



United Nations Development  
Programme  
Bureau for Crisis Prevention and  
Recovery



United Nations  
Institute for Disarmament  
Research



United Nations Department for  
Disarmament Affairs

# ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

---

## Guidelines for reporting on implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

**These guidelines for reporting can be utilized both for "first-time reporting" and for updating information provided in previous national reports. Countries that have not reported in the past two years are encouraged to produce a full report. Countries that have already reported within the last two years are encouraged to update and complement their report by using the relevant sections of the reporting template.**

# CONTENTS

---

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	<i>3</i>
Guidelines for reporting	<i>7</i>
Reporting Template	<i>31</i>
UN Programme of Action on Small Arms	<i>41</i>



# Introduction

---

This assistance package is intended to help States in compiling a national report on measures taken to implement the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), adopted in July 2001. The Assistance Package has been prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in co-operation with the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNDDA) and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).

This package contains a brief introductory section on measures taken at the international level to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW), together with background material on the Programme of Action (PoA) and the reporting process.

The core part of this document is a set of **guidelines for reporting**, formulated as a series of questions derived from the text of the Programme of Action, including references to relevant Programme of Action paragraphs and suggestions on how to present the information. This is followed by a **Reporting Template** that can be used for preparing the report. The full text of the **Programme of Action** is available at the end of the package.

**The reporting template can be utilized both for “first-time reporting” and for updating information provided in previous national reports. Countries that have not reported in the past two years are encouraged to produce a full report. Countries that have already reported within the last two years are encouraged to update and complement their report by using the relevant sections of the reporting template.**

For questions or comments on the process of reporting on the implementation of the Programme of Action or to request assistance, please contact the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery: [poa-reporting@undp.org](mailto:poa-reporting@undp.org), tel. +41 22 917 8311.

# 1. The Programme of Action

## 1.1 History

The adoption of General Assembly resolution A/RES/50/70B on "Small Arms"<sup>1</sup>, represented a turning point in the work of the United Nations in the area of small arms and light weapons. The resolution led to the establishment of two expert groups that produced reports in 1997 and 1999 (A/52/298 and A/54/258).

Subsequently, the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/54V of 15 December 1999, decided to convene an international Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects which was held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001. This conference was a watershed event in international efforts to control illicit small arms and light weapons.

After two weeks of negotiations, the Conference adopted the UN *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, in All Its Aspects* (PoA).

In its resolution 56/24V, the UN General Assembly welcomed the adoption of the Programme of Action and called upon all States to implement it. Subsequent resolutions (A/RES/57/72, A/RES/58/241, A/RES/59/86, and A/RES/60/463) have further emphasized the importance of early and full implementation of the Programme of Action.

## 1.2 Objectives

In the Programme of Action States undertake to pursue a variety of measures at the national, regional and global levels to curb the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW). States also undertake to strengthen their capacity to combat the various aspects of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

The Programme of Action covers the following areas:

- Establishment of national points of contact and national coordination agencies;
- Legislation, regulations and administrative procedures;
- Criminalization regimes;
- Stockpile management and security;
- Weapons collection and disposal;
- Export, import, and transfer controls and regulations;
- Brokering;
- Marking, tracing and record-keeping;

---

<sup>1</sup> Other relevant UN resolutions and documents preceding the 2001 Conference are A/RES/49/75 G, A/RES/52/38 J, A/RES/53/77 E, A/RES/54/54 V, A/52/298, and A/54/258.

- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants;
- Assistance and international cooperation in tackling different aspects and consequences of the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects.

## 2. Follow-up and Reporting

The follow-up process is essential to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action. As a part of this process, States are encouraged to exchange information *every year* in the form of **national reports**. In particular, the Programme of Action requests *the Secretary-General of the United Nations, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis and including national reports, on implementation by those States of the Programme of Action* (Sec. II, para. 33).

States may use these reports to identify new developments in the implementation process as well as any remaining difficulties. The majority of States have already taken up this task of information exchange and produced national reports on the implementation of the PoA.

The list of submitted national reports can be found at <http://disarmament2.un.org/cab/salw-nationalreports.html>

### 2.1 Follow-up events

- **First Biennial Meeting of States July 2003**  
Gathering of States, inter-governmental organizations, international organizations and NGOs to review progress in implementing the Programme of Action.
- **Second Biennial Meeting of States 2005**  
The second gathering of States, inter-governmental organizations, international organizations and NGOs to review progress in implementing the Programme of Action.
- **Review Conference June or July 2006**  
Gathering of States, inter-governmental organizations, international organizations and NGOs for a full review of the Programme of Action and to assess progress made in its implementation.
- **Regional events**  
Conferences, workshops and other meetings for governments, international organizations and NGOs.

States are encouraged to submit their national reports by June of each year and at least three months before the 2006 First Review Conference, in order to give the UN Secretariat enough time to undertake the translation and circulation of the documents for discussion at the meetings (translation in English only).

## 2.2 What to report on

National reports provide an opportunity for States to take stock of the measures taken at various levels by different sections of the administration. The reporting process provides a chance to review achievements and identify areas where further action or assistance might be necessary.

A particular challenge in the process of writing a report is the collection of information from the various ministries, departments and agencies responsible for the different aspects of the combat against the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. Data collection is a time-consuming, and often difficult exercise, but it may also offer an opportunity for improved co-ordination and co-operation among different branches of government.

The more complete and comprehensive is the information provided, the more useful the report will be. Nevertheless, reports should be concise and succinct. Thus, States may choose to supplement their reports with annexes in the form of tables or lists containing relevant details. The following are examples of supplementary information that could be annexed to the reports:

- Lists of weapons confiscated or destroyed
- Summary tables containing laws, regulations and administrative procedures concerning SALW
- List of key terms
- Samples of end-user certificate
- Organigrammes, etc.

## 2.3 Support for Reporting

The UN offers reporting assistance to States that request help in preparing their national reports.

In cooperation with the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNDDA) and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has created a comprehensive support system for States, which is available upon request. In addition to this assistance package, such support system includes **help-desk support** and **on-site support for preparation of national reports**.

This **Reporting Assistance Package** was created to help States in drawing up national reports. The package (available in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic) as well as the electronic reporting template in Word format can be downloaded from the UNDP website:

<http://www.undp.org/bcpr/smallarms/PoA.htm>

Additional support services are available upon request. A **Reporting Help-Desk** has been set up to provide:

- general guidance
- answers to specific questions
- clarification on the text of the PoA
- comments on draft reports
- advice on submission process

This form of assistance can be accessed by telephone, e-mail or fax.

**On-site support** by experts from Geneva, regional organizations or local UN staff can also be arranged upon request. For instance, this assistance can be delivered in the form of a workshop bringing together officials from all relevant branches of government to collect information and improve coordination and cooperation in implementing the PoA. Assistance can also involve guidance and in-depth discussion on the content of the national report.

For further reporting assistance, please contact:

[PoA-reporting@undp.org](mailto:PoA-reporting@undp.org)

Tel: +41 22 917 8311

Fax: +41 22 917 8060

Website: <http://www.undp.org/bcpr/smallarms/PoA.htm>

Information is also available from local UNDP Country Offices.

## 2.4 Where to send the report

Reports should be submitted to the **UN Department of Disarmament Affairs** (DDA) through Permanent Missions in New York. The Mission shall address the Report as well as an electronic version on diskette, when possible, to the UN Under-Secretary General for Disarmament Affairs at:


Conventional Arms Branch  
Department for Disarmament Affairs  
United Nations Room S-3170K  
New York NY 10017  
United States  
Fax: +1 (212) 963-1121

If possible, an electronic version of the report should also be sent by email to [poa-report-submission@un.org](mailto:poa-report-submission@un.org).

