

Annex B. Chronology 2002

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For the convenience of the reader, key words are indicated in the right-hand column, opposite each entry. They refer to the subject-areas covered in the entry. Definitions of the acronyms can be found on page xix. The dates are according to local time.

- 1 Jan. The 1992 Open Skies Treaty enters into force, allowing the parties to conduct unarmed reconnaissance flights over each other's territories. Open Skies Treaty
- 1 Jan. The Concluding Document of the negotiations under Article V, Annex 1-B (Agreement on Regional Stabilization) of the 1995 Dayton Agreement establishing a regional balance 'in and around the former Yugoslavia', enters into force. Dayton Agreement; CSBMs
- 7 Jan. Chadian Interior Minister Abderahmane Moussa and Movement for Democracy and Justice in Chad (MDJT) representative Adam Togoï, meeting in Tripoli, sign a peace agreement providing for an immediate ceasefire, a general amnesty for prisoners, and the involvement of the MDJT in the government and other institutions. On 1 Mar. the Chadian Parliament passes a bill granting a general amnesty to the rebels of the MDJT. Chad
- 8 Jan. The unclassified results of the Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) is presented to Congress by the US Department of Defense (DOD). The NPR envisions a three-phase reduction in the number of US 'operationally deployed strategic warheads' to 1700–2200 by the year 2012. A new 'triad' of strategic forces is to be created, including non-nuclear strategic weapons. The document also reportedly recommends that the DOD study the development of a new generation of very low-yield nuclear weapons (or mini-nukes) for use in certain war-fighting situations. USA; Nuclear weapons
- 10 Jan. The Palestine Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiyya (Hamas) organization calls off the truce it proclaimed on 25 Dec. 2001 in the fight against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. On 22 Jan. Hamas declares war against Israel 'on all fronts'. Israel/Palestinians
- 10 Jan. The first group of detained alleged Taliban and members of al-Qaeda arrive at the US military base Camp X-Ray in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. USA; Taliban; al-Qaeda; Terrorism
- 12 Jan. In a speech to the nation, Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf announces measures to eradicate terrorism and Islamic fundamentalism from Pakistani society. He also pledges to eliminate Pakistan-based groups that infiltrate terrorism into India. Pakistan; Terrorism

- 16 Jan. US Special Forces arrive in Zamboanga, on the island of Basilan, the Philippines, to assist and train Philippine Government troops in counter-terrorism operations. Philippines; USA
- 16 Jan. In Freetown, Sierra Leonean Minister of Justice Solomon Berewa and UN Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs Hans Corell sign an agreement establishing the Special Court for Sierra Leone. The Special Court will have temporal jurisdiction over war crimes committed in Sierra Leone after 30 Nov. 1996. The agreement is approved by the UN Security Council on 21 Mar. Special Court for Sierra Leone; UN
- 17 Jan. Meeting in Freetown, under the chairmanship of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), the Government of Sierra Leone and leaders of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) formally declare the disarmament process completed throughout the country. On 18 Jan. Sierra Leonean President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah declares the disarmament of the combatants concluded and the war in Sierra Leone at an end. Sierra Leone
- 19 Jan. Representatives of the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), meeting in Bürgenstock, Switzerland, sign the Nuba Mountains Ceasefire Agreement, under which a truce-monitoring commission is set up. Sudan
- 20 Jan. Negotiators from the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) agree to establish a timetable for the negotiation of a truce. The time limit of the FARC safe haven demilitarized zone is extended until 10 Apr. On 22 Jan. the FARC breaks the agreement by carrying out massive kidnappings. Colombia
- 23 Jan. Kyrgyzstan and the USA sign, in Bishkek, a military cooperation plan for 2002–2003. Kyrgyzstan; USA
- 23 Jan. US Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham announces that the USA will dispose of 34 metric tons of surplus weapon-grade plutonium by converting the material into mixed oxide (MOX) fuel for use in nuclear reactors. USA; Plutonium; Nuclear arms control
- 25 Jan. India test-fires the ballistic, 700 km-range, nuclear-capable Agni missile. India; Missiles
- 27 Jan. Russian Chief of the General Staff Anatoliy Kvashnin announces that Russia has completed the dismantlement of the Lourdes radar station, its last installation on Cuba. Russia; Cuba
- 29 Jan. In his State of the Union address, US President George W. Bush singles out Iran, Iraq and North Korea as regimes in an 'axis of evil' which seek to threaten the USA and the rest of the world with weapons of mass destruction. USA; WMD
- 12 Feb. In Malino, Indonesia, Muslim and Christian leaders sign a peace agreement, aimed at ending and resolving all forms of conflict between the Muslim and Christian groups on the Molucca Islands. A declaration is issued, rejecting and opposing separatist action which threatens the integrity and sovereignty of Indonesia. Indonesia; Moluccas

