

E. Recommended "First Phase" Procedure

45. Based on the foregoing analysis, this report recommends that:

- A modest "states-plus" triggering mechanism be included in the initial CCW verification package. This would grant standing to trigger an inquiry to (a) States parties, (b) the UN General Assembly and/or the UN Security Council and (c) the UN Secretary-General (the latter only where alleged violations of the Convention/Protocol affect peacekeeping forces under his control).

V. Initial Review Procedures

A. Introduction

46. Because of the possibility of frivolous or manifestly unfounded allegations, as well as the potential for other abuse, some triggering mechanisms require that allegations be passed through a "filtering" process. Such a process is intended to establish the admissibility of a particular complaint, as judged against the relevant provisions of the treaty or convention in question.

47. It would seem essential for the effectiveness of any filtering procedure (and, indeed, for the effectiveness of the verification regime overall) to designate some individual or authority to provide a focal point for receiving complaints and convening the verification authority. This function might be assigned to any one of a variety of actors, from the UN Secretary-General (or his designate) to a specified member of the verification authority. This individual would operate, on a more or less permanent basis, to review allegations of non-compliance, and to refer those allegations which meet pre-established criteria of admissibility to the verification authority.

48. At some future date, as experience is gained in the CCW verification process, the States Parties may wish to give this individual greater authority in reviewing compliance. Such an approach may prove to be more cost-effective in that the full verification authority would not have to be convened as frequently.

49. The following section examines several types of filtering mechanism, considering them in light of their applicability in the CCW Convention context.

B. An Independent Screening Mechanism

50. An independent screening mechanism is typically a permanent body charged with determining whether to refer to the verification authority particular situations which appear to reveal a consistent