

Relevant Areas of Canadian Expertise

A review of the materials provided by these groups as well as an assessment of the work being undertaken by governments and NGOs around the world shows that Canada has a wide array of groups working in areas relevant to the 2001 Conference Programme of Action. Some are focused primarily on small arms work. Others include it as part of a larger agenda. Groups working on the issue come from many different segments of the NGO community: disarmament, peacebuilding, human rights, public health, policing, women's, faith based, development, and other community groups. Many work on a combination of domestic and international issues.

The review of Canadian expertise has revealed the potential to contribute in virtually every aspect of the follow up efforts as is revealed in the inventory which follows. The kinds of expertise reported fall into several broad categories including:

- 1) development of instruments and legislation;
- 2) implementation;
- 3) collection, destruction and reintegration;
- 4) human and social development;
- 5) education, community development and coalition building; and
- 6) research and evaluation.

1) Development of instruments and legislation

Some of the NGOs indicated specific expertise in a) stockpile security and management b) export controls and enforcement, c) marking record keeping and tracing d) illicit trafficking and brokering. Their expertise included, for example, experience in the development of law, regulations and administrative procedures. Canadian NGOs and experts have been involved in providing policy development, drafting and technical expertise in support of the development of international and national policies, instruments and legislation in a variety of contexts. Not only were Canadian NGOs active participants in developing the 2001 Conference Programme of Action but also the OAS agreement, the UN Convention on Trans National Organized Crime. Canadian NGOs are currently involved in the development of the framework convention, a brokering convention, an international convention on marking, and many other initiatives. In addition they have participated in the development of national legislation in many countries including Canada, South Africa, France, New Zealand.

2) Implementation

Other aspects of implementation included security sector reform, systems development, training, enforcement and compliance monitoring. NGOs and researchers reported expertise in developing information systems and databases to support implementation of measures as well as