- 12 Feb.* The 2000 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict enters into force, committing the states parties not to send children under the age of 18 into combat or to recruit children under the age of 16 years into armed forces. Child soldiers
- 12 Feb.* The trial of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic opens at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague. He is accused of having committed genocide, war crimes and other crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia in 1991–99. Yugoslavia; ICTY
- 13 Feb.* Responding to Palestinian rocket fire on 10 Feb., Israeli troops and tanks attack three Palestinian towns and a refugee camp in the biggest operation in the Gaza Strip since Sep. 2000. Israel/Palestinians
- 16 Feb.* The head of the EU election observer team in Zimbabwe, Pierre Schori, is expelled from the country. On 18 Feb. the EU imposes sanctions on Zimbabwe—including a travel ban, freezing of financial assets and an arms embargo—and the remaining EU observers leave the country. Zimbabwe; EU
- 20 Feb.* Following the kidnapping by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) of the Senator Jorge Gechen Turbay, President Andrés Pastrana decides not to continue the peace process with FARC. On 21 Feb. Colombian armed forces begin air and ground strikes to retake the FARC safe haven demilitarized zone. Colombia
- 22 Feb.* Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatists leader Velupillai Prabhakaran sign a ceasefire agreement, mediated by the Norwegian Government, laying the groundwork for the first peace talks between the warring parties in seven years. The ceasefire will be internationally monitored. Sri Lanka
- 22 Feb.* The leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebel group, Jonas Savimbi, is killed during a battle with Angolan Government forces. Angola
- 25 Feb.* Representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Government, rebel groups and various civic organizations meet in Sun City, South Africa, to plan the arrangements for a new political structure, a transition to democracy in the DRC and a national army. DRC
- 27 Feb.* Some 200 US European Command military advisers arrive in Tbilisi to assist with military reforms and training of Georgian anti-terrorist units. Georgia; USA
- 2–18 Mar.* The US-led multinational coalition force and the Afghan Government armed forces launch a major air and ground attack, Operation Anaconda, against Taliban and al-Qaeda troops in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia province. Afghanistan
- 5 Mar.* The UN Security Council approves the European Union's offer to replace the UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) with an EU police mission from 1 Jan. 2003. Bosnia and Herzegovina; UN; EU

- 6–7 Mar.* Israeli forces attack the headquarters of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Ramallah, on the West Bank, where he has been confined since Dec. 2001. On 8 Mar. Israeli forces destroy Arafat's headquarters in Gaza City. On 29 Mar. further attacks are carried out against the Ramallah compound. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon officially declares Arafat an enemy of Israel. Israel/
Palestinians
- 13 Mar.* Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe is elected to a fifth term in office. On the basis of a critical report by the Commonwealth Observer Group to the Presidential Election in Zimbabwe, on 19 Mar. the Commonwealth of Nations suspends Zimbabwean membership for 12 months. Zimbabwe;
Commonwealth
of Nations
- 14 Mar.* The Legislative Assembly (Myizam Chygaruu Jyiny) of Kyrgyzstan ratifies agreements allowing the deployment on Kyrgyz territory, for one year, of military forces from Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Spain and Turkey for attacks on Afghanistan as part of the US-led 'war on terrorism'. Kyrgyzstan
- 14 Mar.* Yugoslav high officials sign, in Belgrade, the Agreement on Principles of Relations between Serbia and Montenegro within the State Union. The constitutional framework replaces the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) with the union of Serbia and Montenegro, with a shared foreign and defence policy but separate economic systems. On 9 Apr. the framework agreement is approved by the Montenegrin and Serbian Assemblies. On 31 May the agreement is ratified by the Parliament of the FRY. Yugoslavia/
Serbia and
Montenegro
- 20 Mar.* The USA refuses to certify that North Korea is complying with its commitments under the 1994 US–North Korean Framework Agreement on nuclear material production. USA; North
Korea; Fissile
materials
- 26 Mar.* In response to the US refusal to ratify the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), China and Iran withdraw their contribution of seismic data to the CTBT Organization (CTBTO). China; Iran;
CTBT
- 28 Mar.* The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1401, establishing the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) for an initial period of one year and aiming towards the establishment of strong and sustainable Afghan institutions in order to be able to hand over responsibilities to the Government of Afghanistan. UN;
Afghanistan
- 1 Apr.* An Ethiopian-backed coalition of Somali militia leaders establishes the breakaway Southwestern Regional Government, rejecting the Somali Transitional National Government (TNG) in Mogadishu. Somalia
- 4 Apr.* In Luanda, Chiefs of Staff of the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebel group sign a ceasefire agreement that includes a pledge to abide by the terms of the 1994 Lusaka Protocol and a demobilization plan for all UNITA soldiers. Angola

