

Ian Anthony, in a discussion of the difficulty in searching transit cargo for weapons in an era of free trade, suggests that non-intrusive detection devices such as sniffers, etc. might detect ammunition.⁷

Elsewhere, in a survey of light weapons manufacture in Pakistan, it was noted that the country is dependent on foreign sources of supply for the raw materials used in making light weapons and ammunition which increases the cost of production.⁸

Tara Kartha in her analysis of ammunition as a tool for conflict control (primarily within the regional context of south Asia) has made several recommendations.⁹ She suggests policy measures that include: regional intelligence and enforcement cooperation regarding illegal or illicit ammunition movement; transparency that entails visits to munition factories and technical cooperation; agreements not to arm insurgents operating in neighbouring states; reducing the number of para-military organizations and enhancing elite force capability; and finally instituting a policy of hot pursuit for smugglers.¹⁰ Proposed policy at the global level includes: reduction of war reserves; conflict monitoring to include monitoring ammunition shipments; and, greater transparency regarding shipments. On the manufacturing side she suggests: a strict marking and numbering system to prevent ammunition from going astray; in a given country restricting ammunition production to the types of rounds for weapons manufactured in that country; and, restricting certain calibers for military use and banning look-alike bullets.¹¹

A British American Security Information Council (BASIC) study¹² states:

“Because light weapons often last for decades, even if all transfers of light weapons were stopped today, the world would still be awash in them decades from now. But ammunition is rapidly consumed in conflict. Ammunition is also unattractive for smuggling, since it has relatively high weight and relatively low dollar value.

⁷ Anthony, Ian. *Evolving Approaches to Control the Spread of Small, Light and Other Similar Weapons*. A Presentation to the Panel of Government Experts To Study the Global Trade in Small Arms, UN, New York, 26 June 1997.

⁸ Ayesha Siddiq-Agha. *Light Weapons Manufacture in the Public and Private Sectors: A View from Pakistan*. British American Security Information Council (BASIC) Project on Light Weapons Working Paper #2, February 1996. p 3.

⁹ Tara Kartha. “*Ammunition as a Tool for Conflict Control*.” A Paper Presented at the BASIC Conference on Light Weapons. London: June 30 - July 2, 1996

¹⁰ Ibid, 17

¹¹ Authors comment: it is assumed she means .223 in. banned as it can be chambered in 5.56 mm x 45 mm and .308 in. vice 7.62 mm x 51 mm.

¹² Natalie Goldring. Project on Light Weapons, *Links between domestic laws and international light weapons control*, 11-12 Dec 1997 at <http://www.basicint.org/aaas97.htm>