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English only

**United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the
Implementation of the Programme of Action to
Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in
Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**
New York, 26 June-7 July 2006

**Conference Room paper submitted by Indonesia on behalf of
the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries)**

**ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION IN SALW**

Based on national reports submitted during the First and Second Biennial Meetings of States (BMS), a number of developing countries had indicated that they have received financial and technical support through the United Nations, financial institution, donor countries and international non-governmental organizations to implement some aspects of the Programme of Action (PoA). There are 22 states that have provided some form of assistance and contributions to SALW projects within the framework of the PoA. Such assistance and contributions have been carried out at different levels and degrees to directly support the implementation programmes.

It is recognized that the availability of international assistance to support the implementation of the PoA has grown in the last five years. However, the level of assistance is still not sufficient to help the affected countries taking into account the magnitude of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects and the danger it therefore continues to pose. An equally important and related issue concerns how the scale and effectiveness of such international assistance can be improved.

International assistance is an essential aspect in the full implementation of the PoA. The PoA provides a wide range of commitments to assist member states to implement its provisions. As stipulated in Section III of the PoA, States, international and regional organizations, in a position to do so, are encouraged to seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance.

In this regard, NAM would like to propose the following recommendations to be considered at the Review Conference:

1. States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so should seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance in the following areas : (i) weapons collection/destruction (ii) DDR, including the effective collection, control, storage, and destruction particularly in post-conflict situation; (iii) stockpile management, marking, record keeping and security; (iv) trans-border custom cooperation and networks for information sharing among law enforcement, border and custom control agencies; (v) cooperation in maritime border surveillance in conformity with international law; (vi) capacity building, public awareness, education, and confidence-building programmes; (vii) legislation; (viii) national coordination; (ix) transparency, and (x) policy and action oriented research;
2. States are encouraged to consider establishing a “SALW Trust Fund” through regional organizations and or United Nations Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament dedicated specifically to SALW programmes. In this regard, donor countries, relevant financial institutions, and international and regional organizations in a position to do so, should seriously consider promoting and supporting such “SALW Trust Fund”. This trust fund should be established by voluntary contributions specially devoted to SALW programmes and not through the relocation of resources devoted to economic and social development programmes, such as anti-poverty activities/poverty eradication activities.

3. States should consider increasing the channeling of capacity-building, training and supplying equipment¹ for law enforcement agencies, cross-border cooperation and operation, mutual legal assistance as well as information sharing and exchange;
4. States, in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations, should consider establishing a mechanism for the mobilization of assistance under the auspices of the United Nations;
5. States in a position to do so are encouraged to seriously consider rendering transfer of technology that would improve marking and tracing, record-keeping and destruction;
6. To request UNIDIR, in collaboration with the relevant UN agencies, to carry out a study on “the financial and technical needs of developing countries for full implementation of the PoA” and submit it to the next biennial meeting for its consideration and further action.

In addition to these, there are some issues and problems with regard to international assistance that need to be further discussed at the Review Conference:

First, each country and region should develop its own plan of action or programmes of work to implement the PoA, and then identify priority areas where they need assistance;

Second, donor countries, relevant international and regional organizations need to address problems concerning their own capacity to provide appropriate assistance for all aspects of the PoA;

Third, there is a continuing problem with matching the required needs of affected countries with available assistance, and donor coordination.

¹) Equipment such as mobile x-ray gates, body scanner, advanced radar system for border control as well as protecting means like bullet proof jackets, etc.