THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT:
POLICY, PROCESS, AND PRACTICE

June 14 – 16, 2009
Austrian National Defense Academy, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna

PROGRAM

Sunday, June 14

17:00 – 18:30 Opening Statements

Welcoming remarks:
Rita E. Hauser, Esq., Chair, International Peace Institute

General Raimund Schittenhelm, Commandant, Austrian National Defense Academy

Ambassador Hans Winkler, Director, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna

Introduction of the Speakers:
Ambassador Terje Rød-Larsen, President, International Peace Institute

Opening Dialogue:
Hon. Gareth Evans, President and CEO, International Crisis Group

Ambassador Ruhakana Rugunda, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations

18:30 – 20:30 FEATURED ADDRESS, RECEPTION, AND DINNER

Featured Speaker:
Major-General Johann Pucher, National Security Policy Director, Austrian Federal Ministry of Defense and Sports
Monday, June 15

9:00 – 10:00  KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Introduction of the Speaker:
Ambassador Thomas Mayr-Harting, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

Speaker:
Ambassador Susan E. Rice, Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations

10:00 – 11:00  SESSION 1: TAKING STOCK AND LOOKING AHEAD – IMPLEMENTING THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Two years after the Responsibility to Protect was endorsed in paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the United Nations used it for the first time as the overall framework for the international response to the crisis in Kenya in early 2008. A year later, in January 2009, the UN Secretary-General presented his report ‘Implementing the Responsibility to Protect’ to the General Assembly (A/63/677). The General Assembly is expected to discuss the steps ahead in operationalizing the Responsibility to Protect in the spring of 2009. Now it is time to consider the role of the Security Council as well.

Introduction of the Speaker:
Ambassador Hans Winkler, Director, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna

Speaker:
Dr. Edward C. Luck, Senior Vice President and Director of Studies, International Peace Institute; Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General

11:15 – 12:45  SESSION 2: EARLY ENGAGEMENT AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY BY THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL

The Responsibility to Protect seeks to help States to succeed in fulfilling their responsibility to protect populations rather than simply react when they fail. Public and confidential suasion and preventive diplomacy by a variety of actors within and outside of the UN system can help prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. The UN Security Council can play a crucial role in conveying the right messages to the right parties at the right time.

Chair:
Ambassador Thomas Mayr-Harting, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations
Speakers:
Ambassador Dumisani S. Kumalo, Special Representative to the Great Lakes Region and Chief Director, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Department of Foreign Affairs, South Africa; former Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

Ambassador Adonia Ayebare, Acting Director of the Africa Program, International Peace Institute

14:00 – 15:30 SESSION 3: EARLY WARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Ensuring that political decision-makers have timely, relevant, and reliable information and unbiased assessments is a precondition for effective prevention of, and response to, the perpetration of crimes and violations relating to the responsibility to protect. As asserted in paragraph 138 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the international community should “support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.” The Secretary-General recently discussed this issue in the annex to his report on implementing the Responsibility to Protect.

Chair:
Ambassador Haile Menkerios, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs

Speakers:
Dr. Francis M. Deng, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General for the Prevention of Genocide

Hon. Gareth Evans, President and CEO, International Crisis Group

Dr. Alice Ackermann, Senior Operational Adviser, Conflict Prevention Centre, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

16:00 – 17:30 SESSION 4: THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT AND THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

The Security Council now regularly calls on peacekeeping operations to “protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence,” often including robust protection tasks in mission mandates. The Council has also issued a number of thematic resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000), 1674 (2006), and 1738 (2006). In resolution 1612 (2005), it established a monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict. In resolution 1820 (2008), the Council recognized that widespread and systematic sexual violence was a security problem that it should monitor. There are, concerns, however, that questions of doctrine,
capacity, and management should be addressed to make United Nations peace operations more effective at carrying out such protection mandates.

Chair:
Mr. Alan Doss, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Speakers:
William G. O’Neill, Esq., Program Director, Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum, Social Science Research Council

Mona Rishmawi, Esq., Legal Adviser and Head of the Rule of Law and Democracy Unit, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. Hansjoerg Strohmeyer, Chief, Policy Development, and Studies Branch, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

18:30 – 20:30 Reception and Dinner at the Ministry for European and International Affairs

Welcoming Remarks:
Ambassador Johannes Kyrle, Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Tuesday, June 16

9:00 – 10:30 SESSION 5: TIMELY AND DECISIVE RESPONSE

Paragraph 139 of the Outcome Document calls for “timely and decisive” collective action when “national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations” from the four listed crimes and violations. Such collective action may involve the UN and/or regional and sub-regional organizations in the effort to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity in various ways. The Secretary-General’s report calls for using the full range of measures under Chapters VI, VII, and VIII of the Charter, as needed, to insure “an early and flexible response tailored to the specific circumstances of each case.”

Chair:
Ambassador Ruhakana Rugunda, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations
Speakers:
Major-General Patrick Cammaert (Rtd), former UN Military Adviser and former Division Commander, MONUC

Paul Johnston, Director, International Security, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom

11:00 – 11:30  FEATURED ADDRESS

Introduction of the Speaker:
Ambassador Terje Rød-Larsen, President, International Peace Institute

Featured Speaker:
Hon. Michael Spindelegger, Austrian Minister for European and International Affairs

11:30 – 13:00  SESSION 6: MONUC AS A CASE STUDY IN MULTIDIMENSIONAL PEACEKEEPING IN COMPLEX EMERGENCIES

Chair:
Ambassador Adonia Ayebare, Acting Director, Africa Program, International Peace Institute

Speakers:
Mr. Alan Doss, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Major-General Patrick Cammaert (Rtd), former UN Military Adviser and former Division Commander, MONUC

Dr. Severine Autesserre, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Barnard College, Columbia University

14:00 – 15:30  SESSION 7: MINURCAT AND EUFOR CHAD/RCA AS A CASE STUDY IN JOINT UN-REGIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL PEACEKEEPING

Chair:
Major-General Johann Pucher, National Security Policy Director, Austrian Federal Ministry of Defense and Sports

Speakers:
Dr. Rima Salah, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Chad
Colonel Heinz Assmann, former National Contingent Commander of the Austrian Contingent EUFOR Tchad/RCA

16:00 – 17:30 SESSION 8: CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD – THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Chair:
Ambassador Stefan Lehne, Political Director, Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Speakers:
Dr. Edward C. Luck, Senior Vice President and Director of Studies, International Peace Institute; Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General

Ambassador Hans Winkler, Director, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna