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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

Report on the Register of Conventional Arms

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 46/32 L of 9 December 1991, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental technical experts, to elaborate the technical procedures and to make any adjustments to the annex to the resolution necessary for the effective operation of the Register, and to prepare a report on the modalities for early expansion of the scope of the Register by the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production. The Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to submit the report to it at its forty-seventh session.

2. Pursuant to that resolution, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Assembly the report on the Register of Conventional Arms.

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ANNEX

Report on the Register of Conventional Arms

FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On 9 December 1991, the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/36 L entitled "Transparency in armaments", by which it requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental technical experts, to elaborate the technical procedures and to make any adjustments to the annex to the resolution necessary for the effective operation of the Register, and to prepare a report on the modalities for early expansion of the scope of the Register by the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production.

Accordingly, on 17 July 1992, the Panel of Governmental Technical Experts on the Register of Conventional Arms concluded its deliberations and adopted its report by consensus.

The report consists of three parts. Part I elaborates the technical procedures for the standardized reporting of data on international transfers of seven categories of conventional arms identified in the annex to the resolution. These categories are: battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles and missile launchers. Furthermore, this part of the report describes the manner in which Member States wishing to do so may communicate to the United Nations available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies.

Part II of the report addresses modalities for earliest expansion of the scope of the Register vis-à-vis the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production.

Part III deals with the resource implications for the development, upgrading and maintenance of the Register by the United Nations, through the Office for Disarmament Affairs. In particular, this part of the report discusses the resource requirements for the initial operation and storage of the data of the Register as well as the increased complexity of its subsequent continued operation. Special attention is given to the relevant needs of the computerized disarmament database of the Office for Disarmament Affairs which will be used to process information submitted by Governments for inclusion in the Register.

The establishment of the Register of Conventional Arms by the United Nations is a ground-breaking endeavour. As an action-oriented tool that will introduce openness and transparency in the area of international arms

transfers, the Register has the potential to foster a climate of confidence and self-restraint, thereby creating an atmosphere more conducive to the effecting of real measures of disarmament. The successful development and operation of the Register could in the final analysis provide the United Nations with indeed an effective instrument in preventive diplomacy.

The Secretary-General wishes to express his special appreciation to the members of the Panel of Governmental Technical Experts for their report, which is hereby submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL DATED 17 JULY 1992 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PANEL OF GOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON THE REGISTER OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Panel of Governmental Technical Experts on the Register of Conventional Arms, which was appointed by you in pursuance of paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L of 9 December 1991.

The governmental technical experts were the following:

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Netherlands to the United Nations Office
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The report was prepared between January and July 1992, during which period the Panel held three sessions in New York, the first from 27 to 31 January, the second from 31 March to 10 April and the third from 6 to 17 July 1992.

In carrying out its work, the Panel had before it relevant publications and papers which were circulated by members of the Panel.

The members of the Panel wish to express their appreciation for the assistance which they received from members of the Secretariat. They wish, in particular, to thank Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Prvoslav Davinić, Director, Office for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Timur Alasaniya, who served as Secretary of the Panel, and Dr. Edward Laurance and Dr. Herbert Wulf, who served in their private capacity as consultants to the Secretary.

I have been requested by the Panel of governmental technical experts, as its Chairman, to submit to you, on its behalf, this report, which was unanimously approved.

(Signed) Hendrik WAGENMAKERS
Chairman of the
Panel of Governmental Technical Experts
on the Register of Conventional Arms

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INTRODUCTION

1. On 9 December 1991, as part of the larger family of international efforts to promote transparency in military matters, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 46/36 L entitled "Transparency in armaments" (for the text of the resolution, see appendix A). That resolution established the Register of Conventional Arms to include data on international arms transfers as well as available background information provided by Member States on military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies. The Secretary-General's action to that effect was communicated to all Member States in a note verbale of 1 January 1992. In accordance with that resolution Member States are requested to provide data on an annual basis by 30 April each year in respect of imports into and exports from their territory in the previous calendar year, with the first such registration to take place by 30 April 1993 in respect of the calendar year 1992.

