

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Virginia Gamba

Ms. Virginia Gamba is an MSC (Econ) in Strategic Studies, Aberystwyth University, Wales (1981). She has worked as technical advisor and independent expert in three continents: the Americas, Africa and Europe. She has been lecturer in the Department of War Studies, King's College London, in the Defense University of Washington D.C. and in the Interpol headquarters in Lyons. She was Director of the Arms Management and Conflict Resolution Processes Project at UNIDIR in Geneva and Officer for Arms Control, Disarmament and Demobilization at the MacArthur Foundation of Chicago.

Ms. Gamba's areas of expertise include peace, security and human security. She has written extensively on issues related to nuclear proliferation, small arms management, peace support operations, civil society participation, human security processes, confidence building measures and north-south conflict prevention mechanisms. Some of the international initiatives she was engaged with are the Stockholm Initiative on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration, the Joan B. Kroc's Initiative on the Dynamics of Violence, the AU common approach to the combating of illicit small arms trafficking, the EU/AU peace and security agenda, the common policy of the Andean Pact on small arms, drug trafficking, terrorism and corruption, The Madrid Club Initiative on Democracy, Terrorism and Security (2004-2005) and the International Peace Institute's initiative on the Economics of Conflict.

She is the author of forty publications on crisis prevention, communications in conflict, nuclear proliferation, peace support and small arms management among other peace and security topics. She served on the Executive Committee of the Pugwash Conferences for ten years. During her tenure the organization won the Nobel Peace Prize.

A native of Argentina, Ms. Gamba has studied in Peru, Bolivia, Switzerland, Spain and the United Kingdom and worked in the United States, Argentina, the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland and South Africa. Her last appointment was as general coordinator for the Institute for Safety and Security Studies of the City of Buenos Aires.

Since January 2013, Ms. Gamba assumed her responsibilities as Director and Deputy to the High Representative of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs in New York.