- 8 Apr. The Independent International Commission on Decommissioning announces that the Irish Republican Army (IRA) has put beyond use a substantial quantity of ammunition, arms and explosive material, as a second act of decommissioning. Northern Ireland; IRA
- 10 Apr. The 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Terrorism; UN Financing of Terrorism enters into force.
- 15 Apr. The US-led multinational coalition launches Operation Mountain Lion against Taliban and al-Qaeda troops in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia province. This is the first major initiative since Operation Anaconda, launched on 2 Mar. Afghanistan
- 19 Apr. The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1405, endorsing the establishment of a UN Fact-Finding Team to obtain accurate information on the Israeli invasion of the Palestinian Jenin refugee camp on the West Bank on 3 Apr. On 2 May the UN Fact-Finding Team is disbanded. Israel/Palestinians; UN
- 22 Apr. The Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), José Bustani, is forced to resign from office after a vote of no confidence proposed by the USA. OPCW
- 1 May PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is released from five months of confinement. The Israeli Army withdraws its forces from Ramallah, in the West Bank, as six Palestinian prisoners are transferred to the Jericho jail in Israel, under the supervision of British and US forces. Israel/Palestinians
- 2 May Russia and Viet Nam sign an agreement on the closure of the Cam Ranh Bay naval base, formerly the largest Soviet military base outside the Warsaw Pact. Russia; Viet Nam; Military bases
- 6 May Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi is released by the Myanmar Government after 19 months of house arrest. Myanmar
- 6 May The US Government declares that it does not intend to become a party to the 1998 Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC), which it signed in 1998. USA; ICC
- 14 May The CIS Collective Security Council, meeting in Moscow, decides to transform the acting mechanisms and structure of cooperation between the signatories to the 1992 Collective Security Treaty (CST) into a regional organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). The new organization will initially consist of the CST members (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan) but is open to new members. CIS; CST/CSTO
- 14–15 May 100–200 people are killed in Kisangani, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), by special death squads, following a seizure of the main radio station by self-declared army mutineers of the Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD). On 24 May the UN Security Council condemns the killings and demands the demilitarization of Kisangani. DRC; UN
- 19 May In Dili, East Timor is officially declared an independent state. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan hands over authority to the government of President Xanana Gusmão. East Timor

<i>24 May</i>	US President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin, meeting in Moscow, sign the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT), committing the USA and Russia each to reduce and limit its strategic nuclear warheads to 1700–2200 by 31 December 2012.	USA; Russia; Strategic forces; Nuclear arms control
<i>25–28 May</i>	Pakistan conducts a series of tests of Abdali (Hatf-2) short-range (180-km) ballistic missiles, capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads.	Pakistan; Missiles
<i>26 May</i>	The Defence Minister of Iran, Ali Shamkani, confirms that Iran has test-fired a Shahab-3 medium-range (1300-km) ballistic missile.	Iran; Missiles
<i>27 May</i>	In fighting in the Ennedi highland region of Chad between the government and the guerrilla group Movement for Democracy and Justice in Chad (MDJT), over 60 people are killed. This is the first outbreak of fighting since the ceasefire agreement and the peace agreement were signed on 7 Jan. 2002.	Chad
<i>28 May</i>	The heads of state and government of the NATO countries and Russia sign, in Rome, the declaration on ‘NATO–Russia relations: a new quality’, thereby establishing the NATO–Russia Council, which replaces the NATO–Russia Permanent Joint Council, created in 1997.	NATO–Russia Council
<i>31 May</i>	The USA and Bulgaria sign, in Sofia, a Memorandum of Understanding stating that they will jointly destroy Bulgaria’s short-range SS-23, Scud-B and FROG missiles. The Bulgarian Parliament ratifies the agreement on 12 June.	Bulgaria; USA; Missiles
<i>3 June</i>	The Organization of American States (OAS) adopts, in Bridgetown, Barbados, the Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism. Canada is the first state to ratify the convention, on 2 Dec.	OAS; Terrorism
<i>4 June</i>	The heads of state and government of the 16 countries participating in the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) sign, in Almaty, the Almaty Act establishing a common security space in the region.	CICA
<i>6 June</i>	US President George W. Bush proposes the establishment of a cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security, to review intelligence data and to coordinate domestic defence measures. On 19 Nov. the US Senate votes in favour of creating the new department. On 25 Nov. Bush signs a bill establishing the new department and names Tom Ridge as Secretary of Homeland Security.	USA; Terrorism
<i>7 June</i>	Meeting in St Petersburg, Russia, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) adopts a Charter for the Organization, agreeing to enhance cooperation and to make joint efforts to contribute to maintaining peace, security and stability in the Central Asian region.	SCO