2. In paragraph 8 of the same resolution, the Assembly:

> "Also requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental technical experts to be nominated by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to elaborate the technical procedures and to make any adjustments to the annex to the present resolution necessary for the effective operation of the Register, and to prepare a report on the modalities for early expansion of the scope of the Register by the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session."

3. In paragraph 11 (a) of the same resolution, the Assembly invites Member States to provide the Secretary-General, not later than 30 April 1994, with their views on the "operation of the Register during its first two years" and "the addition of further categories of equipment and the elaboration of the Register to include military holdings and procurement through national production". In addition, in paragraph 11 (b) of the resolution, the Assembly requests the Secretary-General, "with the assistance of a group of governmental experts convened in 1994 on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, as set forth in paragraphs 12 to 15 below, and the views expressed by Member States for submission to the General Assembly with a view to a decision at its forty-ninth session".

4. In paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the Assembly:

> "Requests the Conference on Disarmament to address, as soon as possible, the question of the interrelated aspects of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including military holdings and procurement through national production, and to elaborate universal and

non-discriminatory practical means to increase openness and transparency in this field."

In paragraph 13 of the resolution, the Assembly also requested the Conference on Disarmament, inter alia, to elaborate practical means to increase openness and transparency "related to the transfer of high technology with military applications and to weapons of mass destruction, in accordance with existing legal instruments".

5. Also, in paragraph 14 of the same resolution, the Assembly

> "Invites the Secretary-General to provide to the Conference on Disarmament all relevant information, including, inter alia, views submitted to him by Member States and information provided under the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, as well as the work of the United Nations Disarmament Commission under its agenda item entitled 'Objective information on military matters'."

In paragraph 15 of the resolution, the Assembly "Further requests the Conference on Disarmament to include in its annual report to the General Assembly a report on its work on this issue".

6. In addition to the work of the Conference on Disarmament, Member States, in paragraphs 16 and 17 of the resolution, are urged to take measures at the national, regional and subregional levels aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments.

7. The present report, a step in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, is the result of the work of the Panel of Governmental Technical Experts.

I. TECHNICAL PROCEDURES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE REGISTER

A. General

8. Part I of the work of the Panel stems from the mandate contained in paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, namely "to elaborate the technical procedures and to make any adjustments to the annex to the present resolution necessary for the effective operation of the Register". It is further based on paragraph 7 of the resolution, in which the Assembly requests the Secretary-General to establish and maintain the Register "in accordance with procedures and input requirements initially comprising those set out in the annex to the present resolution and subsequently incorporating any adjustment to the annex decided upon by the General Assembly at the forty-seventh session in the light of the recommendations of the panel referred to in paragraph 8".

B. Arms transfers

9. Paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L states that "Member States are requested to provide data for the Register, addressed to the Secretary-General, on the number of items in the following categories of equipment imported into or exported from their territory". The Panel did not attempt to define arms transfers but, for the purpose of the Register, considered that the terms "imported into or exported from their territory" needed some clarification, as stated in paragraphs 12 and 13 below.

10. International arms transfers involve, in addition to the physical movement of equipment into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over the equipment.

11. An international arms transfer may also occur without the movement of equipment across State frontiers if a State, or its agent, is granted title and control over the equipment in the territory of the supplier State. Therefore, a transfer of arms to a State would occur when its forces stationed abroad are granted title and control of equipment by the host country or any third State, or when title and control of such equipment are transferred to the host country or any third State. Additionally, if title and control of equipment temporarily stored or prepositioned on the territory of another State are granted to the host country by the owner, then an international transfer has occurred.

12. Since the supply of equipment by a State to units of its armed forces stationed abroad does not involve transfer of national title and control, such supply is not considered an international transfer. Equipment of a State can be temporarily stored or prepositioned on the territory of another State with no transfer of title and control of this equipment. This is not considered an international arms transfer.

13. In paragraphs 2 (c) and (d) of the annex to the same resolution, Member States are "requested to provide data on an annual basis by 30 April each year in respect of imports into and exports from their territory in the previous calendar year", with the first such registration taking place by 30 April 1993 in respect of the calendar year 1992. To be reported are those transfers considered by States to have been effected during the relevant reporting year, in conformity with their respective national criteria used to define when a transfer becomes effective. Member States are invited to indicate such national criteria with their return.

