

2) to provide the Secretary-General, by 15 April 1997, with relevant information on national control measures on arms transfers with a view to preventing illicit arms transfers. Member States are also asked to provide the Secretary-General with their views on effective ways and means of collecting weapons transferred illicitly, and on concrete proposals concerning measures at national, regional and international levels to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms.

I-6. Report of the Secretary-General. *Criminal Justice Reform and Strengthening of Legal Institutions Measures to Regulate Firearms*. United Nations General Assembly Document E/CN.15/1997/4, March 7, 1997.

After outlining the progress of the work of the Economic and Social Council on firearms regulation for the purpose of crime prevention and public safety, the report lists relevant initiatives (e.g., the Centre for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research kept the Economic and Social Council informed on the progress of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms).

The document also summarizes the results of the expert group meeting on gathering information on and analysis of firearms regulation, and lists the conclusions and proposals for consideration by the commission:

- 1) the project is of considerable relevance to the security and safety of civilian populations;
- 2) the project has already yielded results (e.g., it has provided constructive recommendations enabling other organizations to take necessary action);
- 3) the project has disseminated a questionnaire which allows substantive analysis and the development of databases, thereby enabling the Commission to make informed policy choices.

The Commission is invited to review the progress achieved in the light of the project's results. The following activities are planned for 1998:

- 1) organizing interregional and national training courses on the regulation of firearms;
- 2) convening an ad hoc expert group meeting to design a new questionnaire for the second round of the international study on firearm regulation;
- 3) continuing to develop and maintain databases on firearms regulation;
- 4) publishing an expanded global report on developments in firearms regulation (e.g., covering more countries);
- 5) convening an ad hoc expert group on the harmonization of the collection of information on firearms regulation;
- 6) developing model agreements on combating illicit trafficking in firearms;
- 7) developing awareness programs for criminal justice administrators concerning the prevention of violence involving firearms in urban, school and family settings;
- 8) extending the scope of the study to include explosives.

The report concludes with an appeal for additional resources (staff and expertise) to be made available to implement the above recommendations. Annex I lists the conclusions and recommendations of the expert group meeting on gathering information on and analysis of firearm