

## **REPORT OF REVIEW CONFERENCE ON MODEL CODES FOR POST- CONFLICT CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

A review conference, assembling approximately 80 experts in the field of post-conflict peace operations was held in Geneva from 16-18 June 2003. The conference reviewed draft transitional criminal code, a transitional code for criminal procedure and a draft transitional detention act. The review conference also discussed further directions that need to be taken to develop legislation, guidelines and standard operating procedures regulating police powers during peace operations.

United States Institute for Peace (USIP), the Irish Centre for Human Rights (ICHR), National University of Galway and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) hosted the review conference. The conference commenced with opening remarks from Dr Bertrand Ramcharan, Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Neil Kritz, Director, Rule of Law Program (USIP) and Dr William Schabas, Director, ICHR. After lunch on 16 June, conference attendees were assigned to working groups to discuss various aspects of the drafts. Group discussions continued until mid-morning 18 June when attendees were called back to a Plenary Session to outline what changes and recommendations they had decided needed to be made to the drafts.

Most attendees felt that the pre-conference work done in drafting the transitional codes provided an excellent starting point for discussions. Changes and recommendations to the drafts by the working groups will be further examined by USIP and ICHR. Conference attendees are encouraged to continue working on those areas of the drafts that interest them.

Further information regarding the *Project on Peacekeeping and the Administration of Justice* can be found at <http://www.usip.org/>

Bruce 'Ossie' Oswald, Associate Director APCML was invited by the conference hosts to attend the review conference. He was appointed rapporteur for the working group discussing police powers.