C. Categories of equipment the transfers of which are to be registered

14. Paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L also identifies the following seven categories of equipment on which Member States are requested to supply data to the Register - battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack

helicopters, warships, and missiles or missile systems. Based on the adjustments to the annex developed by the Panel pursuant to its mandate, the categories and their definitions to be used for reporting to the Register are, as follows:

I. Battle tanks

Tracked or wheeled self-propelled armoured fighting vehicles with high cross-country mobility and a high level of self-protection, weighing at least 16.5 metric tonnes unladen weight, with a high muzzle velocity direct fire main gun of at least 75 millimetres calibre.

II. Armoured combat vehicles

Tracked, semi-tracked or wheeled self-propelled vehicles, with armoured protection and cross-country capability, either: (a) designed and equipped to transport a squad of four or more infantrymen, or (b) armed with an integral or organic weapons of at least 12.5 millimetres calibre or a missile launcher.

III. Large calibre artillery systems

Guns, howitzers, artillery pieces, combining the characteristics of a gun or a howitzer, mortars or multiple-launch rocket systems, capable of engaging surface targets by delivering primarily indirect fire, with a calibre of 100 millimetres and above.

IV. Combat aircraft

Fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided missiles, unguided rockets, bombs, guns, cannons, or other weapons of destruction, including versions of these aircraft which perform specialized electronic warfare, suppression of air defence or reconnaissance missions. The term "combat aircraft" does not include primary trainer aircraft, unless designed, equipped or modified as described above.

V. Attack helicopters

Rotary-wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided or unguided anti-armour, air-to-surface, air-to-subsurface, or air-to-air weapons and equipped with an integrated fire control and aiming system for these weapons, including versions of these aircraft which perform specialized reconnaissance or electronic warfar missions.

VI. Warships

Vessels or submarines armed and equipped for military use with a standard displacement of 750 metric tonnes or above, and those with a standard displacement of less than 750 metric tonnes, equipped for launching missiles with a range of at least 25 kilometres or torpedoes with similar range.

VII. Missiles and missile launchers

Guided or unguided rockets, ballistic or cruise missiles capable of delivering a warhead or weapon of destruction to a range of at least 25 kilometres, and means designed or modified specifically for launching such missiles or rockets, if not covered by categories I through VI. For the purpose of the Register, this category:

(a) Also includes remotely-piloted vehicles with the characteristics for missiles as defined above;

(b) Does not include ground-to-air missiles.

D. Standardized form for reporting international transfers

15. In paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, the Assembly "calls upon all Member States to provide annually for the Register data on imports and exports of arms". Also, in the fourteenth preambular paragraph of the resolution, the Assembly refers to the utility of "the standardized reporting of international arms transfers" for the promotion of transparency in military matters. Pursuant to its mandate, the Panel developed the standardized reporting form (see appendix B to the present report) to be used by Member States when providing data for the Register on the number of items exported and imported in each of the seven categories of equipment defined in paragraph 14 above.

16. Pending the review of the operation of the Register in 1994, data on missiles and missile launchers are to be submitted as a single entry in terms of an aggregate number:

(a) For missiles associated with other launchers covered under categories I to VI, the number 606 will be entered. If, in a given year, a country exports to a specific country 50 missiles of one type and 80 of another type, the number 130 will be entered in column B.

(b) Missiles that are launched from equipment in categories I to VI will be reported in category VII. Missile launchers integral to equipment in categories I to VI are considered a component of that equipment and are not to be reported in category VII missile launchers. For example, air-to-air missiles for combat aircraft are reported in category VII, but the missile launcher is considered to be the aircraft and its transfer is to be reported in category IV.

17. Column A in the form lists the seven categories as defined above. In column B the exporter State(s) (in the import form) and the importer State(s) (in the export form) are to be entered. In addition, column B includes a serial number, identifying the different exporter and importer State(s) as appropriate. Column C in the form includes the number of items of equipment the transfer of which was effected during the relevant reporting year. Transfers, as described in paragraphs 12 and 13 to be reported, are those that have been effected during the relevant reporting year.

