

4. A third alternative is already underway – that of convening a geographically and experientially diverse group of experts, governmental and non-governmental alike, under the auspices of a respected NGO⁴⁵, to explore the issue with a view to enlarging the common understanding of the international community in relation to international legal prohibitions on arms transfers.

⁴⁵ Under the auspices of the NGO consortium, "Biting the Bullet", a Small Arms Consultative Group Process was instituted in January 2003 entitled: *Small Arms and Light Weapons Transfers: Developing Understandings on Guidelines for National Controls and Transfers to Non-State Actors*.