<i>11–19 June</i>	The first Afghan Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) to be held for nearly 40 years, with more than 1500 delegates, opens in Kabul, Afghanistan, to elect a new president and a government for Afghanistan. Hamid Karzai is elected president of the two-year transitional government and is sworn in on 19 June.	Afghanistan
<i>12 June</i>	Russia, the USA and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) agree, in Vienna, on a new initiative to locate and secure unaccounted-for (orphan) nuclear material in the former Soviet states. The agreement does not cover radioactive sources in Russia, which will be addressed by a separate US–Russian bilateral agreement.	Russia; USA; IAEA; Fissile materials
<i>13 June</i>	The 1972 ABM Treaty expires as a consequence of the US withdrawal from the treaty, notified on 13 Dec. 2001.	USA; ABM Treaty
<i>14 June</i>	Responding to the expiration of the 1972 ABM Treaty on 13 June, Russia declares it will no longer be bound by the START II Treaty.	Russia; START II Treaty
<i>16 June</i>	Israel begins the work on a controversial project to erect a fence and sophisticated security system along the entire border of the West Bank with the aim of shielding Israel from Palestinian suicide bombers.	Israel/ Palestinians
<i>27 June</i>	The leaders of the Group of Eight (G8) industrialized nations, meeting in Kananaskis, Canada, adopt the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction.	G8; WMD
<i>29 June</i>	In the most serious confrontation in the region since June 1999, four South Koreans are killed when, according to South Korea, two North Korean patrol boats cross the disputed maritime border area, ignore signals to turn back, and fire on South Korean boats that are protecting fishing vessels.	South Korea/ North Korea
<i>1 July</i>	The 1998 Rome Statute, establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC), enters into force. The ICC is the first permanent international criminal tribunal to be established to bring to justice individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.	ICC; War crimes
<i>9–10 July</i>	At the 38th summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), held in Durban, South Africa, the organization is formally replaced by the African Union (AU).	Africa; OAU/AU
<i>12 July</i>	The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1422, requesting the International Criminal Court (ICC) not to bring cases against peacekeeping personnel from states not party to the Rome Statute.	ICC; UN
<i>20 July</i>	The Sudanese Government and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) rebel group sign, in Machakos, Kenya, the Machakos Protocol, in which they agree on a referendum to be held in six years’ time in which secession will be offered to the southern parts of Sudan and that in the period before the referendum Islamic law will not be imposed on the south.	Sudan

- 22 July* The governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda, meeting in Pretoria, reach a peace agreement that will end the four-year conflict between the countries. Under the agreement the DRC Government will disarm the Hutu Interahamwe militia and Rwanda will withdraw its troops from the DRC. The agreement is signed on 30 July. DRC/Rwanda
- 22 July* The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1425, strengthening the arms embargo on Somalia, established in 1992. The resolution prohibits the financing of all acquisitions and deliveries of weapons and military equipment and direct or indirect supply of technical advice, financial and other assistance, and training related to military activities. Somalia; Arms embargoes; UN
- 1 Aug.* The member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the USA sign, in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, a joint declaration which provides a formal framework for the involvement of the USA in regional efforts to combat terrorism. ASEAN/USA; Terrorism
- 9 Aug.* President of the Republic of Congo Denis Sassou-Nguesso proclaims, in Brazzaville, the restoration of democratic rule in the country after the civil war which ended in 1999. A new constitution takes effect and a new parliament is inaugurated on 10 Aug. Republic of Congo
- 15 Aug.* The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1433, establishing the UN Mission in Angola (UNMA) for a period of six months. UN; Angola
- 26 Aug.–
4 Sep.* The UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) is held in Johannesburg, South Africa. The WSSD is seen as the successor to the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The final declaration is a reaffirmation of the UN Millennium Development Goals and of targets set in UN General Assembly resolutions and at other summits. UN
- 10 Sep.* Switzerland is admitted by the UN General Assembly as its 190th member. On 3 Mar., in a referendum, Switzerland voted in favour of joining the UN. Switzerland; UN
- 16 Sep.* US Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham and Russian Minister of Atomic Energy Alexander Rumyantsev issue a joint statement announcing the recommendations of the Expert Group on Accelerated Nuclear Material Disposition established by presidents George W. Bush and Vladimir Putin at their 24 May 2002 Summit Meeting in Moscow. USA; Russia; Fissile materials; Nuclear arms control
- 16–18 Sep.* Peace negotiations are held between representatives of the Sri Lankan Government and the Liberation Tigers of the Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sattahip, Thailand. The LTTE declares that it will not lay down its arms until a full peace agreement is in place. Sri Lanka

