

Project Update: December, 2007

Advisory Group Meetings

Managing Global Insecurity Advisory Group Meeting October 1

On October 1, 2007, MGI convened its second Advisory Group meeting in New York City. The session included the introduction of “responsible sovereignty” as a potential animating principle for a strengthened multilateral security system. Participants discussed how this principle might be applied to design a multilateral response to the threat of global climate change. Advisory Group members also explored how multilateralism could be employed to address the “hard cases,” such as a possible role for the United Nations in Iraq and the need for an effective regional architecture to respond to crises in the Middle East. A lunch panel with Samuel Berger and Thomas Pickering, chaired by Javier Solana, focused on “The U.S. and Multilateralism: Problems and Prospects.” Over 50 PermReps and UN officials were in attendance.

Managing Global Insecurity Advisory Group Meeting June 11

On June 11, 2007 the Managing Global Insecurity (MGI) Project held its first Advisory Group meeting at The Brookings Institution in Washington DC. The session gathered an impressive cross-section of MGI’s U.S. and International Advisory Groups. Participants affirmed that the current international system is not adequate to respond to today’s global security challenges, ranging from climate change and nuclear proliferation to internal conflict and terrorism. While recognizing the ambitiousness of the MGI Project, participants underscored that a comprehensive vision of multilateral reform must be realized to address today’s threats.

Additional Consultations

In an effort to continue to forge a constituency and dialogue on the needed U.S. role in a strengthened multilateral system, MGI project principals conducted consultations in Washington D.C. November 27-28, 2007. Sessions held included a workshop hosted by the U.S. Institute of Peace on lessons from other multilateral reform initiatives, a Deputy Chief of Mission Focus Group hosted by the Finnish Embassy, and a roundtable on multilateral approaches to global poverty. Meetings were also held at the U.S. Department of State, the National Security Council, and with Presidential campaign staff. Also in November, MGI met with officials in Paris and London to discuss French and British perspectives on a multilateral reform agenda.



Managing Global Insecurity MGI

In late October 2007, Stanford University convened a session at Stanford Sierra Conference Center, entitled "New Challenges for International Regimes." The event gathered theorists of international regimes, experts on key international policy issues, and policy makers from governments and international organizations to inform MGI's recommendations on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, human rights, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and climate change. In August, 2007, Managing Global Insecurity project principals gathered at Stanford University for discussion of the MGI manuscript.

On June 12, 2007 in Washington DC, the Embassy of Denmark hosted a MGI Focus Group session with Deputy Chiefs of Mission that included representatives from across Europe, Japan, Brazil, and South Africa. In late June, MGI attended a session at Ditchley Park hosted by International Advisory Group member, Jeremy Greenstock, on the future of the United Nations that gathered a number of UN experts and international policy-makers. On the 29th of March, Australian Ambassador to the UN, Robert Hill, hosted a lunch for MGI's project principals and key UN Permanent Representatives and Deputy Permanent Representatives to introduce the project and solicit guidance.

Looking Ahead

December 2007

On December 9-10, MGI, in partnership with the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, will hold its third Advisory Group meeting at the National University of Singapore. The session will gather Advisory Group Members and regional experts to discuss issues of non-proliferation and disarmament, Asian regional security frameworks, and energy and the environment. MGI will also conduct consultations in Tokyo and Delhi with government officials, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to gather further perspectives from key capitals on a reform agenda.

Toward Domestic and International Outreach in 2008

Consultations on MGI recommendations and the development of a comprehensive reform agenda will continue in early 2008, with a fourth Advisory Group meeting at Ditchley Park in February as well as additional focus group sessions with congressional staff, journalists, and UN PermReps and staff. With the completion of the manuscript and its release in late summer 2008, the final component of the project, an ambitious domestic and international outreach effort, will begin in earnest. A final Advisory Group session, held in partnership with the Salzburg Global Seminar, is planned for June to discuss project findings. An MGI session will be included as part of the 2008 U.S. and the Islamic World Forum in Doha in February and the Finnish Institute of International Affairs will host an MGI session in Helsinki in May 2008.



Managing Global Insecurity MGI

Ahead of U.S. Presidential elections in November, MGI will launch a U.S. book tour, including releases in Washington DC and New York, as well as at Universities and policy centers across the country. A series of policy briefs and opinion pieces on MGI findings will be distributed to members of congress, the Executive Branch, as well as candidates and their staff. MGI will also target the new UN Secretary General and the Secretariat Staff as an additional audience for institutional reform recommendations. A series of regional launches in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Europe targeting regional policy makers and issue experts will follow in late 2008.