18. Columns D and E on the form are included to accommodate data on countries which are not the countries of export or import. In the case of an international transfer involving an export of equipment by a State other than the State of origin, the name of the country of origin should be entered in column D. In the case of an international arms transfer involving transport of equipment to an intermediate location, or involving retention of equipment at an intermediate location for the purpose of the integration of equipment of one category within the Register with equipment of another category, the name of the intermediate location should be entered in column E (e.g. the export of missiles to an intermediate location for integration there with a combat aircraft manufactured at the intermediate location, or vice versa).

19. The right hand column on the form, divided into two parts, "description of item" and "comments on the transfer", is designed to accommodate additional information on the transfers. Since the provision of such information might be affected by security and other relevant concerns of Member States, this column should be filled in at Member States' discretion; no specific patterns are prescribed. To aid the understanding of the international transfers reported, Member States may wish to enter designation, type or model of equipment, or use various descriptive elements contained in the definitions of categories I to VII, which also serve as guides to describe equipment transferred. Member States may also use this column to clarify, for example, that a transfer is of obsolete equipment, the result of co-production, or for other such explanatory remarks as Member States see fit.

E. Available background information regarding military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies

20. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, the Register is to include "information provided by Member States on military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies". Pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) of the annex to that resolution, "Member States are invited also to provide to the Secretary-General available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production, and relevant policies".

21. The reporting of this information is voluntary and Member States may submit this information in any form they wish.

F. Operation of the Register

1. Submission of data on transfers

22. According to paragraph 2 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, "each Member State is requested to provide data on an annual basis by 30 April each year in respect of imports into and exports from their territory in the previous calendar year". Paragraph 2 (d) of the annex to the resolution states that "the first such registration shall take place by 30 April 1993 in respect of the calendar year 1992".

23. Data should be submitted on the form (see appendix B below) taking account of the present report, by 30 April annually to United Nations Headquarters in New York.

24. Member States that do not have anything to report should file a "nil report", clearly stating that no exports or imports have taken place in any of the seven categories during the reporting period.

25. The Office for Disarmament Affairs in the United Nations Secretariat should receive and compile for the Secretary-General's annual report data sheets submitted by Member States and establish a computerized database which will store the reported data.

2. Submission of available background information

26. Available background information to be included in the index (as envisaged in paragraph 5 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L) of the annual report of the Secretary-General should be submitted by 30 April of each year.

27. The Office for Disarmament Affairs will maintain in its computerized database a running index of the background information submitted, by country, date and title. Member States should assign titles to their submissions.

G. Annual consolidated report by the Secretary-General

28. According to paragraph 5 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, "the Secretary-General shall provide annually a consolidated report to the General Assembly of the data registered, together with an index of the other interrelated information".

29. Section I of the annual report will be a compilation of the reports submitted by Member States on the standardized reporting form (see appendix B below), as they are received by the Secretary-General.

30. Section II of the report will be an index of the background information submitted by Member States.

H. Access to the Register

31. According to paragraph 4 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, "the Register shall be open for consultation by representatives of Member States at any time". The Office for Disarmament Affairs should therefore make available the data and information received to any requesting Member State.

32. Member States should have access to the computerized data contained in the Register of Conventional Arms, either on-line (electronically) or by physical transfer of disks.

33. As well as the Secretary-General's consolidated annual report to the United Nations General Assembly, it is recommended that the available background information submitted by Member States be open to the public.

II. MODALITIES FOR EARLY EXPANSION OF THE SCOPE OF THE REGISTER

A. General

34. In paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 46/36 L, the Assembly requests the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of a panel of governmental technical experts, "a report on the modalities for early expansion of the scope of the Register by the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session".

35. According to paragraph 11 (a) of the same resolution, the Assembly "invites Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on: (i) the operation of the Register during its first two years; (ii) the addition of further categories of equipment and the elaboration of the Register to include military holdings and procurement through national production". In paragraph 11 (b) of the resolution, the Assembly

> "Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts convened in 1994 on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development."

In addition, in paragraph 12 of the resolution, the Assembly

> "Requests the Conference on Disarmament to address, as soon as possible, the question of the interrelated aspects of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including military holdings and procurement through national production, and to elaborate universal and non-discriminatory practical means to increase openness and transparency in this field."