# Guidelines for Reporting

---

Guidelines for reporting on implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects



**Note: These guidelines for reporting can be utilized both for “first-time” reporting and for updating information provided in previous national reports. Countries that have not reported in the past two years are encouraged to produce a full report. Countries that have already reported within the last two years are encouraged to update and complement their report by using the relevant sections of the reporting template.**

# Guidelines for reporting on implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

*Note on use: These guidelines are designed to assist States in their voluntarily reporting to the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. Each reporting area is cross-referenced to the relevant section of the Programme of Action. Note that the term "small arms and light weapons" is abbreviated as "SALW".*

## A) NATIONAL LEVEL

### 1. National coordination agency

**Does your country have a national coordination agency or body that is responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? (PoA, II.4)**

**If so, please give details.**

*The national coordination agency is responsible for coordinating small arms policy and activity within the State, while the national point of contact (see next section) liaises with other States on issues relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action. A State may of course assign a single department or agency both of these functions.*

*If your country has a national co-ordination agency or body for SALW, please provide basic contact/identification information and as much detail as possible on its specific functions. For example:*

*Basic information:*

- *Name of the agency (original name and translation in an official UN language)<sup>2</sup>;*
- *Contact information (postal address, email, phone, fax, website);*
- *Date of establishment.*

---

<sup>2</sup> The official languages of the United Nations are: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

Mandate:

- *Which of the functions outlined in the above question does the agency perform: policy guidance, research, monitoring?*
- *Please describe any national coordination functions the agency performs with respect to SALW. What other government departments or agencies does the agency liaise with in this regard?*
- *What other functions does the agency perform?*
- *Which aspects of the SALW issue does the agency cover in its work? Do these include illicit manufacture, control, trafficking, circulation, brokering and trade, as well as tracing, finance, collection and destruction of SALW?*
- *Does the agency perform any tasks other than those relating to SALW? If so, what are these?*
- *What are the agency's outputs: annual report, case studies, ad hoc opinions, etc.?*
- *What is the agency's size (annual budget, staff)?*

*Example:*

Small Arms Coordination Unit (SACU), Office of the Prime Minister, Capital City, Country X, <http://www.sacu.gov.xx>

A special unit has been established within the Office of the Prime Minister to help the government coordinate action and policy on small arms. It liaises with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with respect to the negotiation of new instruments, and with a wide range of governmental departments concerning the implementation of existing commitments and agreements relating to small arms, including those of the *UN Programme of Action*. These other agencies include the Ministries of Defence, Interior, and Economy and Industry. Together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, these ministries meet under the chairmanship of the Small Arms Coordination Unit for purposes of developing national policy on small arms. The SACU also commissions independent research on issues considered important for Country X. The mandate of the SACU covers all aspects of SALW addressed in the *UN Programme of Action*. An initial research project has been launched, in cooperation with the Ministry of National Defence, on the issue of stockpile management. The SACU has 2 full-time staff.

## **2. National point of contact**

**Does your country have a national point of contact to act as liaison with other States on matters relating to the implementation of the UN Programme of Action? (PoA, II.5)**

**If so, please give details.**

*Please include here all relevant contact information for the national point of contact, along with a short description of his/her activities to date:*

Contact information: Name, host institution (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs), postal address, email, phone, fax, website.

*Short description of activities: How has the existence of the contact point been communicated to other States and organizations? What are its functions? What activities has it conducted to date?*

*Example:*

The National Point of Contact is located in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation Unit. Ms Jelena Branovic (Jelena.Branovic@gov.country, Tel: xxxx) was appointed National Point of Contact in December 2002. This information has been posted on the UNDDA website (<http://disarmament.un.org/cab/>). The National Point of Contact liaises with other States on the implementation of the *UN Programme of Action* and other instruments concerning SALW, such as the *OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons*. Its activities include the exchange of information with other States on national practices and systems for SALW.

### **3. Legislation, regulations, administrative procedures**

**i) What national laws, regulations and administrative procedures exist to exercise effective control over SALW in the following areas? (PoA, II.2)**

- **production**
- **export**
- **import**
- **transit**
- **retransfer**

*Please list here the laws, regulations and administrative procedures that regulate the above-mentioned aspects of SALW in your country. Please also describe, **in general terms**, how these measures ensure that effective control is exercised over SALW in each of the areas listed above: production, export, import, transit, retransfer. (Note that a more detailed discussion of this issue in relation to export and transit is requested in sec. 7 (ii) below.)*

*Please provide as much information as possible on each of the national measures. For example, in the case of a law, please indicate its date of adoption, entry into force and amendment (if relevant), along with the official publication where the law is reproduced (and webpage if available). If your country is in the process of revising its legislation, please indicate the current status of the draft legislation (first reading, second reading, under consideration by parliamentary committee, etc.). It would also be helpful to other States if you could provide the full text of key national measures in one of the UN's six official languages.*

*Any other information your country can provide in this area is also welcome. This could include information on implementation (successes, difficulties) and on efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of national measures.*

<b>National Laws, Regulations and Decrees</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Law/Regulation/Decree</i>	<i>Date (adoption, entry into force, amendment)</i>
Production	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description explaining how the law, either alone or in combination with other national measures, ensures that effective control is exercised over SALW in the area of production.	
	Web link	
Export	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of export (as above)	
	Web link	
Import	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of import (as above)	
	Web link	
Transit	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of transit (as above)	
	Web link	
Retransfer	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of retransfer (as above)	
	Web link	

<b>Administrative Procedures</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Administrative Procedures</i>	<i>In place since</i>
Production	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of production (as above)	
	Web link	
Export	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of export (as above)	
	Web link	
Import	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of import (as above)	
	Web link	
Transit	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of transit (as above)	
	Web link	
Retransfer	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of retransfer (as above)	
	Web link	

*Example:*

<b>National Laws, Regulations and Decrees</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Law/Regulation/Decree</i>	<i>Date</i>
<b>Production</b>	Gesetz ueber die Herstellung von Waffen	3 July 1989 (adopted) 1 January 1990 (entered into force) 15 October 2001 (amended)
	Law Regulating the Manufacture of Weapons on the National Territory (Weapons Production Law of 2001)	
	This law establishes the basic requirement that all producers of SALW in Country X be licensed by the government. Specific requirements vary as a function of the type or types of weapons being produced ... (details). The law also regulates the storage of finished SALW and components by producers ... (details).	
	<a href="http://www.gesetze.xx">http://www.gesetze.xx</a>	

<b>Administrative Procedures</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Administrative Procedures</i>	<i>In place since</i>
<b>Production</b>	Licensing authority established under the Weapons Production Law	1 January 1990
	Under article 7(b) of the Weapons Production Law of 2001, producers must apply in writing for a license to produce SALW. The relevant body, the Enterprise Licensing Unit (ELU), operates within the Ministry of Economy and Industry. In addition to the basic license application form, producers must submit ... Responses to the licensing request are issued by the ELU within 90 days. The reasons for any refusal must be stated in writing ...	
	<a href="http://www.gesetze.xx">http://www.gesetze.xx</a>	

**ii) What national measures exist to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? How have these been implemented? (PoA, II.8)**

