



GCR2P Welcomes the US Government's Announcement on Mass Atrocity Prevention

The Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect welcomes today's announcement by the White House of a presidential directive on preventing atrocities. The decision of the Obama Administration to establish an inter-agency Atrocity Prevention Board is an important step that reflects the commitment of the government and the people of the United States to strengthen capacities to halt genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and ethnic cleansing. This decision is an important step in putting the responsibility to protect into practice and moving "never again" from rhetoric to reality. We hope that today's announcement is seen by other governments as a call to action to take similar steps and thereby strengthen international efforts to prevent and halt the most shocking of crimes.

"The Global Centre applauds the directive of President Obama in establishing this board. We see its establishment as crucial in advancing the Responsibility to Protect agenda internationally, and in making the promise of 'Never Again' a reality. In a world where innocent civilians continue to be at risk of mass atrocity crimes, we believe that this decision will play an important role in preventing another Rwanda, Cambodia or Srebrenica," said Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect.

*The Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect was created in February 2007 to catalyze action to move the 2005 World Summit agreement on the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity from principle into practice. See website: www.globalr2p.org/
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