

The World BankINTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION1818 H Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.Tel: (202) 473 3228
Fax: (202) 473 8229
Email: info@mdrp.org**Contacts:****in Paris****Rachel Winter Jones**

☎ + 33 1 4069 3052

✉ rjones1@worldbank.org

Steven Jouy

☎ + 33 1 4069 3022

✉ sjouy@worldbank.org

in Washington DC**Bruno Donat**

☎ + 1 202 473 0142

✉ bdonat@worldbank.org

Pamela Beecroft

☎ + 1 202 458 0644

✉ pbeecroft@worldbank.org

**World Bank and Partners to discuss future of ex-combatants in
Central Africa****Paris, France, November 20 – 22, 2006**

November 2, 2006, Washington DC—The World Bank will host the **Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP) Advisory Committee (AC) and Trust Fund Committee (TFC) meetings, November 20-22, in Paris, France.**

There will be an **MDRP press briefing, Wednesday the 22nd of November at 3pm** at the Paris World Bank offices. At **4pm** will follow a public **screening of the new documentary** featuring MDRP demobilization and reintegration programs, **“Life or Death: Buying Time for Peace.”**

The AC and TFC meetings are part of the regular review of management of MDRP. The Advisory Committee will discuss program progress and challenges with the MDRP Secretariat and the Technical Coordination Group. Participants will include national governments, donor representatives, key UN partners, representatives of regional bodies, and international financial institutions.

The Trust Fund Committee of contributing donors will then gather to make decisions concerning MDRP Trust Fund issues and to review program progress. The Technical Coordination Group, comprised of representatives from beneficiary governments and programs, will also meet to discuss shared issues, challenges and approaches.

In addition, this year's meeting will include a **pledging meeting**, during which current and new donors may announce new financial contributions to the MDRP.

About MDRP. *Launched in 2002, MDRP supports a regional planning and financing framework for the demobilization and reintegration of a currently estimated 400,000 combatants in Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. MDRP believes that these activities can contribute to the peacebuilding and stabilization process in the greater Great Lakes region, and thus lay the groundwork for sustainable development. The program is financed by the World Bank and 11 donors – Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the European Commission. It also collaborates with national governments and commissions, and with over 30 partner organizations, including United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations.*