

Web Feature

Control Arms: Millionth Face & Review Conference

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You're One in a Million!

After three years' hard work by campaigners all around the world, and with less than a week to go the crucial UN Small Arms Review Conference, the Control Arms Million Faces petition has now reached its target. We will use these faces to send a powerful, global message of support to the world's governments for an International Arms Trade Treaty.

[We still need your support. Join us today.](#)

1 Million Faces...and More

The official Millionth Face is Julius Arile from Kenya, and you can [read his story here.](#)

Julius will join other Control Arms campaigners to hand over the petition to Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the UN, on the first day of the UN Small Arms Conference, taking place in New York from 26 June – 7 July.

[Find out more information about the Conference,](#) including Control Arms campaign planned events.

United Nations Review Conference

The 2006 Review Conference will be the first time in five years that world leaders have come together to review progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons. This programme was unanimously adopted by UN member states back in 2001 and the Review Conference is part of the follow-up process, involving delegates from member states and representatives from civil society organisations, including Amnesty International, IANSA and Oxfam.

Here are just some of the events the Control Arms campaign is planning for the Conference:

26 June	Handover of the Million Faces petition to Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General and unveiling of Control Arms sculpture
26 June – 7 July	Million Faces photo exhibition
28 June	Concert featuring Angelique Kidjo and other special guests
30 June	NGO presentation to the Conference Plenary Session

We'll be recording events as they happen and keeping you up-to-date throughout the conference with online news, blogs and video. **Check out the website to get the latest.**

The Review Conference is a great opportunity for governments to agree standards to regulate the arms trade. The Control Arms campaign is calling for tough global principles on arms transfers to be agreed, a vital step towards an international Arms Trade Treaty. [You can find the full text of the global principles here.](#)

Our next big moment will be the meeting of the UN General Assembly's 1st Committee in October. We will be putting pressure on governments to use this meeting to start negotiating an Arms Trade Treaty. The Million Faces petition is a vital part of this pressure. [Join us now.](#)

Julius Arile Lomerinyang, the millionth face.

Julius Arile Lomerinyang is one in a million. He is the millionth person to have added his face to the Million Faces petition, and his story is typical of the many ordinary people across the world affected by armed violence.

Julius was born in Kanyarkwat, Kenya. When he finished primary school, he became involved in livestock rustling, a traditional part of East African culture. By the time Julius was involved, these traditions had been dramatically transformed by the widespread availability of guns. The attacks became more deadly, and Julius lost friends and relatives, including his brother.

Over time, Julius found that cattle raiding led only to more death. In 2004, during one of the Annual Tegla Loroupe Peace Races held in his district, he traded in his AK-47 for running gear. He won the 10K race in the warriors' category, and has not looked back since. Today, he trains with other athletes at a training camp, and occasionally competes in professional athletic events. He has persuaded other warriors voluntarily to surrender their weapons and to take up athletics as a way of making a living.

The growing number of guns across the globe, and the fact that these guns are quicker and more powerful than ever before, is making deaths like these increasingly common in many countries.

By signing up to the Million Faces petition, Julius joins more than a million other people around the world and 85,000 other Kenyans, who are demanding stronger international arms controls to reduce the devastating effects of armed violence.



Julius Arile Lomerinyang after winning the 10K Tegla Loroupe Peace Race, Kenya.