



The Missing:
Action to resolve the problem of people unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict or internal violence and to assist their families

International Conference of Governmental and Non-Governmental Experts
Geneva, 19 - 21 February 2003

Program
TheMissing/Conf/02.2003/EN/4

Wednesday, 19 February 2003

08:00 – 10:00

Registration

10:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 18:30

Plenary

- Opening and introductory speeches
 - Ms Yvonne Visaka Dharmadasa, President, Parents of Servicemen Missing in Action (Sri Lanka)
 - Mr Leonard Rubenstein, Executive Director, Physician for Human Rights
 - Mr Sergio Viera de Mello, High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - Mr Jean-Marc Boulgaris, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission (Geneva), Switzerland
 - Mr Jakob Kellenberger, President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
 - "ICRC report: The Missing and their Families - Summary of the Conclusions arising from Events held prior to the International Conference of Governmental and Non-Governmental Experts (19-21 February 2003)" (ICRC/TheMissing/01.2003/EN/10) - Presentation by Ms Sophie Martin, Head of Project, The Missing, ICRC
- General debate

16:30 – 18:30

Working Group on the Final Document (closed to media)

19:00 – 21:00

Reception offered by the ICRC at the CICG

Program

Thursday, 20 February 2003

09:00 – 12:30

Plenary: General debate

09:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 18:00

Working Group on the Final Document (closed to media)

13:30 – 15:30

- ***Panel: Families and their need to know the fate of their relatives***

Chairman: Mr Habib Nassar, Vice-President, Committee of Families of Kidnapped and Disappeared in Lebanon (Lebanon)

Rapporteur: Ms Asta Maria Zinbo, Director, Civil Society Initiatives, International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)

Official Speakers:

- Ms Margriet Blaauw, MD, Master in International Health, Psychologist, Master in Human Rights, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
- Mr Yvan Droz, Doctor of Ethnology, Associate Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute of Development Studies (IUED), Geneva (Switzerland)
- Ms Ariane Tombet Caushaj, Deputy Head of Project, The Missing, ICRC

- ***Panel: Collection, exhumation and management of human remains***

Chairman: Mr Eric Stover, Director, Professeur, Human Rights Center, University of California (United States of America (the))

Rapporteur: Mr Roberto Ricci, Policy Planning and Methodology Team, Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations

Official Speakers:

- Mr Djordje Alempijevic, Doctor, Forensic pathologist, Institute of Forensic Medicine (Yugoslavia)
- Mr Robin Coupland, Doctor, Health Coordinator, Assistance Division & Legal Division, ICRC
- Mr Luis Fondebrider, Member, Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF) (Argentina)
- Mr Markus Rothschild, Professor, German Society of Legal Medicine (Germany)

16:00 – 18:00

- ***Panel: Members of the armed forces and armed groups : identification and Information Bureau***

Chairman: Mr Titus K. Githiora, Brigadier General, Chief of Legal Services, Ministry of Defense, Department of Defence (Kenya)

Rapporteur: Mr Nobbs, Lieutenant Colonel, Rear Support Command, Headquarters, ACE Rapid Reaction Corps

Official Speakers:

- Ms Barbara Cooper, Deputy Director, Service Personnel Policy (Welfare and Families), Ministry of Defence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the))
- Dr Visaka Dissayanake, Rana Viru Seva Authority (RVSA) (Sri Lanka)
- Mr Tetsuo Itani, Adviser to the Armed Forces, Unit for Relations with Armed and Security Forces, ICRC

Program

Thursday, 20 February 2003 (continue)

16:00 – 18:00

- ***Panel: Mechanisms to solve issues on people unaccounted for***

Chairman: Mr Ravi Nair, Executive Director, South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre (India)

Rapporteur: Mr Javier Ciurlizza Contreras, Executive Secretary, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Peru)

Official Speakers:

- Mr Richard Lyster, Commissioner, Truth and Reconciliation Commission South Africa (South Africa)
- Ms Vasuki Nesiah, Doctor, Senior Associate, International Center for Transitional Justice, New York
- Mr Marco Sassoli, Professor at the Faculty of Political Science and Law of the University of Quebec in Montreal (Canada)

Friday, 21 February 2003

09:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 17:00

Plenary

- Report on the Panels
- Summary of the Plenary
- Report of the Working Group on the Final Document and Adoption of the Final Document
- Final Statements
- Statement by Mr Jacques Forster, Vice-President, ICRC
- Closing

After the closing ceremony there will be a press conference by Yves Sandoz, Chairman of the Conference, ICRC and Ambassador Nicolas Michel, Chairman of the Working Group on the Final Document, Switzerland. The exact time will be announced on Friday, 21 February.