



MEDIA ADVISORY

5 January 2006

Time to bite the bullet

The arms trade is out of control. Every year hundreds of thousands of people die at the barrel of a gun.

Five years ago, governments met for the first time to discuss the illicit trade in small arms. The agreement they reached was a major achievement - it was the first time gun proliferation was tackled at the global level. But the agreement was limited, and progress since has been patchy.

In 2006, governments have a chance to do something about it. On 9 January, negotiations will begin at the United Nations in New York in preparation for the second world summit on small arms, which will take place in June 2006. Tough action is required.

The International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) ensures that the voices of ordinary people from gun-affected countries are heard at these UN negotiations.

During the two-week UN meeting from **9-20 Jan**, IANSA will be able to provide:

- Interviews with grassroots activists from gun-affected countries around the world.
- Stories about the human cost of the uncontrolled arms trade including reports featuring voices from conflict zones, launched with Oxfam and Amnesty International on 9 Jan
- Information about what governments must do to bring gun proliferation under control

Many members of the global IANSA network will be at the meeting in New York and will be able for interviews. Please contact us for interview requests.

The clock is ticking: each day that the arms trade remains out of control and guns continue to fall into the wrong hands, more lives are lost, more livelihoods are ruined, and more people are denied a chance to work their way out of poverty.

For more information contact:

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IANSA is a global network of more than 700 civil society organisations working to stop the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons. Its members include victim support groups, human rights activists, public health professionals and research institutes.
www.iansa.org