



ACTIVITIES • BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

In Consultative Status With ECOSOC, UNESCO and UNICEF

www.iadllaw.org

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**IADL's PRESIDENT JITENDRA SHARMA,
DENOUNCES THE TRANSFER OF CONVICTED
ICTR PRISONERS FROM ARUSHA TO RWANDA
AS A THREAT TO THEIR LIVES AND
WELFARE, AND A VIOLATION OF THE
PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE**

**Resolution Adopted at the IADL Bureau Meeting
20-21 June 2004, Berlin Germany-.**

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), an organization in consultative status with ECOSOC, represented at UNESCO and UNICEF, and with affiliates in over ninety-six countries,

AFFIRMING that the persons who have been convicted by the ICTR and are currently serving their sentences at the UNDF facilities in Arusha, as well as those defendants who are being detained for trial by the ICTR, are entitled to their human rights and the guarantees of due process and fair trial, under international instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisons and others, and

INFORMED that there have been recent discussions between the ICTR and the Government

of Rwanda in reference to transferring convicted ICTR detainees to Rwanda to serve their sentences, and

CONSIDERING that the history of inter-ethnic conflict between Hutus and Tutsis continues unresolved and unabated, and is likely to be escalated where an RPF Tutsi-dominated government is placed as the guardian of Hutu defendants convicted, of genocide, and

RECOGNIZING that the same Government of Rwanda has executed persons who have been convicted of the crimes for which the ICTR defendants have been sentenced, IADL believes that any proposed plans, contrary to serving the interests or justice, endanger the welfare and well-being of the currently convicted persons who are serving their sentences, by potentially penalizing them with punishment, including death, which is more severe, and in violation of the ICTR Statute, as well as the rights of persons under international law.

NOTING that the current Rwandan Government has failed to uphold human rights in respect to members of its opposition, including by arresting and charging these persons as genocidaires, and

NOTING that the current regime has been reported as one of the most politically repressive regimes on the African continent, based on its regular violations of civil and human rights, and

POINTING OUT that the current Rwandan Government is hardly a neutral and passive observer to the 1994 Genocide, where

- the mainly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), led by now President Kagame, was the subject of "Special Investigations"

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initiated by former ICTR Prosecutor Ms. Carla Del Ponte, who was committed to investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of human rights violations on both sides, consistent with the intent of the original Security Council Resolution 955 (1994) establishing the ICTR, and whose contract was not renewed in September 2003, in response to pressure from the Kagame government, and

- the current President of Rwanda Paul Kagame, was implicated in the attack on former President Habyarimana's plane, killing him and the President of Burundi, in the report of investigating Magistrate, Jean – Louis Bruguiere, and

ACCEPTING that the convicted ICTR defendants would be the most credible and strongest witnesses against the current Rwandan government and its members, if they were prosecuted, and

COGNIZANT that, throughout the existence of the ICTR, the Government of Rwanda has aggressively obstructed the functioning of the ICTR, and undermined the principles of due process and fair trials, in particular by dissuading persons from assisting the defense, and trying to make access to potential defense witnesses and documentary evidence in Rwanda an insurmountable hurdle, and

CONCLUDING that the fear of the ICTR convicted prisoners of being killed or suffering violations of their human rights is both reasonable and founded, and likely to be realized if the UN authorizes the transfer of convicted prisoners to Rwanda, to be held in the custody of the Government of Rwanda, and especially those who are alleged to have perpetrated the very crimes for which the ICTR prisoners have been convicted,

IADL CALLS ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY - ON JURISTS, ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS AND OTHERS IN CIVIL SOCIETY - TO PUBLICLY DENOUNCE THE PROPOSAL FOR ICTR CONVICTED DEFENDANTS TO SERVE THEIR SENTENCES IN RWANDA, AS A VIOLATION OF STANDARDS OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

Jitendra Sharma
President
International Association of Democratic Lawyers
Issued at New Delhi on 1 July 2004

**LENNOX S. HINDS, IADL VICE PRESIDENT
SENT CORRESPONDENCE TO HAMULI RETY,
PRESIDENT, ADAD IN REFERENCE TO A
PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER UNDF DETAINEES
TO RWANDA**

The attached resolution on the grave situation of detainees at UNDF in reference to proposals for transfer to Rwanda was presented to the Bureau meeting of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), by Vice-President Lennox S. Hinds. The meeting was held in Berlin, on 20-21 June 2004. IADL was founded in 1946, with affiliates and members in more than ninety-six countries.

