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CRUCIAL ARMS TRADE TREATY TALKS RESUME IN NEW YORK

Amnesty International experts on the Arms Trade Treaty available for interview

Next week, at the UN in New York, governments resume crucial talks on the Arms Trade Treaty.

Amnesty International is calling on governments to champion an effective treaty that includes a 'Golden Rule' to stop an arms transfer where there is a substantial risk the arms will be used to commit or facilitate serious human rights violations.

- There have been 128 armed conflicts since 1989, resulting in at least 250,000 deaths each year
- Human rights violations – 60% documented by Amnesty International in a 10-year structured sample involved the use of small arms and light weapons
- Non-conflict armed killings are estimated at 300,000 killings each year
- Serious injuries - ratios of reported battlefield injuries to deaths vary from 2 to 28 injuries to every death
- Internal displacement - 26 million people worldwide displaced as a result of armed conflict at the end of 2008
- Refugees - all top six countries of origin of refugees in 2008 are armed conflict zones
Child soldiers - actively involved in conflict in government forces or non-state armed groups in 19 countries since 2004

The fourth UN Preparatory Committee meeting is the final session before representatives gather in July to agree upon an historic new treaty which would, for the first time, help prevent irresponsible arms transfers.

Amnesty International has been at the forefront of the campaign to deliver a strong Arms Trade Treaty and has a delegation in New York for the talks.

To arrange an interview with representatives from the delegation please contact:

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