**Please provide details.**

*The focus of this section is on national measures for marking SALW. In much the same way as in the preceding subsection (3 (i)), please list here the laws, regulations and administrative procedures that regulate the marking of SALW in your country. Please also describe, in general terms, how these measures ensure that SALW are marked at the various points mentioned in the question (manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession).*

*Note that section 9 of the Reporting Guidelines addresses marking practices (along with record-keeping and tracing) in more specific terms. The purpose of this section is to provide a broad overview of the legislative and policy framework governing the marking of SALW within the country. As in the preceding subsection, the more information that can be provided the better (for example, concerning implementation or efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of these measures).*

**iii) Please describe how national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects are made public. (PoA, II.23)**

*This section considers the full range of national laws, regulations and procedures that are related to the aims of the UN Programme of Action (as detailed in this questionnaire and in the Programme itself) and, more specifically, the means by which these measures are communicated to the public, including the business community.*

*Example:*

All laws, regulations and decrees are published at the time of their adoption in the Official Journal. Full text and descriptions of relevant laws and procedures can also be found on Government websites (in relation to exports, for example, see: <http://www.laws.gov/mfa/export.htm>). The Government has also conducted an information campaign on national marking requirements for SALW, directed at manufacturers across the country.

#### **4. Law enforcement/criminalization**

**i) What national legislative or other measures exist to make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offences under domestic law? How have these measures been implemented? (PoA, II.3)**

**Please provide details.**

*Please list and briefly describe existing laws and other measures that make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offences in your country. If these offences have not been criminalized under your law, please indicate their current status. In all cases, include details of penalties for specific offences. If there are plans to introduce new (criminal) offences in the above areas, please mention these as well.*

*Please also describe, in general terms, how these laws have been implemented.*

<b>National criminal offences relating to illicit SALW</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Law / other measure</i>	<i>Date (adoption, entry into force, amendment)</i>
Manufacture	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Possession	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Stockpiling	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Trade	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	

**ii) Have groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit SALW been identified, where applicable? What action has been taken under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals? (PoA, II.6)**

*How have laws designed to combat the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit SALW been applied in practice? Have the groups and individuals involved in these activities been identified? What action has been taken against them? If possible, give details of actual prosecutions and mention the laws that have been applied in these cases.*

*Example:*

An illicit craft producer of SALW was recently sentenced under the *Weapons Production Law of 2001* to one year in prison and fined USD 30,000 for operating without a government licence.

**iii) What national measures have been taken, including legal or administrative means, against activity that violates a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations? (PoA, II.15)**

*Please give details of all legal, administrative and/or other measures taken by your country to punish violations of United Nations Security Council arms embargoes by groups or individuals under your jurisdiction. These measures could include laws or specific provisions of laws, as well as administrative directives. List the relevant measures and describe how they operate, alone or in combination, to prevent and punish violations of these embargoes. Please include details of any prosecutions brought under these laws or measures.*

<b>National measures for the enforcement of UN Security Council arms embargoes</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Legal means</i>	<i>Date (adoption, entry into force, amendment)</i>
Enforcement of UNSC arms embargoes	Title/provision of the legal measure in original language	
	Title/provision in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description of the functions of the legal measure/provision	
	Web link	

<b>National measures for the enforcement of UN Security Council arms embargoes</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Administrative means</i>	<i>In place since</i>
Enforcement of UNSC arms embargoes	Short description of the procedures used to prevent/punish violations	
	Web link	

**5. Stockpile management and security**

**i) What national standards and procedures exist for the management and security of SALW stocks held by armed forces, police or other authorized bodies? (PoA, II.17)**

*Please list and describe the national standards and procedures used by your country for the management and security of SALW stocks held by national armed forces, police or other authorized bodies.*

<b>National standards and procedures for stockpile management and security</b>		
<i>Group</i>	<i>Standards / procedures</i>	<i>Date adopted</i>
Armed forces	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	
Police	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	
Other authorized bodies	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	

**ii) How often are stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies reviewed? (PoA, II.18)**

*Please indicate **how often** SALW stocks held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies are reviewed with a view to determining whether they meet (or exceed) existing requirements.*

**iii) How are those stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies that are surplus to requirements identified? (PoA, II.18)**

*Please describe the **methods and procedures** used to determine whether existing weapons stocks meet (or exceed) requirements. How are actual SALW counted? How are existing and projected needs determined?*

## **6. Collection and disposal**

**i) Please give details of any national programmes that have been established and implemented for the responsible disposal of surplus stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies. (PoA, II.18)**

*Has your country conducted any programmes for purposes of disposing of surplus SALW stocks held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies? If so, please indicate the numbers and types of SALW destroyed.*

*Example:*

From May 2002 to February 2003, surplus SALW stocks from the National Defence Force were destroyed in Operation "Trash Bin". A total of 123,456 SALW were destroyed in various categories. An Annex to this report contains details of weapons types and quantities destroyed over this period. As noted in the Annex, 500,000 rounds of small arms ammunition and 5,000 kg of explosives were also destroyed in Operation Trash Bin.

**ii) Is destruction the means used to dispose of such stocks? (PoA, II.18)**

**Please give details, including information on any other forms of disposal used.**

*Please indicate the relative importance played by weapons destruction in the disposal of official surplus SALW stocks in your country. Describe, in general terms, any other forms of disposal used.*

**iii) What national measures exist to safeguard such stocks prior to their disposal? (PoA, II.18)**

*Please describe here the measures your country uses to ensure SALW are secure in advance of their destruction or other disposal. Give details of safety procedures relating to site, personnel, monitoring, etc.*

**iv) Subject to the exceptions set out in paragraph II.16 of the UN Programme of Action, are all confiscated, seized or collected SALW destroyed? (PoA, II.16)**

**Please give details, including information concerning any exceptions to destruction.**

*Please give details of programmes and procedures for the destruction of confiscated, seized or collected SALW. If other forms of disposition or use have been officially authorized, have such weapons been duly marked and registered?*

**v) What methods has your country used to destroy surplus stocks of SALW designated for destruction? (If appropriate, please make reference to the report of the UN Secretary-General (S/2000/1092) of 15 November 2000.) (PoA, II.19)**

*If your country has destroyed surplus SALW stocks, please describe in some detail the methods you have used. In this regard, make reference to the following methods described in the UNSG report S/2000/1092: ceremonial destruction, burning (open-pit burning, melting in furnaces), detonation, cutting (oxyacetylene cutting, plasma cutting, hydraulic shears cutting), bending and crushing (crushing by hydraulic press, crushing by vehicles), shredding, dumping at sea and burial on land. Note that the full report can be obtained from:*

*[http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/source\\_documents/UN%20Documents/Other%20UN%20Documents/S\\_2000\\_1092.pdf](http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/source_documents/UN%20Documents/Other%20UN%20Documents/S_2000_1092.pdf)*

**vi) Please give details of any information on SALW confiscated or destroyed within your jurisdiction that is submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (PoA, II.23)**

*If your country has confiscated or destroyed SALW and you have reported such activity to relevant regional or international organizations, please provide this information here.*

## **7. Export controls**

**i) Please describe the system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, used by your country for the transfer of all SALW. (PoA, II.11)**

*Please give details of the regulations and procedures used by your country for licensing or authorizing the export and import of SALW. Indicate also the criteria or factors taken into account in deciding whether to grant or refuse permission to export or import SALW.*

*(Note that a description of national measures applying to the international transit, on your territory, of SALW may have been provided in answering section 3 (i) of the questionnaire, above. If not, please include this information here.)*