- 19 Sep.* In an attempted coup d'état in Côte d'Ivoire, the fighting escalates to civil war. On 2 Oct. ECOWAS, the UN and the African Union (AU) mediate between the parties and on 17 Oct. a ceasefire agreement is signed. Peace negotiations open on 30 Oct. in Lomé, Togo, under the auspices of ECOWAS. Côte d'Ivoire; ECOWAS; UN; AU
- 20 Sep.* The NATO–Russia Council (NRC) adopts an agreement on Political Aspects of a Generic Concept of Joint NATO–Russia Peacekeeping Operations. The agreement provides for the equality of Russia and NATO member states in decision making, planning and political supervision of peacekeeping operations in the future. NATO–Russia Council; Peacekeeping
- 24 Sep.* The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1436, extending the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) until 31 Mar. 2003 and urges UNAMSIL to prepare for a gradual handover of security and other responsibilities to the Government of Sierra Leone and to reduce the size of the force by 4500 within eight months. UN; Sierra Leone
- 24–25 Sep.* At the informal meeting of the defence ministers of NATO, held in Warsaw, US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld states that NATO has to transform itself from a collective defence organization into an organization ready to fight terrorism and 'rogue states' and that the creation of a NATO Response Force (NRF) is necessary. NATO; Terrorism
- 27 Sep.* East Timor, under the new name Timor-Leste, is admitted by the UN General Assembly as its 191st member. East Timor/ Timor-Leste; UN
- 4 Oct.* Pakistan test-fires a Shaheen surface-to-surface medium-range (750-km) missile capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads. India conducts a test of a (25-km range) surface-to-air missile on the same day. Pakistan; India; Missiles
- 7 Oct.* The presidents of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan sign, in Kishinev, Moldova, the Charter of, and the Agreement on, the Legal Status of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). CSTO
- 12 Oct.* A bomb explodes in Bali, killing at least 180 people and injuring more than 170. On 14 Oct. Indonesian Defence Minister Matori Abdul Djilil claims that the al-Qaeda network played a role in the bombing. The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1438, condemning the bombings in Bali and elsewhere as a threat to international peace and security. Indonesia; Bali; Terrorism; UN
- 16 Oct.* A US administration official publicly states that the Government of North Korea has earlier in October acknowledged that it has a programme to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons and has stated that it nullifies the 1994 US–North Korean Agreed Framework Agreement. North Korea; Nuclear weapons

- 23–26 Oct. Demanding an end to Russia's war in Chechnya, a large group of armed Chechen rebels attacked the Dubrovka Theatrical Centre, in Moscow, taking hostage approximately 750–800 people. On 26 Oct. Russian security forces storm the building using debilitating gas, leading to 129 deaths among the hostages. Two hostages are slain by the rebels; approximately 50 Chechen rebels are killed. Russia; Chechnya; Terrorism
- 27 Oct. Somalia's Transitional National Government (TNG) and 21 warlord opponents, meeting in Eldoret, Kenya under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), sign a ceasefire agreement that ends a decade of armed conflict in the country. Somalia; IGAD
- 30 Oct. In response to the suspension of the province's home-rule government by the British authorities earlier in Oct., the Irish Republican Army (IRA) breaks off all contact with the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning, which is overseeing the disarmament of Northern Ireland's paramilitary organizations. Northern Ireland; IRA
- 3 Nov. The leaders of 12 African countries sign, in Abuja, Nigeria, an agreement within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), established in 2001, to monitor and encourage good governance as a means of promoting development. Africa; NEPAD
- 4 Nov. China and the members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) sign, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, aimed at avoiding armed conflict over the contested areas of the South China Sea. China; ASEAN
- 8 Nov. The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1441, on the re-admission of the UN weapons inspectors to Iraq. The resolution obliges Iraq to cooperate 'immediately, unconditionally and actively' with the UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). UN; Iraq
- 11–14 Nov. The Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) is resumed in Geneva. The parties agree on a five-point plan for further annual talks until the Sixth Review Conference, to be held in 2006. BTWC
- 13 Nov. Iraq accepts UN Security Council Resolution 1441 'without conditions'. UN; Iraq
- 18 Nov. After five weeks of negotiations, representatives of the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) agree to extend the 20 July truce agreement, covering all areas of Sudan until 31 Mar. 2003 and to resume negotiations in Jan. 2003. Sudan

