

There is an excellent NGO book on this issue: *Running Guns: the Global Black Market in Small Arms*.

Women are in the majority in the NGOs seeking to put controls on the trade of SALW.

NGOs from the South need financial assistance in order to get to the UN to present their experiences and views.

Project Ploughshares was a pioneer on this issue area.

The Northern Ireland process provides important lessons. We must look not simply at disarming, but also at demobilization and reintegration. We must put the issue of control into larger perspective. When reaching a peace accord, there needs to be detailed, specific, and broadly inclusive agreement on disarming. In Northern Ireland they tried to fudge this, but found that you do not have a real agreement until the disarming of weapons is dealt with. There are a lot of parallels between Northern Ireland and African experiences.

Policy coherence within the Canadian government on this issue specifically, and human security generally, needs major work. Ministries should have coordinated strategies. CIDA and DFAIT should not work at cross-purposes.

You cannot ban all weapons. Tools can become weapons. Therefore, we also need to look to violence prevention.

We need to support the UN definition of SALW, which is the one with the broadest base of support.

Control of SALW is not simply a problem of controlling criminal activity, but must also consider the problem of illicit trafficking undertaken by states. There is opposition, however, by many states to this more comprehensive approach.

Group Recommendations:

- (1) Civil society must be forthright in criticizing their respective governments whenever and wherever justifiable.
- (2) Call for leaders to lead by agreeing on the main elements of a Program of Action. Likeminded governments should stop competing with each other and agree on the main elements of a program of action in the 2001 conference process.
- (3) Call for greater parliamentary oversight and accountability of arms transfer policy implementation at the national level.
- (4) The "conversion" dimension of the problem must be addressed.