In addition, IADL is proposing to spearhead an international campaign to encourage bar associations, and other organizations of jurists, to send similar letters and resolutions to Secretary-General Kofi Annan; Judge Mose, President, ICTR; Mr. Adama Dieng, Registrar, ICTR and others. We await any recommendations from ADAD.

We would appreciate it if you would please circulate this Statement to all defense lawyers and detainees, as well as to Member States of the U.N.

Please feel free to use this Statement, as you deem necessary.

**ENDING THE ILLEGAL U.S. - LED OCCUPATION IS
THE ONLY WAY TO PROMOTE AND ENSURE THE
SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF DETERMINATION OF
IRAQ**

The Bureau of the international Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), an organization in consultative status with ECOSOC, represented at UNESCO and UNICEF and with affiliates in over-ninety-six countries, meeting at Berlin on June 20-21, 2004 considered the situation.

REMEMBERING that the continued occupation of Iraq, whether under the leadership of a US-led Coalition or a US-led Multinational Force (MNF), is the result of illegal acts of aggression by President Bush, Prime Ministers Blair and others in flagrant violation of the U-N. Charter, the Nuremberg Charter, and other international norms and conventions, and

NOTING that the specious "rationales" for invasion of Iraq - including the "link" between Saddam

Hussein and al Qaeda, and the existence of weapons of mass destruction - have been loudly rejected by world opinion, including by the US bi-partisan 9-11 Congressional Commission (US) which has concluded that there was no link between Saddam Hussein and al Qaeda, and by former U.S. weapons inspectors, as lies and self-serving myths, and

RECOGNIZING that U.N, Security Council Resolution 1483 (2004), endorses the formation of an Interim Government, headed by Prime Minister Iyad Alawi, a member of the Iraqi Governing Council, with close ties to the CIA and M-16, who was responsible for channeling the false information that Iraq could deploy weapons of mass destruction within 45 minutes, and

Welcomes the end to the occupation by 30 June 2004, despite the fact that 138,000 US troops will remain on Iraqi soil indefinitely, coupled with U.S. plans to establish permanent military bases there, as well as largest CIA station in the world (in Baghdad), and

NOTING that the Resolution

- is silent on, the decision-making process and implementation details for the "arrangements...to reach agreement (between the Government of Iraq and the multinational force) on the full range of fundamental security and policy issues, including policy on sensitive offensive operations..." (Resolution 1546, para 11), and
- the commitment of the "MNF... to act consistently with obligations under the law of armed conflict, including the Geneva Conventions" (Annexed Letter, 5 June 2004 from US Secretary State Colin L. Powell) is highly suspect, given the classified internal Department of Defense March 2003 report on interrogation methods, with its legal conclusions to support the violation and circumvention of the U.S.'s duties under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel and Inhuman Degrading treatment; the racist, illegal treatment of prisoners at Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo Bay, in Afghanistan and elsewhere; and the annual efforts of the US to push through Security Resolution

1487, to exempt peacekeepers from non-State parties from ICC jurisdiction.

IADL FIRMLY OPPOSES ANY RESOLUTION WHICH 'INTERNALIZES' THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF IRAQ, AND URGES THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO:

Reject the U.S. led Multinational Force as the major threat to the peace and security of Iraq, the region and the world.

Urge the Security Council to pass a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Iraq.

Force the U.S. as an Occupying Power to fulfill its duties and obligations, under the Hague and Geneva Conventions, to prosecute those persons who have committed grave breaches and to provide compensation to Iraqi citizens who have suffered, and

Prosecute Bush, Blair, Aznar and other governmental and military leaders who are responsible for committing war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes in violation of international humanitarian law.