**ii) Please describe the national laws, regulations and administrative procedures used by your country to ensure effective control over the export and transit of SALW. How are these measures implemented? (PoA, II.12)**

**Please give details.**

*Please give details of the laws, regulations and administrative procedures that your country employs to ensure effective control over the export and in-transit movement of SALW. In other words, once export or transit of SALW is authorized, what national measures are used to ensure that the weapons reached their intended destinations and recipients? How are these measures implemented in practice? Please give examples where possible. (Note that this section calls for a more detailed discussion of export and transit controls than what may have been provided in section 3 (i) above.)*

**iii) Does your country use authenticated end-user certificates for this purpose? (PoA, II.12)**

**If so, please give details.**

*If your country uses authenticated end-user certificates (EUCs) for ensuring control over SALW export and transit, please give details of relevant procedures and documentation. For example, when are EUCs required? What information must they contain? How are they authenticated? Are delivery verification systems in place to ensure that the recipients identified in the EUC in fact receive the weapons after export/transit?*

**iv) Does your country notify the original exporting State when re-exporting or retransferring previously imported SALW? (PoA, II.13)**

**Please give details.**

*Please indicate whether your country notifies the State of origin when re-exporting or retransferring previously imported SALW. Please provide details of your policy in this area.*

## **8. Brokering**

**What national legislation or administrative procedures exist to regulate the activities of those who engage in SALW brokering within national jurisdiction and control? (e.g. registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions and appropriate penalties) (PoA, II.14)**

*Please describe how your country regulates SALW brokering. Include details of procedures for the registration of brokers and for the licensing or authorization of brokering transactions, as applicable. Please list and describe relevant national legislation and administrative procedures, and indicate what penalties apply in case of non-compliance.*

## **9. Marking, record keeping and tracing**

**i) Does your country require licensed manufacturers of SALW to apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each weapon as an integral part of the production process? (PoA, II.7)**

*If the answer to this question is yes, are there any exceptions made (for example, weapons manufactured for national armed forces)?*

**ii) Is this marking unique? (PoA, II.7)**

*If the answer to this question is yes, please indicate what combination of letters, symbols, code, etc. is used to ensure that marks are unique. What information do such marks convey (name of manufacturer, place/country of manufacture, date of manufacture, serial number, model number, calibre, etc.)?*

**iii) Does this marking identify the country of manufacture? (PoA, II.7)**

*If the answer to this question is yes, please describe the type of mark used to denote the country of manufacture (unless this information has already been given in answering the preceding question). What particular letters, symbols, code, etc. are used for this purpose?*

**iv) How does this marking otherwise allow concerned authorities to identify and trace the relevant weapon? (PoA, II.7)**

**Please give details.**

*Using the information provided in subsections 9 (ii) and 9 (iii) above and any other relevant information, please explain how authorities from within and/or outside your country can use weapons marks to identify and trace SALW manufactured on your territory.*

**v) How long are records kept on the manufacture, holding and transfer of SALW under your jurisdiction? (PoA, II.9)**

*What legislative or administrative requirements apply in this area? What requirements apply to records of companies which go out of business?*

**vi) What national measures exist for tracing SALW held and issued by the State? (PoA, II.10)**

*Please give details of tracing procedures which your country uses to trace SALW held and issued by the State. What officials are authorized to initiate such requests? What are the expected response times to a tracing request? How is the tracing of military source weapons handled?*

**vii) Please give details of any steps taken by your country to cooperate in tracing illicit SALW, including the strengthening of mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information. (PoA, III.11)**

*Please indicate legal, political and practical steps taken by your country, in cooperation with other States and relevant international organizations, to trace illicit SALW. What steps has your country taken to strengthen mechanisms for the exchange of relevant information in this area? Please give practical examples of information exchanges where possible.*

## **10. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)**

**i) Please describe any disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programmes your country has developed and implemented, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW. (PoA, II.21)**

**Please also give details of any peace agreements involving your country that have made provision for these programmes.**

*Has your country been involved in the development or implementation of DDR programmes? Please provide all available details, including the sites of such programmes, their duration, the participants and final results. What specific activities*

*were carried out for the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW?*

*Please also describe any peace agreements involving your country that have made provision for DDR programmes. Give details of the DDR provisions of these agreements. How were these implemented (if not addressed in the first part of this question)?*

**ii) Please describe how your country has addressed the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society and their appropriate rehabilitation. (PoA, II.22)**

*Please describe any policies or programmes your country has adopted or implemented for purposes of addressing the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the needs mentioned above.*

**iii) Please describe any DDR programmes or activities that your country has supported. (PoA, II.30, 34)**

*Please give details of any support your country has provided to DDR programmes and activities throughout the world, especially in post-conflict situations.*

## **11. Awareness-raising**

**i) Please describe any public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed and implemented (including the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of SALW). (PoA, II.20)**

*Please give details of any programmes developed and implemented by your country for purposes of raising public awareness and building public confidence with respect to the problem of illicit SALW in all its aspects. Indicate, where possible, the locations of such programmes, their duration, the participants and outcomes.*

**ii) Please describe any education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has encouraged. (PoA, II.41)**

*Please give details of any support or other forms of encouragement your country has given to public education and awareness-raising programmes on the problem of illicit SALW in all its aspects. Indicate, where possible, the locations of such programmes, their duration, the participants and outcomes.*

## **B) REGIONAL LEVEL**

### **1. Legally binding instruments**

**i) Has your country been involved in negotiations for the conclusion of legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? (PoA, II.25)**

**If so, please give details.**

*Please describe any negotiations your country has been involved in at the regional level for the conclusion of legally binding SALW instruments. Please provide full information for any instruments that were successfully concluded (full name, date and place of adoption, date of entry into force and form of publication or distribution, including internet publication/distribution).*

**ii) Where such instruments exist, please describe the steps your country has taken to ratify and fully implement them. (PoA, II.25)**

*In general terms, what steps has your country taken to implement legally-binding SALW instruments at the regional level (legislative changes, creation of new institutions, modification of existing administrative practice, etc.)?*

### **2. Moratoria and regional action programmes**

**Please give details of any support your country has given moratoria or similar initiatives on the transfer and manufacture of SALW, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects (including cooperation with States concerned in the implementation of these initiatives). (PoA, II.26)**

*What support, including specific cooperation with the States concerned, has your country given to regional moratoria (transfer/manufacture) and/or regional SALW action programmes?*

### **3. Regional Cooperation**

**i) Please describe any involvement your country has had in the establishment of subregional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders (in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies). (PoA, II.27)**

*Has your country been involved in the establishment of subregional or regional mechanisms designed to address the problem of illicit trans-border SALW trade? Give*

*details of any initiatives for promoting trans-border customs cooperation and establishing or enhancing networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies.*

**ii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to encourage regional and subregional action on illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures. (PoA, II.28)**

*Please give details of any initiatives undertaken by your country for purposes of encouraging regional and subregional action on illicit SALW designed, in particular, to strengthen relevant legislative and administrative frameworks.*

## **C) GLOBAL LEVEL**

### **1. International instruments against terrorism and crime**

**What existing international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime has your country ratified or acceded to? (PoA, II.38)**

*Please provide full information for any international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime that your country has ratified or acceded to (full name, date and place of adoption, date of entry into force and form of publication or distribution, including internet publication/distribution). Please also indicate the dates of ratification/accession for your country.*

### **2. International cooperation and assistance**

**i) Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial, your country has provided for purposes of supporting the implementation of measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in the UN Programme of Action. (PoA, III.3, 6, 10, 14)**

