

There is a need for more information sharing and fact based research on:

- the extent of the small arms problem,
- its impact on GDP and other economic and social factors (to spur action),
- the path of the weapons,
- possible solutions.

Enhanced cooperation is required among diverse groups including a range of government departments, NGOs, academics and others. A coherent multi-disciplinary approach and pooling of resources is needed.

In conclusion, the Chair said that there is a good opportunity to push for small arms issues within the human security context at the OAS General Assembly and the Quebec City Summit. He summarised the discussion, drawing attention to the need to focus on do-able practical initiatives, the involvement of civil society in demonstrating the negative impacts of small arms proliferation as well as successful creative solutions, the need for fact-based research, the need to strengthen national non-proliferation regimes, the need to look at the situation of small states and the culture of violence. He also reiterated that countries often require assistance with ratification and implementation of treaties and the challenges ahead for the Canadian government and NGOs for enhanced cooperation.