lucie says, "This internship has enabled me to become more familiar with issues around gender and small arms. It has also allowed me to draw upon my formal studies and adapt my knowledge to this particular context. I will continue to be a member of the WN when my internship ends."

For the month of July, Adrienne Shade from the University of California, San Diego and Melbourne University, Australia is interning with the WN. With an interest in gender studies she is assisting with research on domestic violence and gun laws.

We also welcome Yolanda Aguilar from Guatemala who is volunteering with the WN during the UK summer.

Promoting UN SCR 1325

Connecting women's peacebuilding and media initiatives in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Bougainville and Tonga, this project includes the development of a website, the revival of regional femTALK 1325 publications, monthly ENews bulletins and the translation of UNSCR 1325 into local languages.

www.femlinkpacific.org.fj



WN team from left to right: Sarah, Yolanda, Lucie and Adrienne
Photo by Sally Cornacchia

Announcements

Coming soon! Gendering Gun Policy News

The international bulletin of firearm injury prevention since 1997, Gun Policy News (GPN) provides daily global and regional email digests and RSS feeds of gun news and small arms policy-related articles published in the mass media.

The gunpolicy.org web site is hosted by the School of Public Health at the University of Sydney, Australia.

The school provides internationally recognised leadership in public health by advancing and disseminating knowledge to support global efforts to prevent and reduce gun injury.

The WN is supporting the work of GPN to provide the women's portal with a daily feed of news related to gender and small arms.

This service will be launched in the coming months and will also allow visitors to the GPN site to search for gender related articles.

We'll keep you updated on how the project is progressing.

In the meantime, visit www.gunpolicy.org



Competition: Safety and security for women and girls in Latin American and Caribbean cities

The competition rewards cities which have adopted policies, legislation, strategies and measures for prevention, treatment and punishment of acts of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, and increased women's participation in community development and decision-making at the local government level.

It is important to strengthen the participation of women in all stages of decision making processes and to improve urban governance and management from a gender perspective.

The Competition will award six municipalities, three in Latin America and three in the Caribbean.

www.safercities-competitions.org

New resources

Comparative Analysis on the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) Programs in the World during 2006

The School for a Culture of Peace, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain, 2007

This study updates developments in 19 DDR programs worldwide and includes three new cases: Nepal, Niger and Uganda. <http://www.escolapau.org/programas/ddri.htm>

The School also provides detailed country briefings on each particular DDR program. <http://www.escolapau.org/english/programas/ddr.htm>

Missing Pieces: A guide to reduce gun violence through parliamentary action

Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2007

By strengthening or creating national laws, improving implementation and enforcement, stimulating and leading public debate, parliaments set new standards for reducing the societal impacts of gun violence. This parliamentary handbook was developed to guide, inspire, and suggest action.

http://www.hdcentre.org/datastore/Small%20arms/Missing_Pieces/MPforparl_Eng.pdf

Responding to Domestic Violence: A Handbook for the Uganda Police Force

The Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP) and the Uganda Police Force, 2007

This handbook is the result of collaboration between The Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP) and the Uganda Police Force in the prevention of domestic violence.

Together they have improved police response, developed standardised protocols for officers handling cases of domestic violence, and strengthened the capacity of police stations to respond effectively to the problem of domestic violence.

<http://www.preventgbvafrica.org/Downloads/PoliceHandbook.CEDOVIP.pdf>

Towards Safe and Sustainable Communities: Addressing Armed Violence as a Development Priority

Ploughshares Working Paper 07-2

This paper explores the links between sustainable development and reductions in armed violence and small arms misuse, as well as recent related multilateral and domestic policy advances.

<http://www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/WorkingPapers/wp072.pdf>

Two Special Issues of Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society

University of Chicago, 2007

'War and Terror: Raced and Gendered Logics' and 'Effects In and Beyond Conflict Zones'

These special issues provide innovative analyses of ongoing wars as well as wars long concluded. They deal with the complex relationships between gender, race, nation, culture, and religion in the context of armed struggles.

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/Signs/home.html>

UN-Civil Society Engagement: Year in Review 2006

UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS), 2007

The Year in Review 2006 gives a snapshot of civil society engagement in the policy and normative work of the UN. It reviews the various consultations, forums, policy dialogues, hearings, CSO advisory committees, that have taken place throughout the year 2006. This includes special review conferences such as the 2006 Small Arms Review Conference.

<http://www.un-nxls.org/site/IMG/pdf/YiR2006.pdf>

Events

"Don't Trigger"

Lucie Carena, WN intern, attended the 17 June launch of the Don't Trigger campaign in London, UK.



Families affected by gun violence at the Don't Trigger launch, London, UK. Photo by Lucie Carena

An international anti-gun campaign, Don't Trigger highlights the negative impact of gun misuse on individuals, families and society. Organised by Urban Concepts, the launch included music and video from the Don't Trigger CD and extracts from the Hip Hop Opera created especially for the campaign.

In City Hall the families of victims gathered together holding photographs of loved ones killed by guns and knives. WN members such as Mothers Against Guns spoke about their experiences as women affected by the deaths of their children.