*Please provide details of any assistance, whether technical, financial or other, provided by your country for purposes of supporting the implementation of the Programme by any country.*

*Such support would cover the full range of measures and commitments contained in the Programme (III.3), including: building capacity for the development of legislation and regulations, law enforcement, tracing and marking, stockpile management and security, the destruction of SALW and the collection and exchange of information (III.6); the examination of technologies that would improve the tracing and detection of the illicit SALW trade, as well as measures to facilitate the transfer of such*

*technologies (III.10); the destruction or other responsible disposal of surplus stocks or unmarked or inadequately marked SALW (III.14).*

**ii) Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial assistance, your country has received or would like to receive for purposes of implementing measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in the UN Programme of Action.**

*Please provide details of any assistance, whether technical, financial or other, that your country has received or would like to receive for purposes of implementing the Programme. Such support would cover the full range of measures and commitments contained in the Programme.*

**iii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, III.13)**

*Has your country taken any steps to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation with other States for purposes of assisting investigations and prosecutions, undertaken by your country or another State, which relate to the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects?*

*Please give examples of specific cases where possible.*

**iv) Please give details of any assistance your country has provided to combat the illicit trade in SALW linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism. (PoA, III.15)**

*Please describe any assistance your country has provided for purposes of combating the illicit SALW trade, specifically those aspects linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism. Such assistance could include ad hoc programmes and support to other countries or organizations in implementing existing international measures.*

**v) Please give details of your country's cooperation with Interpol for the purpose of identifying those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, II.37)**

*Has your country cooperated with Interpol for the purpose of identifying groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? Please give details of specific action undertaken in this regard. Did such action lead to the prosecution of these groups and individuals (under your law or that of another country)?*

**vi) Please give details of your country's use and support of Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database**

**(including by providing relevant information on the illicit trade in SALW).  
(PoA, III.9)**

*Please describe the extent to which your country has used and supported Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System (IWETS) database. Has your country supplied information on the illicit SALW trade to the IWETS database? Has your country made use of or supported the database in other ways? In what circumstances has the database been useful to your country? Please also indicate any specific outcomes of use made of, or support given to, the database (criminal prosecutions, disruption of trafficking networks, etc.).*

*If your country has not yet used or supported the IWETS database, do you envisage doing so in future? For what purposes and in what circumstances would you use the database?*

**vii) Please give details of your country's cooperation with the UN system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the UN Security Council in accordance with the UN Charter. (PoA, II.32)**

*How has your country cooperated with the UN system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the UN Security Council? Indicate, in general terms, the legal framework employed by your country for purposes of implementing these embargoes (to the extent this information has not already been supplied under section 4 (iii) above). Please also describe instances of **specific cooperation with the UN system** in this regard. This would include, for example, responses to requests for information from UN Security Council Sanctions Committees.*

**viii) Please describe any steps your country has taken in cooperation with other States, or regional or international organizations, to develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in SALW. (PoA, II.39)**

*Has your country discussed the issue of illicit SALW brokering with other States and/or regional or international organizations or taken other steps for the purpose of developing common understandings in this area? Please provide details of any meetings and informal consultations held in this regard, including their outcomes. Include any relevant documentation, such as meeting reports, in your answer to this question.*

### **3. Cooperation with civil society and NGOs**

**Please give details of cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations in activities related to the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects, at the national, regional and global levels. (PoA, II.20, 40, 41; PoA, III.2, 18)**

*How has your government cooperated with civil society and NGOs in activities related to the aims of the UN Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels?*

*Please provide details of **specific programmes and other activities**, conducted in cooperation with civil society and NGOs, relating to the full range of commitments contained in the Programme (II.40), including: public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects, including the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of SALW (II.20); the promotion of dialogue and cultures of peace by encouraging education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects, involving all sectors of society (II.41); the encouragement and strengthening of cooperation and partnerships at all levels among international and intergovernmental organizations and civil society, including NGOs and international financial institutions (III.2); the development and support of action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects (III.18).*

*Please also give details of **support**, of any kind, given by your country for purposes of facilitating activities involving civil society and NGOs conducted in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including those listed above.*

#### **4. Information exchange**

##### **i) Please describe any steps taken by your country to exchange information on national marking systems on SALW. (PoA, III.12)**

*To what States or organizations has your country given information on your national marking system to date? Have you received such information from other States? What type of information have these exchanges included (content of marks, methods or technologies used in marking, etc.)? Has the type of information provided or received in the course of such exchanges been limited for any reason?*

*If you have not yet conducted information exchanges on national marking systems, do you envisage doing so in future? Do you anticipate placing any restrictions on the exchange of such information?*

##### **ii) Please give details of any information on, for example, SALW confiscated or destroyed within the national jurisdiction, or other relevant information, such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition, that your country has submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (PoA, II.23)**

*To what regional and international organizations has your country submitted information on SALW confiscated or destroyed within your country's jurisdiction, or other relevant information such as illicit trade routes and techniques of SALW*

*acquisition? Please describe the kind of information provided, including types and numbers of weapons confiscated/destroyed (where not already provided under section 6 (vi) above), and specifics of illicit trade routes and acquisition techniques known to your country.*

*If you have not yet provided such information, do you envisage doing so in future? Do you anticipate placing any restrictions on the exchange of such information?*

## **5. Training, capacity-building, research**

**i) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, III.7)**

*What programmes and activities has your country undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among government officials involved in combating the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects at the national, regional and global levels? Please provide details of these initiatives including the sectors they have involved (customs, police, intelligence, arms control, other).*

*Please explain how these initiatives have served to enhance national capabilities to combat the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects. Does your country envisage undertaking new or expanded efforts in this area in future?*

**ii) Please describe any regional and international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security that your country has developed or supported. (PoA, III.8)**

*Has your country developed or supported regional or international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security? Please give details of such initiatives, including the organizations and countries involved, programme durations, budgets and outcomes.*

**iii) Please give details of any action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed or supported. (PoA, III.18)**

*Has your country developed or supported programmes for action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects? Please give details of such initiatives, including the organizations involved and key research findings.*

*Please explain how this research has helped to facilitate greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit SALW trade in all its aspects.*

*Does your country have plans to conduct similar or different action-oriented research in future? Please describe the programmes you envisage.*

# Reporting Template

---

**Note:** These guidelines for reporting can be utilized both for "first-time reporting" and for updating information provided in previous national reports. Countries that have not reported in the past two years are encouraged to produce a full report. Countries that have already reported within the last two years are encouraged to update and complement their report by using the relevant sections of the reporting template.