Recognize the inalienable right of the people to self-determination and to resist occupation by all means available under international law.

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS WILL CONVENE THEIR 16TH CONGRESS IN PARIS JUNE 7-11 2005

The conference theme will be "LAW AND LAWYERS IN THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE – FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT", there will be five full day commissions held at the Bourse du Travail. The sub themes for the commissions are:

- i) Legal Profession and independence of judiciary
- ii) Globalization, human rights and social, economic and political rights of the people.

- iii) UN charter, international relations and international institutions.
- iv) Terrorism, human rights and right of resistance.
- v) Right to information, transparency, protection of journalists.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Droit-Solidarité

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IADL BUREAU MEETS IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

The Bureau of The International Association of Democratic Lawyers will meet on November 18-19 2004 at the India International Centre, New Delhi, India. Jitendra Sharma, President of IADL indicated that he expected participation from lawyers from all regions of the globe with a particularly large representation from Asia.

ACTIVITIES REPORT OF THE NATIONAL AFFILIATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF LAWYERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS (IADL) ORGANIZES AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TERRORISM

The theme of the conference will be "New Dimensions of Terrorism" the conference will be held at the Parliament House Annex, New Delhi (India) November 20-21, 2004.

The Conference will discuss various facets of terrorism that have emerged in recent times and will focus, amongst others, on the following questions:

- (a) What is terrorism today? Definition?
- (b) Terrorism and Human Rights,
- (c) Terrorism as a global menace,
 - i) Role of Big Powers

- ii) State Terrorism
- iii) Causes of terrorism: misgoverning, religious fundamentalism, economic despair, etc.
 - (d) Liberation struggles, peoples right to resist and terrorism
 - (e) Terrorism and impact of globalization,
 - (f) International law and role of United Nations in combating terrorism.

With warm regards,
Jitendra Sharma

JAPAN LAWYERS INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION (JALISA) REPORT ON THEIR ACTIVITIES

Osamu Niikura reports:

(1) INITIATIVES FOR ASIAN FELLOWSHIP, SOLIDARITY AND FOR BUILDING PEACE IN ASIA

On September 6, 2004 Secretary-General Niikura and attorneys Shin'ichi Yamamoto and Jun Sasamoto went to Seoul, Republic of Korea, where they and the Korean Preparatory Committee officially decided that the plenary session of the Fourth Conference of Lawyers of Asia and the Pacific (COLAP 4) will be held September 2-4, 2005 in Seoul.

There was a proposal that the COLAP 4 preparatory meeting be held in Seoul in January 2005. As soon as the Korean schedule is decided, invitations for the preparatory meeting will be sent by email or postal mail from Korea to lawyers, NGOs, and IADL members throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The Japanese have proposed the following four themes for the COLAP 4 plenary session:

- Democratic alternatives for the East Asia Community concept
- The future of the Korean Peninsula and of Asia
- How the US strategy and the US military reorganization will affect Asia's future
- Human rights, peace, environment, and development

JALISA symposia are planned to help COLAP succeed. First: "Raising Questions about the East Asian Community," December 1, 2004 in Tokyo,

Second: "Asia after the US Presidential Election," December 11, 2004, held in Tokyo as the JALISA 27th General Assembly Special Symposium

(2) EFFORTS TOWARD ACHIEVING PEACE

Participated in simultaneous world actions for peace in opposition to the war against Iraq and its occupation, which were held on March 20, 2004, a year since the start of the Iraq war.

On April 24, 2000 JALISA and four other lawyers' organizations co-hosted a debate called "What Should Lawyers Do Now? — Bringing Peace Back to Iraq and Stopping Injurious Changes to Article 9."

On August 10, 2004 JALISA members participated in an informal discussion with Christopher Weeramantry, chairman of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms and former vice-president of the International Court of Justice.