In paragraph 13 of the resolution, the Assembly "also requests the Conference on Disarmament to address the problems of, and the elaboration of practical means to increase, openness and transparency related to the transfer of high technology with military applications and to weapons of mass destruction, in accordance with existing legal instruments".

36. The issues identified below are offered as a first step in the consideration of modalities for expansion of the Register. The future development of the Register should take into consideration other efforts designed to enhance transparency in armaments and thus contribute to the enhancement of confidence among States.

B. Review of the operation of the Register

37. Since the group of governmental experts to be convened in 1994 is requested in paragraph 11 (b) of the resolution to "prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development", it should assess the first two years of the operation of the Register addressing, inter alia, the following:

(a) The description of international arms transfers as contained in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the present report;

(b) The standardized reporting form as contained in appendix B to the present report;

(c) The extent of participation by Member States in the Register.

C. Modalities for the addition of further categories of equipment

38. To assist in the future deliberations on the addition of further categories of equipment, the Panel felt that the following might be taken into account:

(a) The possibility of expanding the existing categories by modifying their existing parameters (e.g. tonnage, range, calibre, roles, capabilities and characteristics); or by introducing new parameters or by including subcategories;

(b) The possibility of including new categories:

(i) To take account of significant technical developments relating to the weapons within the existing categories;

(ii) To include weapons not covered by existing categories which should be considered because of their destabilizing potential.

In addition to the points above, future deliberations should draw upon the experience of the operation of the Register.

39. While no decisions are required to be taken regarding the expansion of the scope of the Register until 1994, the Panel considered the possibility of additional categories of equipment that could be reported. It was considered that possible additional categories should be based on substantial agreement so as to ensure the widest possible participation in the Register. A key principle for adding categories should be that of military relevance in terms of the significance of their impact on regional and global stability. The objective should be to enhance transparency, without prejudice to the security of Member States, and help avoid destabilizing accumulations of arms.

40. In the Panel's discussions of the scope of certain categories of equipment, as defined in part I of the present report, issues were raised which, without prejudice to how the forums concerned organize their work, are listed below for their benefit:

(a) Aerial refuelling aircraft;

(b) Reconnaissance aircraft (fixed and rotary wing);

(c) Airborne electronic warfare equipment (fixed and rotary wing);

(d) Airborne early warning and command and control systems (fixed and rotary wing);

(e) Warships: the possibility of lowering or removing the tonnage threshold;

(f) Missiles:

(i) Ground to air missiles;

(ii) Range of missiles;

(iii) Unmanned air-breathing vehicles;

(iv) Close-in anti-missile defence system;

(v) Disaggregation of missiles and launchers for the purpose of reporting;

(g) Ammunition, inter alia:

(i) Precision-guided;

(ii) Cluster bombs;

(iii) Fuel-air explosives;

(iv) Remotely delivered mines;

(h) Systems for the delivery of weapons of mass destruction not already covered by the Register.

D. Modalities for inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production

41. To assist in the future deliberations on the subject of including data on military holdings and procurement through national production in the Register, the Panel felt that a common understanding is required of what constitutes military holdings and procurement through national production. The terms military holdings and procurement through national production need to be defined for the purpose of the Register. With these considerations in mind the following questions were raised by the Panel:

(a) What constitutes armed forces for the purpose of reporting military holdings? In addition to holdings of regular forces, are those of paramilitary, coastguard, reserve and other types of forces, such as organizations designed and structured to perform peacetime internal security functions, to be included?

(b) Should a legal approach be adopted, defining armed forces as those which take on combatant status in time of war?

(c) Should military holdings be reported on the basis of the same categories of equipment as for arms transfers?

(d) Should equipment in storage or mothballed, awaiting decommissioning or in transit be considered as military holdings and be included?

(e) Should equipment in the process of manufacture or manufacturing-related testing, used exclusively for research and development or belonging to historical collections be included?

(f) Regarding data on procurement through national production:

(i) Should data be reported in values and/or in the number of items procured?

(ii) Should procurement be regarded as procurement from any national production facility, whatever the arrangement may be, for example, international collaborative production, licence, and so forth?

