

What's New?

Top UN envoy calls for dialogue to curb violence against Timorese women

10 June 2010 – The top United Nations envoy to Timor-Leste has underscored the need for dialogue to bring an end to gender-based violence in the fledgling South-East Asian nation.

Ameerah Haq, the Secretary-General's Special Representative, visited Covalima, a district in the country's southwest, where she visited a safe house, home to women who have been targets of domestic or sexual violence.

More:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=34988&Cr=timor&Cr1=>

Australian government funding anti-gun lobby

It has emerged that AusAid, who have recently been mired in controversy over wasted funds, high paid consultants and dubious programs, have provided an undisclosed sum of funding to support a gun prohibitionist website operating out of the University of Sydney.

If you are dissatisfied with your taxpayer's dollars being given to the anti-gun lobby, rather than going towards practical on-ground aid in developing nations, please contact the Minister responsible and make your views known:

The Hon. Stephen Smith MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Stephen.Smith.MP@aph.gov.au

PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6277 7500
Fax: (02) 6273 4112

“Half as many murders, and nobody knows why”

Read Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) Director Dr Don Weatherburn's thoughts on the falling crime rate in New South Wales:
<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/society-and-culture/half-as-many-murders-and-nobody-knows-why-20100611-y3fo.html>

Focus On....

6th Australian Women's Health Network Conference

The 6th Australian Women's Health Network conference was held on May 18-21 in Hobart, Tasmania. Over 600 delegates attended the event, which covered a diverse range of issues including domestic violence, Indigenous women's health, women's leadership, and law reform.

Papers from the conference can be downloaded from:
<http://www.leishman-associates.com.au/awhn2010/papers.php>

New Research

Stickley A., & Carlson P. (2010). Factors associated with non-lethal violent victimization in Sweden in 2004-2007. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 38(4): 404-410.

Abstract

Aims: To examine which factors were associated with non-lethal violent victimization in Sweden in the period 2004 to 2007. Methods: Data come from the Swedish National Public Health Surveys, undertaken annually between 2004 and 2007. A total of 29,923 randomly selected respondents aged 16 to 84 from across Sweden responded to a mailed questionnaire. Logistic regression analyses were used to examine which independent variables were associated with having experienced violence in the previous 12 months. Results: Male and female respondents who were younger, single, lacking in social capital and who engaged in harmful alcohol consumption were significantly more likely to have been subject to violence. Furthermore, men who were in the lower income groups or who were Nordic, and women who were of a non-European origin, were also significantly more likely to have been victimized. Conclusions: The risk of non-lethal violent victimization is not spread equally throughout Swedish society. Specifically, those who are socially and/or economically disadvantaged are much more likely to experience violence. This highlights the importance of working to reverse the growing inequality that has occurred in Sweden in recent years that continues to be linked to the risk of being a victim of non-lethal violence.

The Canadian Outdoors Network

Building a national coalition of hunting, fishing, trapping and shooting sports organizations has been an elusive goal, but essential to securing the future for outdoor traditions and culture in Canada. The scientific management of fish, wildlife and natural resources under the highly successful North American Model of Wildlife Management is in jeopardy, as powerful animal rights groups combine with pop-ecology and protectionist organisations, to question the need for hunting, fishing and trapping. Meanwhile, gun control and public safety advocates place relentless pressure on government and opposition parties to take sporting firearms out of the hands of individuals in Canada.

Three years ago, the Liberal Party of Canada passed Resolution 42, to ban private ownership of semi- automatic firearms, including long guns. This rallying point was the catalyst used to fuse a national network of organisations representing gun users in every province of Canada. The Canadian Outdoors Network worked in alliance with several organizations and individuals to have Resolution 42 successfully withdrawn.

Since then, the Outdoors Network, working with participants and many others, has successfully defended hunting, fishing, trapping and shooting sports by coordinating information exchange, and planning national advocacy campaigns, with participating organizations in all provinces and one territory.

Examples of success are retaining private ownership of semi- automatic long guns; helping to modify and pass a new Federal Animal Cruelty Act which would provide further protection for animals without establishing a legal basis to challenge the sustainable and legitimate uses of animals; retaining Wildlife Habitat Canada and Duck Stamp dollars for habitat conservation; assisting in delaying the implementation of the UN marking protocol for firearms sold in Canada; campaigning to forestall the elimination of the federal Canadian Wildlife Service, and its Migratory Bird Management and National Wildlife Areas programs, among many others.

The Canadian Outdoors Network is presently campaigning to abolish the ineffective and wasteful long gun registry, by supporting Bill C- 391. We are also working to ensure environmental safe- guards, and access is maintained in amendments proposed by government to the Navigable Waters Protection

Act and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

The Outdoors Network very much appreciates our collaboration with WiSH in support of our common goals.

