

440. Wagenmakers, Hendrik. "Transparency in Armaments: The UN Register of Conventional Arms as a Proud Member of a Family of Efforts." In *Developing the UN Register of Conventional Arms*, eds. Malcolm Chalmers, Owen Greene, Edward J. Laurance and Herbert Wulf, Bradford University: Redwood Books, 1994, pp. 21-35.

Wagenmakers maintains that the UN Register of Conventional Arms is not an end in itself; rather, it is a step on the road to an effective arms control regime. Stressing the international cooperation necessary to create this first step, he outlines the Register's development, from the early proposals put forward by the European Twelve (plus Japan), through its adoption by the UN General Assembly.

The Register's first annual report represents a promising start. However, future reports must secure wider participation. Additional suggestions, currently under discussion by the 1994 Panel of Experts, are also detailed. One proposal suggests that each government include the criteria it employed to generate its submission. Another recommends the inclusion of data on military holdings and procurement through national production. For his part, Wagenmakers cautions against the rapid expansion of the Register before current problems have been adequately addressed.

In addition, he details the parallel efforts devoted to securing transparency in armaments by the Geneva Conference on Disarmament. Several proposals are currently under discussion. For instance, a British proposal would require each state to declare the size and organization of its armed forces. Another recommendation, put forward by the Italian delegation, suggests that the closure or conversion of military production facilities be declared.

It is in light of all these other attempts at arms control, argues Wagenmakers, that the UN Register must be evaluated. It is a proud member of a growing family of arms control measures. Nevertheless, its relevance would be improved if it included data on military holdings and procurement through national production. Before this expansion can take place, however, a wider base of participation must be secured.

441. Wagenmakers, Hendrik. "The UN Register of Conventional Arms: The Debate on the Future Issues." *Arms Control Today*, Vol. 24, No. 8, October 1994, pp. 8-13.

Wagenmakers argues that the UN Register of Conventional Arms is a product of the Gulf War. If it is to enjoy continued relevance, it must find solutions to the following difficulties: refining the provisions of the reporting categories, expanding its scope, and increasing its participation rate. Moreover, it must be evaluated as part of a family of arms control measures. For instance, the failures of other registers (e.g. the League of Nations attempt during the interwar years) are outlined and contrasted with the success of the current Register. On a positive note, in 1992 and 1993 all the major arms exporting nations submitted a report. In addition, reports were submitted by traditional rivals (e.g. India and Pakistan). On the negative side, however, several problems remain. To begin with, less than half of UN member states took part each year. Moreover, some significant arms importing nations did not participate (e.g. Iran). Furthermore, participation varied