

**EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENTS MADE BY MEMBER STATES AT THE
48TH SESSION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE REGARDING THE REGISTER
OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS**

1. GENERAL VIEWS

Australia

Australia is pleased that many countries submitted returns to the Register and encourages all other countries to follow their support for the consensus resolution with participation in the Register. Australia looks forward to active involvement in the GA and the CD on the future development of global transparency mechanisms and arms acquisition guidelines. (A/C.1/48/SR.3)

Bangladesh

Bangladesh believes that there must be a focus on the question of interrelated aspects of excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including military holdings and procurement through national production. There is a need to elaborate universal and nondiscriminatory means to enhance openness and transparency in this field. States ought not acquire conventional capabilities beyond their perceived and objective needs. There should be provisions for excess quota for weaker states, where feasible, to redress regional balance. Transparency, restraint, responsible policies and good neighborly behavior are essential elements in increasing regional and global stability, security and peace. (A/C.1/48/SR.6)

Belarus

Belarus agrees on the Register important role in promoting confidence building. (A/C.1/48/SR.8)

Cape Verde

Cape Verde welcomes the progress made by the GA regarding the Register, however, much still needs to be done to improve transparency in other categories of armaments.

China

Favors the adoption of appropriate and practical transparency measures in the field of armament and international arms transfers, and participates in the Register. In this connection, China also believes that no transparency in armaments should undermine or diminish the security of any country and that any measure to expand the scope of transparency must be formulated jointly by all states through consultations on equal footing. China maintains that the military forces of all states should be used solely for self-defence, and that no country should seek armaments exceeding its legitimate defence needs. For its part, China always treats conventional weapon transfers with prudence and responsibility, the quantity of its transfers being very small. China calls upon other countries to exercise the same self-restraint in the transfer of conventional weapons. (A/C.1/48/SR.8)

Colombia

The Register is a manifestation of international solidarity and cooperation. The Register fosters confidence-building and general and complete disarmament. (A/C.1/48/SR.8)