

these panels on a rotating basis. Finally, the decisions reached do not have to be binding. One must remember that it took GATT almost 50 years to get to this point.

### **Proposals**

The above discussion of the enhancement of the Register contains numerous proposals and suggested changes to the Register. The following set of broad proposals serve to summarize the major avenues of developing the Register.

I. Data on procurement through national production and military holdings must be added to the Register process as soon as possible. First, this was the political agreement made which resulted in the vote of 150-0 on 46/36L which established the Register and its norms of transparency of information on conventional armaments and the prevention of excessive and destabilizing accumulations. Without this step the Register process will quickly fade into irrelevance. Second, accomplishing the major goal of the Register, preventing destabilizing arms build-ups, cannot be achieved with arms transfer data alone. It is also very important that the level of obligation to submit transparent data must apply equally to all three types of information.

II. The UNCDA must be given a specific mandate and increased role to reduce the discrepancies uncovered in the first year of reporting. This must be seen as a technical or administrative mandate with the goal of maximizing the accuracy of data submitted. Emphasis should be placed on things like submitting data in the correct categories, entering imports in the correct format, etc. To this end UNCDA should have the authority to contact states on a bilateral basis when they detect errors in reporting. They should also establish periodic workshops in the spring of each year, designed to give tutorials to those governmental officials charged with submitting data. If possible these workshops should be in the respective regions, but holding them in New York for the national missions would be a start.

III. Consideration should be given to UNCDA or a sub-group of interested states offering assistance to states in the submission of data. This is the essence of Chayes and Chayes function of capacity building. Such a function might include training of military analysts.

IV. The Register must be more vigorously promoted, since this report concluded that a significant number of states did not participate due to indifference. UNCDA could have a role in accomplishing increased participation by taking more seriously its role as the representative of the Secretary General. For example it could be proactive in soliciting views of Member States as mandated in