(iii) Should equipment procured externally in separate parts and later assembled be considered procurement through national production or reported as imported equipment?

(iv) Should data on procurement through national production relate to equipment ordered by or only that actually delivered to the armed forces (however defined)?

(v) Should data on the upgrading of equipment be included?

III. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE REGISTER

42. At the Panel's request, the following estimates of resources required for the operation of the Register were provided by the United Nations Secretariat.

43. As currently envisaged, the initial operation and storage of the data of the Register can be accommodated through the projected hardware and software system within the Office for Disarmament Affairs. Incremental start-up costs would be limited to computer hardware and software required for system development, and testing at an estimated cost of $50,000.

44. However, the subsequent operation of the system, that is, installation of the data concerning arms transfers, as well as "background information regarding military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies", as Member States were invited to do so by the resolution, will considerably increase the operational complexity of the system and the workload of the Secretariat.

45. Moreover, for the database of the Register to be electronically accessible by Member States, an initial estimated amount of $75,000 would be required to develop the system, support it and distribute related instructional and training material.

46. The development, upgrading and maintenance of the Register would require staff from the Office for Disarmament Affairs with politico-military expertise, especially in the area of arms transfers, in combination with a highly specialized knowledge in the field of database management and systems analysis. Such expertise is currently not available within the Office for Disarmament Affairs. In addition, the day-to-day operation of the Register requires one General Service staff experienced in the basics of programming.

47. Based on available information as well as the experience gained in the maintenance of the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, it is estimated that the Office for Disarmament Affairs would require three additional posts at a total cost of $228,000 per year. The breakdown is divided as follows: one post at the P-5 level - $115,700; one post at the P-2 level - $67,500; and one post at the G-5 level - $45,400 per annum.

48. These estimates are approximations, since it would be impossible to forecast accurately the volume of the work involved in the operation of the Register.

49. The Panel of Governmental Technical Experts recommends that the issue be reviewed by the appropriate United Nations bodies to ensure the most cost-effective use of resources.

APPENDIX A

General Assembly resolution 46/36 L of 9 December 1991

Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Realizing that excessive and destabilizing arms build-ups pose a threat to national, regional and international peace and security, particularly by aggravating tensions and conflict situations, giving rise to serious and urgent concerns,

Noting with satisfaction that the current international environment and recent agreements and measures in the field of arms limitation and disarmament make it a propitious time to work towards easing tensions and a just resolution of conflict situations, as well as more openness and transparency in military matters,

Recalling the consensus among Member States on implementing confidence-building measures, including transparency and exchange of relevant information on armaments, likely to reduce the occurrence of dangerous misperceptions about the intentions of States and to promote trust among States,

Considering that increased openness and transparency in the field of armaments could enhance confidence, ease tensions, strengthen regional and international peace and security and contribute to restraint in military production and the transfer of arms,

Realizing the urgent need to resolve underlying conflicts, to diminish tensions and to accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control with a view to maintaining regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

Recalling also that in paragraph 85 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly 3/ it urged major arms supplier and recipient countries to consult on the limitation of all types of international transfer of conventional arms,

Disturbed by the destabilizing and destructive effects of the illicit arms trade, particularly for the internal situation of affected States and the violation of human rights,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, Member States have undertaken to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources, and that the reduction

of world military expenditures could have a significant positive impact for the social and economic development of all peoples,

Reaffirming the important role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps in order to strengthen that role,

Recalling its resolution 43/75 I of 7 December 1988,

Welcoming the study submitted by the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 43/75 I and prepared with the assistance of governmental experts, on ways and means of promoting transparency in international transfers of conventional arms, 11/ as well as the problem of the illicit arms trade, taking into account views of Member States and other relevant information,

Recognizing the major contribution of an enhanced level of transparency in armaments to confidence-building and security among States, and also recognizing the urgent need to establish, under the auspices of the United Nations, as a first step in this direction, a universal and non-discriminatory register to include data on international arms transfers as well as other interrelated information provided to the Secretary-General,

Stressing the importance of greater transparency in the interest of promoting readiness to exercise restraint in accumulation of armaments,

Considering that the standardized reporting of international arms transfers together with the provision of other interrelated information to a United Nations register will constitute further important steps forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters and, as such, will enhance the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in promoting arms limitation and disarmament, as well as in maintaining international peace and security;

