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Palais des Nations
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Regulating Explosive Weapons

Wednesday, 14 November 2012, 13:15–14:45
Room VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva (Switzerland)

AGENDA

Opening Remarks

Ms Kerstin Vignard, Chief of Operations, UNIDIR

Launch of *Protecting Civilians from the Effects of Explosive Weapons: An Analysis of International Legal and Policy Standards (2012)*

Ms Maya Brehm, Project Manager, UNIDIR

Ms Brehm offers an overview of how explosive weapons are regulated under international law and policy and how standards protect civilians against the effects of explosive weapons. Focusing on the particular humanitarian challenges raised by the use, in populated areas, of explosive weapons with wide area effects, Ms Brehm illustrates how the protection of civilians could be enhanced through the development of stronger international standards.

Launch of *How to Look Good in a War: Justifying and Challenging State Violence (2012)*

Prof. Brian Rappert, University of Exeter

*Prof. Rappert reflects on narratives constructed to normalize and justify state violence through discussing his new book, *How to Look Good in a War* (Pluto Press, 2012). The book seeks to identify the assumptions and preoccupations that delimit media coverage, political commentary, and academic analysis and considers how alternative ways of understanding weapons and violence can create new opportunities for addressing harm from conflict.*

*Based on a chapter of *How to Look Good in a War*, in this presentation Prof. Rappert examines how framing the issues at stake with explosive weapons through a public health lens—in contrast to an international humanitarian law lens—could help prevent this harm.*

The Way Forward – Policy Opportunities for Addressing Harm from Explosive Weapons

Mr Richard Moyes, Managing Partner, Article 36 and joint Coordinator of the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW)

Mr Moyes comments on the on-going pattern of humanitarian harm from explosive weapons, and the opportunities to reduce that harm. In his presentation, Mr Moyes gives particular attention to the problem of explosive weapons with wide area effects and links it to statements by the UN Security Council and others expressing concern at the use of “heavy weapons” in populated areas.

Questions and Moderated Discussion

A sandwich lunch will be served at 12:45 outside conference room VIII