The police and politicians were also present and urged greater cooperation between themselves and the community to counter gun use. The importance of family and community in the lives of younger generations was also highlighted.

The launch was a success in bringing together people from a wide range of backgrounds and uniting them in their call for an end to gun violence. This was summed up by one of the young musicians at the event, "It is not a white problem, it is not a black problem, it is a people's problem."

Event listing

June

Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Women in Violent Conflict

The Netherlands Defense Academy and the Feminism & Legal Theory Project, Amsterdam, the Netherlands: 17-19 June 2007

A conference for experts from different arenas - military, academic, politics - to discuss the causes and consequences of sexual violence against women and girls in armed conflict.

http://www.nlda.nl/content/uploads/52407339_Program.booklet.NLDA.FLT.pdf

Women's Leadership and Empowerment Conference (WLEC)

Bangkok, Thailand: 21-23 June 2007

WLEC 2007 provides a comprehensive and interactive program where participants share cross-cultural, leadership and communication skills and learn about innovation, its importance and how to create and implement it.

<http://www.tomorrowpeople.org/ILC/welcome.htm>

Do No Harm

Bern, Switzerland: 25-26 June 2007

A two-day training to acquaint participants with patterns of interaction between assistance and conflict, the "Do no Harm" tool and its application in practice.

http://www.swisspeace.ch/typo3/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/KOFF/KOFF_Events/2007/KOFFTrainings2007.pdf

July

International Gun Destruction Day

9 July 2007

All over the world on or around 9 July, guns are being destroyed by survivors of gun crime, families of victims, governments and arms campaigners.

TRANSCEND Peace University Summer 2007 School

9 July - 27 August 2007

A selection of intensive online courses led by experts in specific fields of Peace Studies.

<http://www.transcend.org/tpu/>

International Women's Peace Conference, "Empowering Peacemakers"

Dallas, Texas, USA: 10-15 July 2007

The Conference will include plenary sessions, lectures, seminars, facilitated discussion groups, workshops, and

special programs for Peace Teens (ages 12-17) and Emerging Leaders (ages 18-24).

http://www.womenspeaceconference.org/pdf/ConferenceAgenda2007_001.pdf

"Women of Ideas: Feminist Thinking for a New Era" International Feminist Summit

Townsville, Australia: 17-20 July 2007

This feminist event is for all women who denounce the escalating violence and oppression that mark the 21st Century, who rage against the continued exclusion and silencing of women throughout the world, and who are convinced that a strong feminist response is essential for the creation of a fairer future.

<http://www.feministagenda.org.au/Summit/summitIndex.html>

Women unite! Build peace! Generate change! Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) 29th International Congress

Santa Cruz, Bolivia: 21-27 July 2007

<http://www.wilpf.int.ch/events/2007Congress/bolivia.htm>

39th Session of CEDAW

United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA: 23 July - 10 August 2007

The following country reports from States Parties will be examined during this session: Cook Islands, Belize, Brazil, Estonia, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea and Singapore.

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/39sess.htm>

August

Establishing Expertise as an Ethical Expert Witness

Austin School of Social Work, Texas, USA: 2-3 August 2007

This training is for lawyers, domestic violence service providers and advocates interested in being considered as expert witnesses in court cases involving domestic violence. The training will address types of domestic violence cases where expert witnesses are beneficial, tips on testifying, immigration issues, writing reports for court, rules of evidence, ethical considerations as an expert witness, and more. Space is limited and advocates should register by July 18.

For more information, please visit www.ncdsv.org

Women in Black - XIV International Gathering

Valencia, Spain: 16-20 August 2007

This gathering will examine violence against women as the origin, support and continuation of the patriarchal structure. Currently the programme is only available in Spanish: http://www.mujiresdenegro.org/galeria/MdN_es.pdf

Gender and Militarism Seminar

Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam/Oasis of Peace, Israel: 23-26 August 2007

This seminar will bring together activists and academics from all over the world to study the mutual connections between militarism and gender. The seminar is organised by War Resisters' International together with the Israeli feminist antimilitarist movement New Profile.

<http://www.wri-irg.org/news/2007/council2007-en.htm>

September

West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI 2007)

Accra, Ghana: 3-21 September 2007

A three week peacebuilding course covering conflict resolution techniques, women and peacebuilding, youth and peace education, justice and reconciliation.

<http://www.wanep.org/wapi>

Women, Power and Peace: The fifth Women and Power conference: Omega Institute and V-Day

Rhinebeck, USA: 14-16 September 2007

The conference highlights bold actions that women are initiating all over the world in their families, communities, and the public spheres to dignify and legitimise the values of love and communication; to heal societies and individuals from the scars of violence and war; and to create imaginative and effective approaches to conflict.

<http://www.eomega.org/omega/workshops/cb4c32ab672ec2bb5b33cf660e22202e/>

International Day of Peace

International: 21 September 2007

An opportunity for individuals, organisations and nations to create practical acts of Peace on a shared date. <http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/getinvolved.htm>