The following Reporting Template can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.undp.org/bcpr/smallarms/PoA.htm>

# National Report

## On implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

### Executive Summary

#### A) NATIONAL LEVEL

##### 1. National coordination agency

##### 2. National point of contact

##### 3. Legislation, regulations, administrative procedures

i) What national laws, regulations and administrative procedures exist to exercise effective control over SALW in the following areas? (PoA, II.2)

- production
- export
- import
- transit
- retransfer

National Laws, Regulations and Decrees		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Law/Regulation/Decree</i>	<i>Date</i>
Production	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description explaining how the law, either alone or in combination with other national measures, ensures that effective control is exercised over SALW in the area of production.	
	Web link	
Export	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of export (as above)	
	Web link	
Import	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of import (as above)	
	Web link	
Transit	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of transit (as above)	

	Web link	
Retransfer	Title of the law in the original language	
	Title of the law in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description ... in the area of retransfer (as above)	
	Web link	

<b>Administrative Procedures</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Administrative Procedures</i>	<i>In place since</i>
Production	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of production (as above)	
	Web link	
Export	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of export (as above)	
	Web link	
Import	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of import (as above)	
	Web link	
Transit	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of transit (as above)	
	Web link	
Retransfer	Legal basis for the procedure	
	Short description ... in the area of retransfer (as above)	
	Web link	

ii) What national measures exist to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? How have these been implemented? (PoA, II.8)

iii) Please describe how national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects are made public. (PoA, II.23)

#### 4. Law enforcement/criminalization

i) What national legislative or other measures exist to make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offences under domestic law? How have these measures been implemented? (PoA, II.3)

<b>National criminal offences relating to illicit SALW</b>		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Law / other measure</i>	<i>Date</i>
Manufacture	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Possession	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Stockpiling	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	
Trade	Title in original language	
	Title in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description, including details of penalties	
	An overview of implementation	
	Web link	

ii) Have those groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit SALW been identified, where applicable? What action has been taken under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals? (PoA, II.6)

iii) What national measures have been taken, including legal or administrative means, against activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations? (PoA, II.15)

National measures for the enforcement of UN Security Council arms embargoes		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Legal means</i>	<i>Date</i>
Enforcement of UNSC arms embargoes	Title/provision of the legal measure in original language	
	Title/provision in an official UN language (and short form)	
	Short description of the functions of the legal measure/provision	
	Web link	

National measures for the enforcement of UN Security Council arms embargoes		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Administrative means</i>	<i>In place since</i>
Enforcement of UNSC arms embargoes	Short description of the procedures used to prevent/punish violations	
	Web link	

**5. Stockpile management and security**

i) What national standards and procedures exist for the management and security of SALW stocks held by armed forces, police or other authorized bodies? (PoA, II.17)

National standards and procedures for stockpile management and security		
<i>Group</i>	<i>Standards / procedures</i>	<i>Date adopted</i>
Armed forces	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	
Police	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	
Other authorized bodies	Name and briefly describe	
	Web link	

ii) How often are stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies reviewed? (PoA, II.18)

iii) How are those stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies that are surplus to requirements identified? (PoA, II.18)

## **6. Collection and disposal**

i) Please give details of any national programmes that have been established and implemented for the responsible disposal of surplus stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies. (PoA, II.18)

ii) Is destruction the means used to dispose of such stocks? (PoA, II.18)

iii) What national measures exist to safeguard such stocks prior to their disposal? (PoA, II.18)

iv) Subject to the exceptions set out in paragraph II.16 of the UN Programme of Action, are all confiscated, seized or collected SALW destroyed? (PoA, II.16)

v) What methods has your country used to destroy surplus stocks of SALW designated for destruction? (If appropriate, please make reference to the report of the UN Secretary-General (S/2000/1092) of 15 November 2000.) (PoA, II.19)

vi) Please give details of any information on SALW confiscated or destroyed within your jurisdiction that is submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (PoA, II.23)

## **7. Export controls**

i) Please describe the system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, used by your country for the transfer of all SALW. (PoA, II.11)

ii) Please describe the national laws, regulations and administrative procedures used by your country to ensure effective control over the export and transit of SALW. How are these measures implemented? (PoA, II.12)

iii) Does your country use authenticated end-user certificates for this purpose? (PoA, II.12)

iv) Does your country notify the original exporting State when re-exporting or retransferring previously imported SALW? (PoA, II.13)

## **8. Brokering**

What national legislation or administrative procedures exist to regulate the activities of those who engage in SALW brokering within national jurisdiction and control? (e.g. registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions and appropriate penalties) (PoA, II.14)

## **9. Marking, record keeping and tracing**

- i) Does your country require licensed manufacturers of SALW to apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each weapon as an integral part of the production process? (PoA, II.7)
- ii) Is this marking unique? (PoA, II.7)
- iii) Does this marking identify the country of manufacture? (PoA, II.7)
- iv) How does this marking otherwise allow concerned authorities to identify and trace the relevant weapon? (PoA, II.7)
- v) How long are records kept on the manufacture, holding and transfer of SALW under your jurisdiction? (PoA, II.9)
- vi) What national measures exist for tracing SALW held and issued by the State? (PoA, II.10)
- vii) Please give details of any steps taken by your country to cooperate in tracing illicit SALW, including the strengthening of mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information. (PoA, III.11)

## **10. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)**

- i) Please describe any disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programmes your country has developed and implemented, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW. (PoA, II.21)
- ii) Please describe how your country has addressed the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society and their appropriate rehabilitation. (PoA, II.22)
- iii) Please describe any DDR programmes or activities that your country has supported. (PoA, II.30, 34)

## **11. Awareness-raising**

- i) Please describe any public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed and implemented (including the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of SALW). (PoA, II.20)
- ii) Please describe any education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has encouraged. (PoA, II.41)

## **B) REGIONAL LEVEL**

### **1. Legally binding instruments**

i) Has your country been involved in negotiations for the conclusion of legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? (PoA, II.25)

ii) Where such instruments exist, please describe the steps your country has taken to ratify and fully implement them. (PoA, II.25)

### **2. Moratoria and regional action programmes**

Please give details of any support your country has given moratoria or similar initiatives on the transfer and manufacture of SALW, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects (including cooperation with States concerned in the implementation of these initiatives). (PoA, II.26)

### **3. Regional Cooperation**

i) Please describe any involvement your country has had in the establishment of subregional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders (in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies). (PoA, II.27)

ii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to encourage regional and subregional action on illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures. (PoA, II.28)

## **C) GLOBAL LEVEL**

### **1. International instruments against terrorism and crime**

What existing international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime has your country ratified or acceded to? (PoA, II.38)

### **2. International cooperation and assistance**

i) Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial assistance, your country has provided for purposes of supporting the implementation of measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in the UN Programme of Action. (PoA, III.3, 6, 10, 14)

ii) Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial assistance, your country has received or would like to receive for purposes of implementing measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in the UN Programme of Action.

iii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, III.13)

iv) Please give details of any assistance your country has provided to combat the illicit trade in SALW linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism. (PoA, III.15)

v) Please give details of your country's cooperation with Interpol for the purpose of identifying those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, II.37)

vi) Please give details of your country's use and support of Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database (including by providing relevant information on the illicit trade in SALW). (PoA, III.9)

vii) Please give details of your country's cooperation with the UN system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the UN Security Council in accordance with the UN Charter. (PoA, II.32)

viii) Please describe any steps your country has taken in cooperation with other States, or regional or international organizations, to develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in SALW. (PoA, II.39)

### **3. Cooperation with civil society and NGOs**

Please give details of cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations in activities related to the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects, at the national, regional and global levels. (PoA, II.20, 40, 41; PoA, III.2, 18)

### **4. Information exchange**

i) Please describe any steps taken by your country to exchange information on national marking systems on SALW. (PoA, III.12)

ii) Please give details of any information on, for example, SALW confiscated or destroyed within the national jurisdiction, or other relevant information, such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition, that your country has submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (PoA, II.23)

## **5. Training, capacity-building, research**

i) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (PoA, III.7)

ii) Please describe any regional and international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security that your country has developed or supported. (PoA, III.8)

iii) Please give details of any action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed or supported. (PoA, III.18)

**Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and  
Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light  
Weapons in All Its Aspects**