Recognizing also the importance of the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction,

1. Recognizes that an increased level of openness and transparency in the field of armaments would enhance confidence, promote stability, help States to exercise restraint, ease tensions and strengthen regional and international peace and security;

2. Declares its determination to prevent the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including conventional arms, in order to promote stability and strengthen regional or international peace and security, taking into account the legitimate security needs of States and the principle of undiminished security at the lowest possible level of armaments;

3. Reaffirms the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, which implies that States also have the right to acquire arms with which to defend themselves;

4. Reiterates its conviction, as expressed in its resolution 43/75 I, that arms transfers in all their aspects deserve serious consideration by the international community, inter alia, because of:

(a) Their potential effects in further destabilizing areas where tension and regional conflict threaten international peace and security and national security;

(b) Their potentially negative effects on the progress of the peaceful social and economic development of all peoples;

(c) The danger of increasing illicit and covert arms trafficking;

5. Calls upon all Member States to exercise due restraint in exports and imports of conventional arms, particularly in situations of tension or conflict, and to ensure that they have in place an adequate body of laws and administrative procedures regarding the transfer of arms and to adopt strict measures for their enforcement;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his study on ways and means of promoting transparency in international transfers of conventional arms, which also addressed the problem of the illicit arms trade;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to establish and maintain at United Nations Headquarters in New York a universal and non-discriminatory Register of Conventional Arms, to include data on international arms transfers as well as information provided by Member States on military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies, as set out in paragraph 10 below and in accordance with procedures and input requirements initially comprising those set out in the annex to the present resolution and subsequently incorporating any adjustments to the annex decided upon by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session in the light of the recommendations of the panel referred to in paragraph 8 below;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental technical experts to be nominated by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to elaborate the technical procedures and to make any adjustments to the annex to the present resolution necessary for the effective operation of the Register, and to prepare a report on the modalities for early expansion of the scope of the Register by the addition of further categories of equipment and inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

9. Calls upon all Member States to provide annually for the Register data on imports and exports of arms in accordance with the procedures established by paragraphs 7 and 8 above;

10. Invites Member States, pending the expansion of the Register, also to provide to the Secretary-General, with their annual report on imports and

exports of arms, available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies, and requests the Secretary-General to record this material and to make it available for consultation by Member States at their request;

11. Decides, with a view to future expansion, to keep the scope of and the participation in the Register under review, and, to this end:

(a) Invites Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views, not later than 30 April 1994, on:

(i) The operation of the Register during its first two years;

(ii) The addition of further categories of equipment and the elaboration of the Register to include military holdings and procurement through national production;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts convened in 1994 on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament as set forth in paragraphs 12 to 15 below and the views expressed by Member States, for submission to the General Assembly with a view to a decision at its forty-ninth session;

12. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to address, as soon as possible, the question of the interrelated aspects of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including military holdings and procurement through national production, and to elaborate universal and non-discriminatory practical means to increase openness and transparency in this field;

13. Also requests the Conference on Disarmament to address the problems of, and the elaboration of practical means to increase, openness and transparency related to the transfer of high technology with military applications and to weapons of mass destruction, in accordance with existing legal instruments;

14. Invites the Secretary-General to provide to the Conference on Disarmament all relevant information, including, inter alia, views submitted to him by Member States and information provided under the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, as well as on the work of the Disarmament Commission under its agenda item entitled "Objective information on military matters";

15. Further requests the Conference on Disarmament to include in its annual report to the General Assembly a report on its work on this issue;

16. Invites all Member States, in the meantime, to take measures on a national, regional and global basis, including within the appropriate forums, to promote openness and transparency in armaments;

17. Calls upon all Member States to cooperate at a regional and subregional level, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

18. Also invites all Member States to inform the Secretary-General of their national arms import and export policies, legislation and administrative procedures, both as regards authorization of arms transfers and prevention of illicit transfers;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on progress made in implementing the present resolution, including relevant information provided by Member States;

20. Notes that effective implementation of the present resolution will require an up-to-date database system in the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

21. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session an item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

ANNEX

Register of Conventional Arms

1. The Register of Conventional Arms ("the Register") shall be established, with effect from 1 January 1992, and maintained at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

2. Concerning international arms transfers:

(a) Member States are requested to provide data for the Register, addressed to the Secretary-General, on the number of items in the following categories of equipment imported into or exported from their territory:

I. Battle tanks

A tracked or wheeled self-propelled armoured fighting vehicle with high cross-country mobility and a high level of self-protection, weighing at least 16.5 metric tonnes unladen weight, with a high muzzle velocity direct fire main gun of at least 75 millimetres calibre.

