

The workshop *Disarming Children and Youth: Raising Awareness and Addressing the Impact of Small Arms* was held for UNICEF offices in Africa from 8-12 September 2002 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop was organised by UNICEF and the Institute for Security Studies in South Africa. Each country office was asked to identify a partner organisation to attend the meeting. The countries represented at the workshop are listed below.

## **Participant Profile**

### **UNICEF country offices**

Ghana  
Guinea  
Kosovo  
Liberia  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Operation Lifeline –Sudan  
Somalia  
Tanzania

### **Partners**

Côte d'Ivoire  
Ghana  
Guinea  
Liberia  
Mali  
Nigeria  
Sierra Leone  
South Africa  
Sudan

### **International organisations**

UNICEF Headquarters  
UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Conflict

The workshop used four resource people.

**Funmi Olonisakin** works in the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Conflict in New York. She has a strong understanding of the impact of war and conflict on children and the mechanisms that exist at the international and regional level that can be used to prevent the exploitation of children in conflict situations. In addition, she has in-depth knowledge of regional conflicts in West Africa and the opportunities for action.

**Sarah Meek** is the head of the ISS Arms Management Programme in South Africa. She has many publications to her name and is well known internationally for her work on small arms controls. She brought to the workshop knowledge of the small arms issue, the development of networks, research methodology and facilitation.

**Angela McIntyre** is the coordinator of the ISS children in armed conflict project, InterAct. She brought to the workshop her knowledge of child rights issues, the impact of war and conflict on children and the strategies that are being used within African countries to prioritise responses to children and youth.

**Conmany Wesseh** is the Executive Director of the Centre for Democratic Empowerment, originally established in Liberia and now based in Côte d'Ivoire. He is a founding member of the International Action Network in Small Arms and the chairperson of the West African Action Network on Small Arms. In addition to his knowledge of small arms issues, he brought his experience of working with children and youth as well as a knowledge of the political challenges of working on small arms issues.