At a JALISA summer gathering, members adopted the "Statement on the Crash of a US Military Helicopter," dated August 23, 2004. This statement on the crash of a US Marines helicopter on the grounds of Okinawa International University on August 13, 2004 protested the use of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) as grounds to refuse Japanese cooperation in the investigation, and criticized the SOFA because it forces Japan to accept subordinate treatment.

On October 25, 2004 JALISA adopted a statement titled "A Second Demand for Halting the Deployment of Self-Defense Forces to Iraq, and for the Quick Withdrawal of US, British, and Other Coalition Forces". In addition to voicing opposition to extending the December 14 time limit for the Self-Defense Forces deployment in Iraq, it called for an early withdrawal by the US/British coalition forces, the restoration of public order by the Iraqi government under UN guidance, and the international community's assistance in rebuilding Iraq. (Text of Second Demand Statement can be found below)

(3) PREPARATIONS FOR THE JUNE 2005 IADL CONGRESS (PARIS)

On August 14, 2004 Secretary-General Niikura talked with Roland Weyl (of the French organization "Law and Solidarity"), and conferred in detail on the IADL Congress in Paris. At the

meeting Mr. Weyl proposed holding an "Evening of Solidarity 60 Years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki". JALISA has proposed two themes for the 16th Congress titled "Globalization and Nationalism" and "United Nations Reform."

(4) INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES

IADL, Secretary-General Niikura, Yoriko Shiokawa and Hisae Saito participated in a sub-commission meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva held from July 26 to August 13, 2004.

(5) VISIT TO VIETNAM

On November 19, thirty members of the JALISA Kansai Chapter with the cooperation of the Vietnam Lawyers Association will have an opportunity to talk with their counterparts about Vietnam's economic reforms, judicial reforms and labor conditions.

JALISA Issues "A Second Demand for Halting the Deployment of Self-Defense Forces to Iraq, and for the Quick Withdrawal of US, British, and Other Coalition Forces"

Statement by the Japan Lawyers International Solidarity Association October 25, 2004

In solidarity with all the peace-loving citizens of the world, we censure the continuing crimes against peace committed by the US government and the other governments, which follow it in continuing the military occupation of Iraq even after the transfer of sovereignty to the provisional government. We also make the following demands:

- Withdraw Japan's Self-Defense Forces soon, and do not extend the current deployment period limit of December 14.
- An early withdrawal by the US-British coalition, the recovery of public order by the Iraqi government under UN guidance, and assistance by international society for rebuilding Iraq.

Yoshihiro Eto, President of JALISA
Osamu Niikura, Secretary-General of JALISA

The National Lawyers Guild (NLG) held its Annual Convention in Birmingham Alabama October 20-24, 2004

Jeanne Mirer reports:

As 2004 is the 40th Anniversary of the 1964 "Freedom Summer" and other momentous occasions in the Civil Rights Movement in the United States, the NLG wanted to hold its convention in the South and to commemorate the struggles of the Civil Rights movement.

The Convention's opening session of the convention was held in the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. This is the Church where 6 young girls were killed in 1963 when a bomb was planted in the basement of the church. The Church Choir sang Freedom songs and Congressman John Lewis addressed the gathering as the keynote speaker. Congressman Lewis, who represents citizens in Atlanta Georgia, was a leader in the Student Non Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) during the 1960's and lead many voter registration drives as well as protests. He told of the support that SNCC received from NLG Lawyers like Bill Kuntsler and Arthur Kinoy during the 1960's. He congratulated the Lawyers Guild for standing by oppressed people and continuing to struggle for Human Rights. Jaribu Hill, Executive Director of the Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights also addressed the group and led the group in songs of work and protest.

The Theme of the Convention was "Law for the People" and major panels were held on such topics as "New Voices in the Civil Rights Struggle", "Globalization of the Fight for Workers' Rights", and "The People v the National Security State".

A special program was presented on the "Women of the Civil Rights Movement" which included speeches by Judge Claudia Morcom who was the staff attorney in the NLG's Jackson Mississippi office which was set up to assist the Civil Rights movement have legal support. Judge Morcom has been a long time supporter of both AAJ and the IADL, and she was a leading member of the IADL delegation to the World Conference Against Racism in Durban in 2001. Judy Richardson who worked for SNCC and who worked on the documentary movie "Eyes on the Prize" was also a speaker.