Where is the SSFAC?

In 2002, the then Minister for Justice and Customs established the Sporting Shooters and Firearms Advisory Council (SSFAC) to provide expert advice to the Australian government about firearms-related issues.

SSFAC members were drawn from a wide range of relevant clubs and associations, and also included the National Farmers Federation (NFF), the security industry, theatrical armourers, collectors, and firearm dealers. The group met on a regular basis, and assisted the Minister to pro-actively resolve a number of existing and emerging issues.

Since the change of government in 2007, the group has met just once. Repeated requests for information about the status and future of this group have yielded unsatisfactory responses that lack transparency, and which fail to address our growing concerns over the lack of inclusion of firearms owners in the policymaking process.

The Minister now responsible for the SSFAC (the Hon. Brendan O'Connor MP, Minister for Home Affairs) has still not seen fit to answer questions posed by WiSH in early March about what consultative and advisory mechanisms (if any) he is using in lieu of the SSFAC.

Coupled with the government's funding of the anti-gun lobby, the failure to engage with firearm owners paints an increasingly concerning picture. We urge WiSH supporters to make it clear to the government that they need to significantly improve their engagement with the firearms community:

The Hon. Brendan O'Connor MP
Minister for Home Affairs
Brendan.O'Connor.MP@aph.gov.au

PO Box 6022
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6277 7290
Fax: (02) 6273 7098

Positions Vacant

Executive Assistant to Director of Campaigns and Policy – Oxfam, Great Britain

Campaigns & Policy Division (CPD) works with others to understand and influence policies, practices, attitudes, beliefs & behavior to overcome poverty and suffering and reduce inequality. The role of the EA is to facilitate the work of the Director through research, analysis and preparation of the forward agenda

Closing date: 28 June 2010

More:

<http://www.oxfam.org/oxfam.asp?newms=jj&id=32854&rss=1>

Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer (Nairobi) – United Nations Political Office for Somalia

Responsibilities:

Within limits of delegated authority and working under the overall direction/supervision of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG), the Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer will be responsible for the following duties: Provide timely, sound and appropriate advice to the SRSG on all Humanitarian, Early Recovery and Development matters in Somalia; Establish and maintain contacts with relevant Somali national authorities, the UNCT, donors, the African Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), Red Cross movement, NGOs and other actors engaged in humanitarian response, early recovery and development activities; Serve as a link between the Mission and all actors (UN Agencies, Red Cross and NGOs) with ongoing humanitarian programs in Somalia; Monitor, analyze and report on humanitarian, early recovery and developments activities in Somalia; Participate in joint inter-agency assessment and/or other missions; Prepare and/or contribute to the preparation of various reports including, but not limited to, Daily Situation Reports (SITREPs), Secretary-General's (SG reports, Background papers and briefings; Work closely with the Joint Planning unit to plan, monitor and evaluate humanitarian, early recovery and development programs; Provide inputs for the preparation of the UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) budget; Review and provide advice on policy issues related to safeguarding humanitarian principles; Participate in cluster/sectoral working group meetings, seminars and conferences; Provide guidance and advice to staff in the Development Affairs unit; Develop and ensure the implementation of quick

impact projects; Appraise performance of staff in the unit; Perform other related duties as may be assigned by the Head of Mission.

Closing date: 27 June 2010

More:

https://jobs.un.org/Galaxy/Release3/Vacancy/Display_Vac.aspx?lang=1200&VACID=0d65702a-5ed3-46d3-9385-e8f68e4493b1

Senior Research Policy Adviser – Amnesty International, London

A challenging role providing leadership on the development of research standards and methodology and building research capacity. We are looking for someone with extensive experience conducting and managing human rights research projects. The successful candidate will have substantial experience of both field and desk-based research and be an excellent writer in English. The post requires both experience of and a strong commitment to building research capacity and training researchers.

Job purpose: To lead the development of research standards and methodology; provide advice on research issues; manages research projects in IS and with Sections; develops policy and guidelines and monitors their implementation; develops and delivers research training, including on field missions; and contributes to the quality control function for research projects and outputs generated by both the International Secretariat and Amnesty International sections (national chapters).

Closing date: 27 June 2010-06-19

More:

https://sjobs.brassring.com/1033/ASP/TG/cim_job_email.asp?partnerid=25219&siteid=5255&jobid=583001

Activist Resources

Don't forget to visit the activist resource area of the WiSH website. This page provides a range of helpful material for grassroots campaigners.

<http://www.ic-wish.org/activistresources.htm>

Contribute to Our Newsletter

If you would like to contribute a news item, action alert, event notice, or other material to our newsletter, please email info@ic-wish.org