II. Armoured combat vehicles

A tracked or wheeled self-propelled vehicle, with armoured protection and cross-country capability, either: (a) designed and equipped to transport a squad of four or more infantrymen, or

(b) armed with an integral or organic weapon of at least 20 millimetres calibre or an anti-tank missile launcher.

III. Large calibre artillery systems

A gun, howitzer, artillery piece combining the characteristics of a gun and a howitzer, mortar or multiple-launch rocket system, capable of engaging surface targets by delivering primarily indirect fire, with a calibre of 100 millimetres and above.

IV. Combat aircraft

A fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aircraft armed and equipped to engage targets by employing guided missiles, unguided rockets, bombs, guns, cannons, or other weapons of destruction.

V. Attack helicopters

A rotary-wing aircraft equipped to employ anti-armour, air-to-ground, or air-to-air guided weapons and equipped with an integrated fire control and aiming system for these weapons.

VI. Warships

A vessel or submarine with a standard displacement of 850 metric tonnes or above, armed or equipped for military use.

VII. Missiles or missile systems

A guided rocket, ballistic or cruise missile capable of delivering a payload to a range of at least 25 kilometres, or a vehicle, apparatus or device designed or modified for launching such munitions.

(b) Data on imports provided under the present paragraph shall also specify the supplying State; data on exports shall also specify the recipient State and the State of origin if not the exporting State;

(c) Each Member State is requested to provide data on an annual basis by 30 April each year in respect of imports into and exports from their territory in the previous calendar year;

(d) The first such registration shall take place by 30 April 1993 in respect of the calendar year 1992;

(e) The data so provided shall be recorded in respect of each Member State;

(f) Arms "exports and imports" represent in the present resolution, including its annex, all forms of arms transfers under terms of grant, credit, barter or cash.

3. Concerning other interrelated information:

(a) Member States are invited also to provide to the Secretary-General available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production, and relevant policies;

(b) The information so provided shall be recorded in respect of each Member State.

4. The Register shall be open for consultation by representatives of Member States at any time.

5. In addition, the Secretary-General shall provide annually a consolidated report to the General Assembly of the data registered, together with an index of the other interrelated information.

APPENDIX B

Standardized forms for reporting international transfers of conventional arms

EXPORTS

Report of international conventional arms transfers
(according to United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/36 L)
Reporting country: _____
Calendar year: 1992

A	B	C	D*	E*	REMARKS**	
Category (I-VII)	Final importer State(s)	Number of items	State of origin (if not exporter)	Intermediate location (if any)	Description of item	Comments on the transfer
I. Battle tanks	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
II. Armoured combat vehicles	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
III. Large calibre artillery systems	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
IV. Combat aircraft	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
V. Attack helicopters	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
VI. Warships	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
VII. Missiles and missile launchers	1)					
	2)					
	3)					

Background information provided: yes/no

/...

* See para. 18 of the present report.

** See para. 19 of the present report.

IMPORTS

Report of international conventional arms transfers
(according to United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/36 L)
Reporting country: _____
Calendar year: 1992

A	B	C	D*	E*	REMARKS**	
Category (I-VII)	Final importer State(s)	Number of items	State of origin (if not exporter)	Intermediate location (if any)	Description of item	Comments on the transfer
I. Battle tanks	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
II. Armoured combat vehicles	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
III. Large calibre artillery systems	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
IV. Combat aircraft	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
V. Attack helicopters	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
VI. Warships	1)					
	2)					
	3)					
VII. Missiles and missile launchers	1)					
	2)					
	3)					

Background information provided: yes/no

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* See para. 18 of the present report.

** See para. 19 of the present report.