There was also a wide array of workshop topics which Lawyers Guild members are working on, including representing people who have been arrested in demonstrations, representing immigrants, victims of police misconduct, and rights of the disabled. There were also workshops on "Radical Lawyering in a Hostile Environment", Contemporary US Imperialism: Iraq, Haiti and Palestine."

The International Committee met for a full day at the beginning of the Convention and discussed the major issues facing the members of the Committee including the NLG's work on Cuba, North Korea, Palestine and Iraq. The NLG's Military Law Task Force reported an increasing request for its services from members of the military who are finding themselves opposed to the War in Iraq.

The International Committee also sponsors a reception on the Friday Nights of the Convention, at which all international guests are introduced and welcomed and the work of the Committee is highlighted. Lawyers from Japan, and the Japanese Lawyers Association for Freedom (JLAF) attended the reception. A refugee from Haiti spoke about the US's actions which have caused terrible suffering in Haiti. Mr. William Sloan from the Canada and the Treasurer of the AAJ gave greetings from the AAJ and invited everyone to attend the next World Social Forum in Puerto Alegre Brazil where the AAJ will be having its executive board meet. Jeanne Mirer conveyed greetings from President Sharma and the leadership of the IADL and spoke of the Congress. She also passed out copies of the report of the International Commission for Labor Rights (ICLR) delegation to Colombia which studied the problem of impunity for the killing of trade unionists in Colombia. A copy of the report can be found at www.laborcommission.org.

The International Committee also agreed to promote attendance from the NLG at the IADL Congress in Paris in June and also sponsored a workshop on the case that has been filed on behalf of the Vietnamese victims of Agent Orange.

NEWS FROM DROITE SOLIDARITÉ

Roland Weyl reports:

The French Association, Droit Solidarité has continued to lead the opposition among lawyers and peace loving people in France against the illegal war and occupation in Iraq. Droite Solidarité has co-sponsored and participated in solidarity activities in support of the Palestinian People.

Droite Solidarité as part of its educational campaign to highlight the United Nations Charter, has widely distributed its booklet on the theme **“WAR, PEACE, THE UNITED NATIONS AND US”**. Furthermore it distributes its four page monthly newsletter to approximately 150 lawyers in France.

As the host committee for the 16th Congress of the IADL, Droite Solidarité has been engaged in all of the preparatory work including, confirming venues for the various activities and programs, obtaining translation support services and other logistical support for the Congress.

On October 21, Droite Solidarité organized a public meeting at the Paris Bar on the legal reasons to reject the Draft European Constitution.

On December 4-5, Droite Solidarité will organize a public hearing consisting of a Commission of Lawyers to discuss the **“Crime of Aggression And War Crimes in Iraq”**.

ACTIVITIES AT THE UNITED NATIONS

THE UNITED NATIONS - VIENNA

Evelyn Duermayer reports:

The NGO Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice will meet November 22nd to further promote its work in respect of the UN-Congress.

The NGO Committee on the Status of Women had its first session on September 30th and concentrated on two statements for the ECE meeting in Geneva.

The first statement concerns an appeal to the ECE States to fully implement equal remuneration including benefits and social security, equal treatment in respect of work of equal value, promote sustainable development, the need to empower women through education and vocational training and the access to micro credits.

The second statement recalled the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995, and emphasized Security Council Resolution 1325(2000) that all parties in an armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse and all other forms of violence.

IADL/UN - GENEVA ACTIVITIES

Raymond Merat reports:

The IADL and its representatives actively participate in the meetings of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva, which take place at least twice a year.

The Sub Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held its 56th session from July 26th to August 13th. The Chairman was Soli Serabjee Esq. from India. In a Speech to the Commission President Jitendra Sharma articulated "There was not and could not be any differences about our aims and goals which were to make the Sub Commission an effective and powerful tool for the redress of the ills and grievances of the powerless, the defenseless and the voiceless." The words of our President were not spoken in vain, many of the delegates and speakers at the Sub Commission reacted against the limitations that some were trying to put on our activity and our freedom of speech.

