ANNEX A

LIGHT WEAPONS PROLIFERATION A SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

The publications, papers and work groups that have addressed the question of light weapons proliferation have furnished a number of recommendations for confronting the problem. The three tables in this annex attempt to summarize most of the proposals found in the literature to date. ⁸⁰ While not all proposals can neatly be categorized, it is useful to divide them into three categories: one that requires interstate, regional or global cooperation -- TABLE ONE; one that is generally a national governments responsibility -- TABLE TWO; and one that suggests more research -- TABLE THREE. It should be noted however, that occasionally the division of national and international responsibilities is not always clear-cut, and in some cases of national responsibilities international assistance is clearly implied.

The tables are divided into four columns, column one contains serial numbers for reference purposes. Column two contains proposals some which are blends of similar recommendations. Column three contains observations and judgements on the practicality and problems surrounding the recommendation. The fourth column in each table indicates the number of authors reviewed for this paper that have made a similar recommendation. Proposals that are overly idealistic or extremely general in nature such as better cooperation between governments, regulate the trade in light weapons or demilitarize and disarm the region are not included in the synopsis. Most authors are pragmatic enough to realize that full implementation of their recommendations would be unlikely - but the general belief is that even minor success is better than none. For TABLE ONE, an *asterisk in column three of a serial indicates a judgement that a proposal might have a realistic chance of implementation in whole or in part given the right circumstances and the will to proceed. Because of the national responsibilities generally implied in TABLE TWO, a judgement on implementation possibilities is not made. TABLE THREE requires no judgements.

⁸⁰See Canada, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Small Arms and Light Weapons: An Annotated Bibliography. Ottawa, November 1996 for an excellent summary of studies to date. Many of the proposals in the tables were gleaned from this publication.