- 18 Nov. The heads of the UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), Hans Blix, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Mohamed ElBaradei, arrive in Baghdad with an advance team of inspectors to prepare the weapons inspections according to UN Security Council Resolution 1441. The inspections are resumed on 27 Nov. UN; Iraq
- 21 Nov. The Joint Commission (JC) for the implementation of the 1994 Lusaka Protocol is officially dissolved in Luanda as the essential provisions of the protocol are considered as accomplished. Angola
- 22 Nov. At its Summit Meeting in Prague, NATO invites Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia to begin accession talks to become members of the alliance. The Summit approves the Prague Capabilities Commitment, and decides to streamline NATO's military command arrangements and to create a NATO Response Force (NRF) with a full operational capability by October 2006. NATO
- 25 Nov. Meeting in The Hague, 98 countries sign the International Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC). This is the first multilateral accord on ballistic missile proliferation. Missiles
- 3 Dec. Burundi's Government and the Forces for the Defense of Democracy (FDD), one of the two main rebel forces in Burundi, sign, in Arusha, Tanzania, a ceasefire agreement to end the nine-year civil war. Burundi
- 7 Dec. The Government of Iraq delivers to the UN a nearly 12 000-page report that, according to Iraq, is 'currently accurate, full and complete'. The report contains details of Iraq's nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) programmes but it reiterates the claims that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction. UN; Iraq; WMD
- 7 Dec. Officials from Serbia and Montenegro agree on the constitution for the new union of Serbia and Montenegro, replacing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY). The new constitution is ratified by the Parliament of the FRY on 4 Feb. 2003. Yugoslavia/Serbia and Montenegro
- 9 Dec. The Indonesian Government and the Free Aceh Movement sign, in Geneva, Switzerland, a peace agreement giving more autonomy to the province of Aceh and providing for elections for a provincial legislature and administration. A team of 150 international monitors will oversee the arrangement. Indonesia; Aceh
- 11 Dec. The US administration publishes the National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction, which includes a statement that is clearly directed at adversaries of the USA, such as Iraq. The USA states that it is prepared to 'respond with all our options' if such weapons are used against US troops or allies. USA; WMD
- 12 Dec. As a result of the US suspension of oil shipments on 14 Nov. under the 1994 US-North Korean Agreed Framework Agreement, the Foreign Ministry of North Korea issues a statement declaring that it will immediately reactivate a plutonium-based nuclear programme. North Korea

- 13 Dec.* The European Council meeting, held in Copenhagen on 12–13 Dec., invites 10 countries—Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia—to become members of the EU by 2004. EU
- 16 Dec.* The EU and NATO issue a Declaration on the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), bringing into effect a permanent framework for their relationship and formalizing the terms for NATO support for ESDP activities. This document is the culmination of a process of definition beginning in 1999, and the way for its issue was opened by a series of political understandings on the rights of NATO and EU members formulated from 25 Oct. 2002 onwards. EU; NATO; ESDP
- 17 Dec.* In Pretoria, the warring parties in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) sign a peace agreement on power-sharing. Under the agreement, Joseph Kabila will remain president. DRC
- 17 Dec.* US President George W. Bush announces that the USA will begin deploying a limited ballistic missile defence (BMD) system by 2004 and noted that the USA will seek agreement from the UK and Denmark to upgrade early-warning radars on their territory. USA; BMD
- 27 Dec.* North Korea announces its intention to expel the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors from its Yongbyon nuclear reactor complex and states that it will reopen a factory that extracts weapon-grade plutonium. In a letter to the Agency, North Korea claims that, because its ‘freeze on nuclear facilities has been lifted, the mission of IAEA inspectors has naturally drawn to an end’. The inspectors leave North Korea on 31 Dec. North Korea; IAEA