

2nd London Conference on THE MIDDLE EAST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION FREE ZONE

17 & 18 September 2007 - Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies



2nd London Conference on THE MIDDLE EAST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION FREE ZONE



CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

The international concern over weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East highlights one of the most challenging issues in 21st century international studies and diplomacy. The UN Security Council has long endorsed the objective of a Middle East WMD Free Zone and this conference promotes diplomatic and educational approaches toward that objective.

The two-day event provides an opportunity for states to present their views and for debate among academic and non-governmental experts. As an annual event, the conference will help develop an informed constituency as part of CISD's developing programme on disarmament and globalisation.

Key themes to be addressed:

- The role of confidence and security building measures (in providing security assurance to states in the zone)
- Analysis of particular strategies and timeframes for implementing any CSBMs
- Verification and monitoring provisions for such a zone
- The role of the international community or organisational bodies (In implementing and safeguarding the zone)
- The impact of the zone on other existing nuclear weapon free zones (and global arms control treaties)
- The relationship of the zone with regional arms control arrangements (and in addressing concerns over military build-up within the zone)
- How such a zone would interact with the proposed peace settlement in the Arab-Israeli conflict:
 - should the zone precede a settlement?
 - would a settlement pave the way for the zone?
- What role can education and public policy development play in promoting the zone

PARTICIPANTS

Government representation includes:

- Naela Gabr, Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organisations and Agencies, Egypt
- Abdul Basit, Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan
- Gert Weisskirchen, Parliamentary spokesman on foreign affairs for the German SDP
- Spokesperson from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- and representatives from Bahrain, the EU, Iran, Kuwait, Norway, Saudi Arabia, and South Africa
(subject to change, pending confirmation and state considerations)

List of Non-Governmental Participants:

- Alyson Bailes, Professorial Associate, CISD, SOAS
- Sir Hugh Beach, Pugwash UK
- Merav Datan, Greenpeace
- Mark Fitzpatrick, IISS
- Jozef Goldblat, GIPRI
- Lord Hannay
- Lord Lamont
- Anatol Lieven, King's College London
- Professor Lotfian, University of Tehran
- Carol Naughton, Pugwash UK
- Lord Phillips
- Jan Prawitz, Swedish Foreign Policy Institute
- Bennett Ramberg, Former Adviser to US State Department
- Ian Scobbie, Hotung Research Professor, SOAS
- Robert Springborg, Director, London Middle East Institute, SOAS
- Jonathan Spyer, Global Research in International Affairs, Israel
- Sir Harold Walker

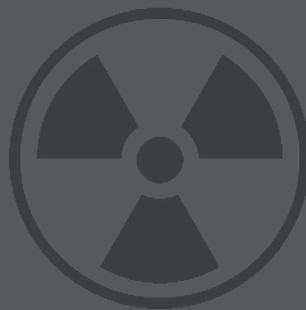
REGISTRATION for this conference is free and can be done at our website www.cisd.soas.ac.uk. You will also find highlights from last year's conference on a WMD Free Zone in the Middle East as well as information on our disarmament and globalisation programme on the website.

Established in 2000, the **Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy (CISD)** at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) is a research driven unit committed to the promotion of excellence in scholarship and teaching. The CISD's intellectual mission is to promote cross-disciplinary research and teaching that combines the distinctive expertise of SOAS with cutting edge research in international relations, economics and law to rethink area studies, diplomacy and reform strategies for a globalising world. Institutionally, the Centre builds on the MA in International Studies and Diplomacy, an internationally competitive programme devoted to providing students with the skills and training necessary for a career in traditional diplomacy and other areas of global civil society.

The **School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)**, University of London, is one of the world's leading institutions of higher education. In May 2006, it was ranked sixth in the UK in the Guardian newspaper. SOAS also joined the top 20 institutions in Europe in the 2006 World University Rankings published in the Times Higher Educations Supplement.

1st London Conference on a WMD Free Zone in the Middle East:

Official representation at the November 2006 event included Assistant Foreign Minister Fawzi of Egypt and officials from the EU, the Gulf Cooperation Council, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. Non-governmental speakers included Dr Mustapha Alani of the Gulf Research Centre and Professor Rubin from GLORIA, Israel.



Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG, UK

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7898 4840/4830

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7898 4839

Email: cisd@soas.ac.uk

www.cisd.soas.ac.uk