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**Third Biennial Meeting of States to Consider 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, 14-18 July 2008

**Enhancing international assistance in the implementation of
the Programme of Action**

**Working paper submitted by Indonesia on behalf of member States
of the Non-Aligned Movement**

1. In the national reports submitted during the First and Second Biennial Meetings of States, a number of developing countries indicated that they had received financial and technical support through the United Nations, financial institutions, donor countries and international non-governmental organizations to implement some aspects of the Programme of Action. Such assistance and contributions have been carried out at different levels and degrees to directly support the implementation programmes.

2. It is recognized that the availability of international assistance to support the implementation of the Programme of Action has grown in recent 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 small arms and light weapons 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.

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

4. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement would like to propose the following recommendations to be considered at the Third Biennial Meeting of States:

(a) 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, in the following areas: (i) weapons collection/destruction; (ii) disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of weapons particularly in post-conflict situations; (iii) stockpile management, marking and tracing, record-keeping and security; (iv) transborder customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs 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;

(b) States should consider increasing the channelling of capacity-building, training and equipment¹ to law enforcement agencies, cross-border cooperation and operation, mutual legal assistance and information-sharing and exchange;

(c) States, in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations, should consider establishing and improving mechanisms, such as trust fund arrangements, for the mobilization of reliable assistance for the implementation of programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects under the auspices of the United Nations;

(d) States in a position to do so are encouraged to transfer the technology necessary to improve marking and tracing, record-keeping and destruction of small arms and light weapons in accordance with the Programme of Action and the international tracing instrument;

(e) The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations agencies, should be requested to continue carrying out studies on the financial and technical needs of developing countries for full implementation of the Programme of Action and to submit them for consideration and further action by Member States.

5. In addition to the above, there are some issues and problems with regard to international assistance that need to be further discussed at the Third Biennial Meeting of States:

(a) Firstly, countries and regions should continue developing, as appropriate, their own plans of action or programmes of work to implement the Programme of Action and identifying priority areas where they need assistance;

(b) Secondly, the full commitment of donor countries as well as relevant international and regional organizations in providing appropriate assistance for all aspects of the Programme of Action remains of key importance for its implementation;

(c) Thirdly, the challenges arising from the matching of assistance requests and offers, as well as from assistance coordination will require ongoing priority attention.

¹ Equipment such as mobile X-ray gates, body scanners, advanced radar systems for border control and protective means like bullet-proof jackets, etc.