

## **Meeting Summary**

### **1. Introductions**

#### **Steve Lee, Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development**

Today's meeting is a timely follow-up to the two meetings recently held in Brussels: the meeting of the Ottawa Group and the consultation with officials and others at NATO Headquarters. We at the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, are happy to help integrate the results of today's work into the policy process. Minister Manley has signalled his interest in Human Security issues. The work done here today will tie into the broad landscape of foreign policy development that includes looking at humanitarian norms and laws, questions surrounding the issue of intervention, as well as topical security issues like nuclear weapons and anti-ballistic missile defence.

### **2. The Problem of Illicit Trafficking**

#### **Wendy Cukier, World Victimology Society; Professor of Justice Studies, Ryerson Polytechnic University; President, Coalition for Gun Control**

There are as many small arms in the possession of private citizens as there are in the possession of states. The social and public health problems resulting from small arms vary depending on context. Similarly, sources of licit and illicit small arms vary greatly from state to state. It is important to understand the flow of weapons in order to recognize where flaws in legal markets allow for transfer of small arms to illicit markets. In some contexts, the distinction between licit and illicit small arms markets is virtually non-existent. By clearly defining what constitutes the licit market and legitimate use in small arms, states become better equipped to combat illicit markets.

### **3. Regional Perspectives**

#### **South Africa: Adele Kirsten, National Director, Gun Free South Africa (via teleconference)**

Small arms are a problem in South Africa mainly because of their relative abundance and availability. Policy-makers have recognized that greater supervision and control of legal markets is needed because illegal weapons flow from legal sources. Recently, the South African government enacted the comprehensive Firearms Control Bill. The Bill seeks to address this and other issues concerning small arms.

South Africa has a long tradition of gun-ownership. The increase in violent crime in the post-apartheid era has contributed to a culture of fear and consequently, to an increased demand for small arms for self-protection.

Those most often victimized by gun-violence are 18-34 year old black males. Violence, however, affects everyone in South Africa. Women are increasingly at risk. The number of women killed with guns often goes unreported. Most often women are attacked in their homes, usually by someone the victim knows. For a woman killed by her spouse, it does not matter if