---



**This is the full text of the UN Programme of Action that was agreed upon in 2001.**

## **Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**

### **I. Preamble**

1. We, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, having met in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

2. *Gravely concerned* about the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world, which have a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and pose a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels,

3. *Concerned also* by the implications that poverty and underdevelopment may have for the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

4. *Determined* to reduce the human suffering caused by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to enhance the respect for life and the dignity of the human person through the promotion of a culture of peace,

5. *Recognizing* that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects sustains conflicts, exacerbates violence, contributes to the displacement of civilians, undermines respect for international humanitarian law, impedes the provision of humanitarian assistance to victims of armed conflict and fuels crime and terrorism,

6. *Gravely concerned* about its devastating consequences on children, many of whom are victims of armed conflict or are forced to become child soldiers, as well as the negative impact on women and the elderly, and in this context, taking into account the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on children,

7. *Concerned also* about the close link between terrorism, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and stressing the urgency of international efforts and cooperation aimed at combating this trade simultaneously from both a supply and demand perspective,

8. *Reaffirming* our respect for and commitment to international law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the sovereign

equality of States, territorial integrity, the peaceful a resolution of international disputes, non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States,

9. *Reaffirming* the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

10. *Reaffirming also* the right of each State to manufacture, import and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs, as well as for its capacity to participate in peacekeeping operations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

11. *Reaffirming* the right of self-determination of all peoples, taking into account the particular situation of peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and recognizing the right of peoples to take legitimate action in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations to realize their inalienable right of self-determination. This shall not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action that would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

12. *Recalling* the obligations of States to fully comply with arms embargoes decided by the United Nations Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

13. *Believing* that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and, accordingly, should intensify their efforts to define the problems associated with such trade and find ways of resolving them,

14. *Stressing* the urgent necessity for international cooperation and assistance, including financial and technical assistance, as appropriate, to support and facilitate efforts at the local, national, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

15. *Recognizing* that the international community has a duty to deal with this issue, and acknowledging that the challenge posed by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects is multi-faceted and involves, inter alia, security, conflict prevention and resolution, crime prevention, humanitarian, health and development dimensions,

16. *Recognizing also* the important contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and industry in, inter alia, assisting Governments to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

17. *Recognizing further* that these efforts are without prejudice to the priorities accorded to nuclear disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and conventional disarmament,

18. *Welcoming* the efforts being undertaken at the global, regional, subregional, national and local levels to address the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and desiring to build upon them, taking into account the characteristics, scope and magnitude of the problem in each State or region,

19. *Recalling* the Millennium Declaration and also welcoming ongoing initiatives in the context of the United Nations to address the problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

20. *Recognizing* that the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, establishes standards and procedures that complement and reinforce efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

21. *Convinced* of the need for a global commitment to a comprehensive approach to promote, at the global, regional, subregional, national and local levels, the prevention, reduction and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as a contribution to international peace and security,

22. *Resolve* therefore to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects by:

(a) Strengthening or developing agreed norms and measures at the global, regional and national levels that would reinforce and further coordinate efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(b) Developing and implementing agreed international measures to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in small arms and light weapons;

(c) Placing particular emphasis on the regions of the world where conflicts come to an end and where serious problems with the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of small arms and light weapons have to be dealt with urgently;

(d) Mobilizing the political will throughout the international community to prevent and combat illicit transfers and manufacturing of small arms and light weapons in all their aspects, to cooperate towards these ends and to raise awareness of the character and seriousness of the interrelated problems associated with the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in these weapons;

(e) Promoting responsible action by States with a view to preventing the illicit export, import, transit and retransfer of small arms and light weapons.

## **II. Preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects**

1. We, the States participating in this Conference, bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions, undertake the following measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects:

### **At the national level**

2. To put in place, where they do not exist, adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to exercise effective control over the production of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction and over the export, import, transit or retransfer of such weapons, in order to prevent illegal manufacture of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, or their diversion to unauthorized recipients.

3. To adopt and implement, in the States that have not already done so, the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offences under their domestic law the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction, in order to ensure that those engaged in such activities can be prosecuted under appropriate national penal codes.

4. To establish, or designate as appropriate, national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. This should include aspects of the illicit manufacture, control, trafficking, circulation, brokering and trade, as well as tracing, finance, collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons.

5. To establish or designate, as appropriate, a national point of contact to act as liaison between States on matters relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

6. To identify, where applicable, groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit small arms and light weapons, and take action under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals.

7. To ensure that henceforth licensed manufacturers apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each small arm and light weapon as an integral part of the production process. This marking should be unique and should identify the country of manufacture and also provide information that enables the national authorities of that country to identify the manufacturer and serial number so that the authorities concerned can identify and trace each weapon.

8. To adopt where they do not exist and enforce, all the necessary measures to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of any unmarked or inadequately marked small arms and light weapons.
9. To ensure that comprehensive and accurate records are kept for as long as possible on the manufacture, holding and transfer of small arms and light weapons under their jurisdiction. These records should be organized and maintained in such a way as to ensure that accurate information can be promptly retrieved and collated by competent national authorities.
10. To ensure responsibility for all small arms and light weapons held and issued by the State and effective measures for tracing such weapons.
11. To assess applications for export authorizations according to strict national regulations and procedures that cover all small arms and light weapons and are consistent with the existing responsibilities of States under relevant international law, taking into account in particular the risk of diversion of these weapons into the illegal trade. Likewise, to establish or maintain an effective national system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, for the transfer of all small arms and light weapons, with a view to combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.
12. To put in place and implement adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure the effective control over the export and transit of small arms and light weapons, including the use of authenticated end-user certificates and effective legal and enforcement measures.
13. To make every effort, in accordance with national laws and practices, without prejudice to the right of States to re-export small arms and light weapons that they have previously imported, to notify the original exporting State in accordance with their bilateral agreements before the retransfer of those weapons.
14. To develop adequate national legislation or administrative procedures regulating the activities of those who engage in small arms and light weapons brokering. This legislation or procedures should include measures such as registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions as well as the appropriate penalties for all illicit brokering activities performed within the State's jurisdiction and control.
15. To take appropriate measures, including all legal or administrative means, against any activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.
16. To ensure that all confiscated, seized or collected small arms and light weapons are destroyed, subject to any legal constraints associated with the preparation of criminal prosecutions, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered.

17. To ensure, subject to the respective constitutional and legal systems of States, that the armed forces, police or any other body authorized to hold small arms and light weapons establish adequate and detailed standards and procedures relating to the management and security of their stocks of these weapons. These standards and procedures should, inter alia, relate to: appropriate locations for stockpiles; physical security measures; control of access to stocks; inventory management and accounting control; staff training; security, accounting and control of small arms and light weapons held or transported by operational units or authorized personnel; and procedures and sanctions in the event of thefts or loss.

18. To regularly review, as appropriate, subject to the respective constitutional and legal systems of States, the stocks of small arms and light weapons held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies and to ensure that such stocks declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements are clearly identified, that programmes for the responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of such stocks are established and implemented and that such stocks are adequately safeguarded until disposal.

19. To destroy surplus small arms and light weapons designated for destruction, taking into account, inter alia, the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on methods of destruction of small arms, light weapons, ammunition and explosives (S/2000/1092) of 15 November 2000.

