

Congo

The Register constitutes an important initiative in the promotion of confidence and transparency in armaments. (A/C.1/48/SR.13)

Costa Rica

The Register constitutes a step forward towards general and complete disarmament and improves the access to objective information, transparency and moderation in armaments. (A/C.1/48/SR.9)

Cuba

Cuba believes that the Register reflects the first experience of member States regarding the transmission of data relating to the transfer of arms. Cuba was among the 80 countries which participated in the Register. This number is significant for the first year of operation. (A/C.1/48/SR.12)

Czech Republic

Notes that despite the division of the former Czechoslovakia, both the Czech Republic and Slovakia were able to report to the Register. The Czech Republic is dedicated to participating in the further improvement and development of the Register and calls on all countries which have not yet done so to submit their national reports without delay.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The realities after the establishment of the Register shows that this system still has many problems which must be solved in order to halt the arms race and to substantially contribute to the reduction of all weapons of mass destruction. The DPRK is concerned that, even after the establishment of the Register, exports of arms to developing countries have not decreased and technologies for sophisticated weaponry continue to be transferred. The Register further encourages the arms race rather than realizing its aim of confidence building.

Finland

The Register is a step towards preventing excessive and destabilizing accumulations of conventional weapons. Finland encourages countries which have not yet done so to report. The data provided thus far covers 95% of exports and 75% of imports, which is a "fairly good" outcome.

Gabon

Gabon believes the Register to be an important milestone in controlling conventional weapon exports. (A/C.1/48/SR.14)

India

The arms build-up exemplified by the huge military outlays of the large military spenders and exporters of armaments greatly affects developing countries and India has long advocated that steps be taken to curb these tendencies. India is impressed that everyone wants transparency in arms transfers but is concerned that transparency is becoming an end in itself. In their view, transparency would serve no purpose if it does not achieve the objective of reduction in massive arms transfers. India has long stood for curbing excess military expenditures which fuels the arms race. The aims should be general reduction of conventional arms across the globe to levels dictated by minimum needs of defence. An important dimension of transparency in armaments is the illicit arms trade which is most dangerous because of its destabilising and destructive effects through the fueling of phenomenon like