

programs from kindergarten on up, to teach about peace, governance, the rule of law, tolerance, as well as developing curriculum, procedures and trainers.

Wendy Cukier, of the Coalition for Gun Control, suggested that there is a need for a broad strategic vision regarding small arms and that it is important to work on capacity building and communications. A better understanding of gun violence is needed, she said, with impact, death, injury, economic costs, women, children, all needing to be considered in a broad approach. There is also a need to rethink issues such as, what types of weapons are causing death? One South African study indicated 50% of deaths were caused by handguns, 30% by rifles, and 4% by AK-47s. Civilian guns are leaking from legal to illegal sources, including police weapons and surplus conflict weapons. Other outstanding issues include the nature of gun ownership, age, gender, and supply and demand. She argued that priorities should include new legislation, the collection and destruction of weapons and ammunition, creation of gun-free zones such as schools, and educational initiatives. More attention should be focused on implementation, enforcement and ensuring police cooperation.

Key issues and challenges noted in the overall discussion were that because no one country can affectively deal with the issue of small arms on its own, a combined, concerted, international effort is imperative that involves cooperation between government, non-government and civil society, both domestically and internationally is a key issue. It is also important to have sustainable, long-term programs enacted by government and non-government organization, and to have such programs complement one another, rather than being initiated on their own, or in a vacuum.

Gaps identified by the participants were that more consultation is needed between government, non-government and civil society, so as to be able to better coordinate peacebuilding efforts and more effectively initiate programs, and that there is a need for institution building, especially in the most conflict torn regions within Africa, to strengthen legislation, enforcement, education and monitoring of small arms, stockpiles, and imports.

Recommendations stemming from the discussion included:

- Increase support for civil society initiatives, education in regards to creating a culture of peace;
- Secure long term sustainable funding for capacity and institution building, democratization, and good governance;
- Strengthen partnerships between North and South countries, as well as non-government actors and civil societies;
- Take a broad-based, comprehensive approach that addresses not just small arms issues, but development, gender, children etc.;
- Place moratoriums on production and imports of small arms to conflict zones; and
- Strengthen and harmonize legislation within African regions in regards to small arms.

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SESSION 6.3: Resource Conflicts in Africa