20. To develop and implement, including in conflict and post-conflict situations, public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including, where appropriate, the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of small arms and light weapons, if possible, in cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations, with a view to eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

21. To develop and implement, where possible, effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of small arms and light weapons, particularly in post-conflict situations, unless another form of disposition or use has been duly authorized and such weapons have been marked and the alternate form of disposition or use has been recorded, and to include, where applicable, specific provisions for these programmes in peace agreements.

22. To address the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society, and their appropriate rehabilitation.

23. To make public national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradicating of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to submit, on a voluntary basis, to relevant regional and international organizations and in accordance with their national practices, information on, inter alia, (a) small arms and light weapons confiscated or destroyed

within their jurisdiction; and (b) other relevant information such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition that can contribute to the eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

### **At the regional level**

24. To establish or designate, as appropriate, a point of contact within subregional and regional organizations to act as liaison on matters relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

25. To encourage negotiations, where appropriate, with the aim of concluding relevant legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and where they do exist to ratify and fully implement them.

26. To encourage the strengthening and establishing, where appropriate and as agreed by the States concerned, of moratoria or similar initiatives in affected regions or subregions on the transfer and manufacture of small arms and light weapons, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and to respect such moratoria, similar initiatives, and/or action programmes and cooperate with the States concerned in the implementation thereof, including through technical assistance and other measures.

27. To establish, where appropriate, subregional or regional mechanisms, in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for informationsharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons across borders.

28. To encourage, where needed, regional and subregional action on illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures.

29. To encourage States to promote safe, effective stockpile management and security, in particular physical security measures, for small arms and light weapons, and to implement, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms in this regard.

30. To support, where appropriate, national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, particularly in post-conflict situations, with special reference to the measures agreed upon in paragraphs 28 to 31 of this section.

31. To encourage regions to develop, where appropriate and on a voluntary basis, measures to enhance transparency with a view to combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

## **At the global level**

32. To cooperate with the United Nations system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the United Nations Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

33. To request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within existing resources, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis and including national reports, on implementation by those States of the Programme of Action.

34. To encourage, particularly in post-conflict situations, the disarmament and demobilization of ex-combatants and their subsequent reintegration into civilian life, including providing support for the effective disposition, as stipulated in paragraph 17 of this section, of collected small arms and light weapons.

35. To encourage the United Nations Security Council to consider, on a case by case basis, the inclusion, where applicable, of relevant provisions for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in the mandates and budgets of peacekeeping operations.

36. To strengthen the ability of States to cooperate in identifying and tracing in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons.

37. To encourage States and the World Customs Organization, as well as other relevant organizations, to enhance cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) to identify those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in order to allow national authorities to proceed against them in accordance with their national laws.

38. To encourage States to consider ratifying or acceding to international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime.

39. To develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the activities of those engaged in such brokering.

40. To encourage the relevant international and regional organizations and States to facilitate the appropriate cooperation of civil society, including nongovernmental organizations, in activities related to the prevention, combat and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in view of the important role that civil society plays in this area.

41. To promote dialogue and a culture of peace by encouraging, as appropriate, education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, involving all sectors of society.

### **III. Implementation, international cooperation and assistance**

1. We, the States participating in the Conference, recognize that the primary responsibility for solving the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects falls on all States. We also recognize that States need close international cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate this illicit trade.
2. States undertake to cooperate and to ensure coordination, complementarity and synergy in efforts to deal with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects at the global, regional, subregional and national levels and to encourage the establishment and strengthening of cooperation and partnerships at all levels among international and intergovernmental organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions.
3. States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so should, upon request of the relevant authorities, seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance where needed, such as small arms funds, to support the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as contained in the Programme of Action.
4. States and international and regional organizations should, upon request by the affected States, consider assisting and promoting conflict prevention. Where requested by the parties concerned, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, States and international and regional organizations should consider promotion and assistance of the pursuit of negotiated solutions to conflicts, including by addressing their root causes.
5. States and international and regional organizations should, where appropriate, cooperate, develop and strengthen partnerships to share resources and information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.
6. With a view to facilitating implementation of the Programme of Action, States and international and regional organizations should seriously consider assisting interested States, upon request, in building capacities in areas including the development of appropriate legislation and regulations, law enforcement, tracing and marking, stockpile management and security, destruction of small arms and light weapons and the collection and exchange of information.
7. States should, as appropriate, enhance cooperation, the exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.
8. Regional and international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security should be developed. Upon request, States and

appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should support these programmes. The United Nations, within existing resources, and other appropriate international or regional organizations should consider developing capacity for training in this area.

9. States are encouraged to use and support, as appropriate, including by providing relevant information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database or any other relevant database that may be developed for this purpose.

10. States are encouraged to consider international cooperation and assistance to examine technologies that would improve the tracing and detection of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as measures to facilitate the transfer of such technologies.

11. States undertake to cooperate with each other, including on the basis of the relevant existing global and regional legally binding instruments as well as other agreements and arrangements, and, where appropriate, with relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, in tracing illicit small arms and light weapons, in particular by strengthening mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information.

12. States are encouraged to exchange information on a voluntary basis on their national marking systems on small arms and light weapons.

13. States are encouraged, subject to their national practices, to enhance, according to their respective constitutional and legal systems, mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

14. Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should provide assistance in the destruction or other responsible disposal of surplus stocks or unmarked or inadequately marked small arms and light weapons.

15. Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should provide assistance to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

16. Particularly in post-conflict situations, and where appropriate, the relevant regional and international organizations should support, within existing resources, appropriate programmes related to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants.

17. With regard to those situations, States should make, as appropriate, greater efforts to address problems related to human and sustainable development, taking into account existing and future social and developmental activities, and should fully

respect the rights of the States concerned to establish priorities in their development programmes.

18. States, regional and subregional and international organizations, research centres, health and medical institutions, the United Nations system, international financial institutions and civil society are urged, as appropriate, to develop and support action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

#### **IV. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**

1. We, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, recommend to the General Assembly the following agreed steps to be undertaken for the effective follow-up of the Conference:

(a) To convene a conference no later than 2006 to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, the date and venue to be decided at the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

(b) To convene a meeting of States on a biennial basis to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) To undertake a United Nations study, within existing resources, for examining the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons;

(d) To consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons.

2. Finally, we, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects:

(a) Encourage the United Nations and other appropriate international and regional organizations to undertake initiatives to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) Also encourage all initiatives to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in their implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) Further encourage non-governmental organizations and civil society to engage, as appropriate, in all aspects of international, regional, subregional and national efforts to implement the present Programme of Action.

The **United Nations Development Programme** (UNDP) is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and its wide range of partners.

The **United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs** (UN DDA) was designated by the Secretary-General as the United Nations focal point for small arms. As such, DDA chairs the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism, which aims at ensuring a comprehensive, coordinated and coherent approach, within the United Nations system, to the complex challenges posed by SALW. Pursuant to its mandates, DDA, in close cooperation with all other CASA members, provides multifaceted assistance to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action, ranging from policy advice and training, to institution building and project formulation and implementation. DDA also collates and circulates data and information provided by States, on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on the implementation of the Programme of Action.

The **United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research** (UNIDIR) provides the international community with incisive background research and forward-looking analyses on disarmament and security issues. Through its research projects, publications, conferences and expert networks, UNIDIR acts as a bridge between the research community and decision-makers to promote creative thinking and dialogue on both current and emerging disarmament and security challenges. UNIDIR covers topics as varied as nuclear weaponry, information security and small arms. The Institute's work brings together security, disarmament and development so that all forms of security - national, regional, global - are recognized as true manifestations of human security.