



## *WSBA World Peace through Law Section*

**June 2010**

***“When it comes to privacy and accountability, people always demand the former for themselves and the latter for everyone else.”***

***- David Brin***

### **June 22, 2010 Section Meeting on Recent Events in the Middle East**

The Section’s meeting on June 22, 2010, will feature an open discussion on recent events in the Middle East focusing on humanitarian law, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and other international law issues.

**Time/Place:** Noon-1:00 p.m. at the WSBA office, 1325 4th Ave., Ste. 600, Seattle. **This is not going to be submitted for CLE credit.**

*There is no cost to attend. We hope to see you there.*

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### **Carpool to BOG Meeting Considering Convention on the Rights of the Child Resolution**

At its July 23-24 meeting, the WSBA Board of Governors is scheduled to vote on the Section’s resolution supporting ratification by the U.S. of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please consider carpooling to attend the meeting by contacting Jana Heyd at [jana.heyd@scraplaw.org](mailto:jana.heyd@scraplaw.org).

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### **The Sections on Facebook!**

Opportunities for Section members to discuss and debate issues such as the above took a potentially huge step forward with the creation of a Facebook page called “*Sections of the Washington State Bar.*”

If you’re familiar with Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com>), you know what to do:

- Search for “Sections of the Washington State Bar”
- “Like” it
- Monitor it for announcements
- Use the Discussion tab to talk over topics

If you’re not familiar with Facebook, this may be a chance to try it in a way that can enhance your lawyerly or peace-oriented interests. It is difficult to predict how this particular facility will develop, but similar pages have been effective venues for lively and informative discussion, and networking of all types. Why not give it a try? Our Section has discussed many issues of general interest for which a broader discussion can be helpful, such as the ongoing question of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

If you’re not familiar with Facebook but would like to try this out, let me know; perhaps we can arrange an informal meeting to experiment. Techniques for networking and sharing information are changing quickly, and this represents an opportunity that some will enjoy! --- **REW**

## Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

### Section Leadership

#### Chair

Martha Schmidt

#### Chair-elect

Jana Heyd

#### Immediate Past Chair

Nandini Rao

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Paul Schlossman

#### Executive Committee

Jana Heyd

Julian Saucedo-

Wheeler

Mamie S. Brown

#### Newsletter

Randy Winn

### Contact Us!

- or -

WSBA Service Center  
800-945-WSBA (9722)  
206-443-WSBA (9722)

Uganda is hosting the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) from 31 May to 11 June in Kampala.

The ICC was established as a more effective and efficient means of bringing individuals responsible for the world's most serious crimes to justice, in contrast with ad hoc United Nations tribunals, which were typically bound by mandates that were specific in time and place. It is the first permanent international tribunal in history to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and (soon) the crime of aggression.

The ICC came into existence on 1 July 2002 when the 60th signatory to the Rome Statute deposited its instrument of ratification with the United Nations. The ICC has its headquarters in The Hague but may conduct its proceedings anywhere. The Review Conference is a meeting of the parties to the Rome Statute primarily to consider amendments to the Statute. It is taking place pursuant to article 123(1) of the Rome Statute requiring a conference to consider amendments seven years after the entry in force of the Statute.

The Review Conference is conducted on two tracks. Under the *amendment track*, States Parties consider amendments to the Rome Statute, particularly the inclusion of the definition and trigger mechanism for the crime of aggression. Under the *stocktaking track*, parties, civil society organizations and other stakeholders debate and discuss the impact of the Rome Statute system on victims and affected communities, cooperation, complementarity, and peace and justice.

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*From the Chair (Permanent Representative from Liechtenstein) of the Special Working Group on the Crime of Aggression, the proposal for a provision on aggression includes this definition, to be added to Art. 8:*

#### **Crime of Aggression**

1. For the purpose of this Statute, "crime of aggression" means the planning, preparation, initiation or execution, by a person in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State, of an act of aggression which, by its character, gravity and scale, constitutes a manifest violation of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. For the purpose of paragraph 1, "act of aggression" means the use of armed force by a State against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations. Any of the following acts, regardless of a declaration of war, shall, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974, qualify as an act of aggression:
  - (a) The invasion or attack by the armed forces of a State of the territory of another State, or any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from such invasion or attack, or any annexation by the use of force of the territory of another State or part thereof..."

More information: <http://www.iccuganda2010.ug>

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*This is a publication of a section of the Washington State Bar Association. All opinions and comments represent the views of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by WSBA, its officers or agents.*