The IADL sponsored several speakers from Japan, one of the speakers from The Molucca Islands dealt with problems relating to their own countries.

We held meetings with other NGO's and a meeting with Mrs. Louise Arbour the new Human Rights Commissioner named by Kofi Annan to replace Sergio Vieira de Mello.

Many subjects were discussed by the Sub Commission, however, the only subject on which there was a vote, concerned imposition of the death penalty on civilians by military tribunals.

The Sub Commission also appointed a Special Representative for issues concerning minorities. Another subject on our agenda that we dealt with was the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel or degrading treatment.

The Sub Commission also examined the violation of human rights through the use of small arms and light weapons.

UNITED NATIONS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November – December 2004

Date(s)	Event	Location
November 15 – 26	Committee against Torture, thirty-third session	Geneva
November 17 – 26	Commission on Human Rights, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention	Geneva
November 23 – 27	FAO, Council	Rome
November 29 – December 3	Commission on Narcotic Drugs,, meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific region	Bangkok
November 29 – December 3	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, pre-sessional working group	Geneva
November 29	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People	New York
November 29 – December 3	Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, ninth session	The Hague
November 29 – December	First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction	Nairobi
November 29 – December 7	Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	Geneva
November 29 – December 3	Working Group on a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people	Geneva
November 29 – December 10	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Transport Law, fourteenth session	Vienna
December 6 - 10	Annual meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction	Geneva
December 7 – 14	Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency	Paris (UNESCO Headquarters)
December 14 – 17	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Executive Council	The Hague
December	Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1meeting)	Nairobi
Dates to be determined	High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations	New York
Dates to be determined	International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighboring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994	Arusha
Dates to be determined	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	The Hague
Dates to be determined	Second meeting of the States parties to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	New York
Dates to be determined	Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Geneva Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	Geneva

UNITED NATIONS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January – May 2005

Date(s)	Event	Location
January 31 – February 11	Open-ended Working Group on an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, second session [General Assembly resolution 58/241]	New York
January/February (2 Weeks)	Commission on Human Rights, intergovernmental working group on effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action [Economic and Social Council decision 2003/246]	Geneva
February 7-11	Commission on Human Rights, Working Group on Situations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/41]	Geneva
February 28 – March 11	Commission on the Status of Women, forty-ninth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1999/257]	New York
February (1 day)	Tenth meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child [General Assembly resolution 44/25] ^b	New York
February (2 weeks)	Commission on Human Rights, working group of experts on people of African Descent [Economic and Social Council decision 2003/246]	Geneva
February/March	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)]	New York
March 7 – 25	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, sixty-sixth session [General Assembly resolution 2106 (XX)] ^b	Geneva
March	Group of governmental experts of the States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, tenth session [decision of the States parties, December 2001] ^{b,c}	Geneva
March/April (3 weeks)	Human Rights Committee, eighty-third session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)] ^b	New York
April 18 – 25	Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [General Assembly resolution 57/171] ^b	Bangkok
April 25 – June 3 and July 4 – August 12	International Law Commission, fifty-seventh session [General Assembly resolution 174 (II)]	Geneva
May 2 – 5	Committee against Torture, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolution 56/44] ^b	Geneva
May 9 – 13	Commission on Human Rights, Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Minorities [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/246]	Geneva
May 9 – 20	Committee against Torture, thirty-fourth session [General resolution 39/46 A] ^b	Geneva
May 9 – 27	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations [Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1296 (XLIV) and decisions 1995/304 and 1997/297]	New York
May 30 – June 3	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families [General Assembly resolution 45/158] ^b	Geneva
May (3 days)	Regional seminar to review the situation in Non-self-Governing Territories under the Second Decade on the Eradication of Colonialism [General Assembly resolution 55/147]	To be determined

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(Elected at the XVth Congress, October 2000)

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