

and Eritrea would shed light on how a buildup could lead to conflict *despite* the intervention of outside parties and international organizations. The overall goal is to demonstrate how and under what conditions transparency can be helpful if it is utilized in a multilateral consultative mechanism.

ii.- Conduct a series of simulations that demonstrate under what conditions arms buildups and secrecy lead, and do not lead, to the outbreak or exacerbation of conflict. The data used would be simulated and involve mythical countries. At a minimum these workshops might begin to break down the resistance of key states to further expanding and seriously using the type of data generated by the Register. It is clear that the format for the current and all previous reviews does not allow current debate to shed much light on these important questions. We must get beyond states citing the *legal* norm of sovereignty, and the submission of data for its own sake, which is the current situation.

- *Enhance role of the UN Department of Disarmament Affairs.* In general, governments will submit data to the Register because it is in their interest to do so. After eight years of operation the Register has become regularized to the point that it is expected that states will participate. However, the performance of states in this regard can be affected by both the capacity to generate data, and the veritable explosion of requirements that have accompanied globalization. It is in this area that the DDA must play a more vital role in promoting and expanding participation in the Register. This is always sensitive, with some Northern states objecting to too big a role for UNDDA, while others objecting that UNDDA is a mere "post office," posting the reports that they receive. Recent changes in UNDDA have seen a new and dynamic UNSG as well as a newly appointed D1 responsible for the Register, both from developing countries (Sri Lanka and Mozambique, respectively). Some suggested actions include:

- i. Enhance the role of UNDDA by changing the frequency of note verbales to states from "annually" (para. 64 (g) ii in the 1997 report) to "periodically."

- ii. Be more specific regarding Para 64 (g) i in the 1997 report "Make every effort to assist..." Surely these first two changes could result in an increase in the "nil" reports, as well as break new ground in reducing discrepancies.

- iii. Encourage UNDDA to hold workshops that address the practical implications of transparency, as suggested in the recommendations for Canada holding workshops.

- iv. In the Firearms Protocol currently being negotiated, the UNDDA is being