



conciliation  
resources  
*an international service for conflict transformation*

# PROGRAMME

## ENGAGEMENT OF ARMED GROUPS IN PEACE PROCESSES

Friday 9 – Sunday 11 December 2005

**WILTON PARK CONFERENCE WPSO5/34**  
in association with Conciliation Resources

**Context:**

Over the last two decades, whether in the context of a peace process or a humanitarian initiative, armed groups have become key actors in efforts to ease suffering and rebuild conflict-torn societies. Despite their participation in numerous peace processes there is deep controversy about appropriate responses to their actions and this has given rise to some complex policy questions.

**Methodology and Aims:**

This conference, which includes perspectives from a cross section of stakeholders, aims to:

- create a forum for frank discussion under the Chatham House Rule in a discreet residential environment, to increase the understanding of participants of the aspirations and concerns of each other and thereby the scope for common action
- identify through a pooling of ideas and experience the key challenges and the most realistic ways of dealing with them
- foster and create personal contacts which can prove important for taking forward future action

**Sponsored by:**

Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United States Agency for International Development and Foreign and Commonwealth Office Africa Directorate and Conflict Issues Group.

**FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER**

1500-1530

**Welcome and Introduction to Wilton Park**

**Julia PURCELL**

Associate Director, Wilton Park

**CONCILIATION RESOURCES-INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

**Celia McKEON**

Conciliation Resources/Accord Programme Manager, London

1530-1700

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**ENGAGING ARMED GROUPS IN PEACE PROCESSES: DILEMMAS & OPPORTUNITIES**

**Daniel Fearn**

Deputy Head, Conflict Issues Group, FCO, London

- 1745-1915 2 **IS THERE A CASE FOR ENGAGEMENT?**  
**Chair: Andy CARL**  
Director Conciliation Resources, London
- Panel:**  
**Carey CAVANAUGH**  
Political Adviser to Chief of Naval Operations, Washington DC
- Thomas GREMINGER**  
Head of Peace Policy, Human Security, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs  
Berne
- Tore HATTREM**  
Deputy Director General, Peace and Reconciliation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Oslo

## **SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER**

- 0915-1045 3 **UNDERSTANDING ARMED GROUPS' CHOICES**
- Taisier ALI**  
Former Secretary-General of the Sudan Alliance Forces & Director of Peacebuilding  
Centre for the Horn of Africa, Asmara
- Paulynn SICAM**  
Philippine Government Negotiating Panel, Pasig City
- 1115-1245 4 **DISCUSSION GROUPS**
- Armed Groups, Weapons & Security- **Eric BERMAN**, Small Arms Survey, Geneva
  - Improving our Analysis-**Sue WILLIAMS**, Consultant, Belfast
  - Media & Intelligence- **Christian JENNINGS**, Freelance Correspondent, London
  - Capacities for Engagement- **Clem MCCARTNEY**, Programme Associate,  
Conciliation Resources, Limavady
- 1530-1700 5 **CONSTRUCTING A PEACE PROCESS**
- Tamrat SAMUEL**  
Senior Political Affairs Officer, Department of Political Affairs, United Nations, New York
- David PETRASEK**  
Policy Director, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Geneva
- 1730-1900 6 **DISCUSSION GROUPS**
- The Impact of Proscription & Terror Listing - **Rob RICIGLIANO**, University of  
Wisconsin-Milwaukee,
  - Seeking Rebel Accountability on Human Rights Standards in Peace Talks- **Pablo  
POLICZER**, Armed Groups Project, University of Calgary
  - Humanitarian Engagement with Peace Talks-**Elisabeth REUSSE-DECREY**,  
Geneva Call, Geneva
  - Community Based Approaches to Armed Groups- **Bryn HIGGS**, Conciliation  
Resources, London

## **SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER**

- 0915-1045 7 **ROLES & TACTICS OF THIRD PARTY ENGAGEMENT: WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT  
PERSPECTIVES?**
- Chair: Andy CARL**  
Director Conciliation Resources, London
- Panel:**  
**Mark BOWDEN**  
United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs,  
New York

**Deborah GOODWIN**  
Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley

**Julian HOTTINGER**  
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Berne

1110-1200 8 **KEY PROPOSALS FROM SESSION 4 DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**Chair: Andy CARL**  
Director Conciliation Resources, London

**Rob RICIGLIANO**  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Eric BERMAN**  
Small Arms Survey, Geneva

**Irakli ALASANIA**  
Special Representative, President of Georgia for the Georgian-Abkhaz Negotiations, Tbilisi

**Sue WILLIAMS**  
Consultant, Belfast

1210-1300 9 **KEY PROPOSALS FROM SESSION 6 DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**Chair: Andy CARL**  
Director Conciliation Resources, London

**Bryn HIGGS**  
Conciliation Resources, London

**Pablo POLICZER**  
Armed Groups Project, University of Calgary

**Christian JENNINGS**  
Freelance Correspondent, London

**Elisabeth REUSSE-DECREY**  
Geneva Call, Geneva

1300-1330 10 **MOVING FORWARD: WHAT NEXT?**

**Concluding Remarks:**  
**Andy CARL**  
Director Conciliation Resources, London