

SIPRI report (representing about 60 states) is narrower than in the UN Register (approximately 90 states); second, the SIPRI document provides more detail on each transfer; and, finally, the SIPRI report uses one format for all entries while the UN Register allows each state a wide margin for interpretation (e.g. in defining "arms transfer").

Sislin and Wezeman outline the Register's standard reporting form and its seven categories (battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, and missiles and missile launchers). By comparison, the SIPRI report includes only six categories (aircraft, armoured vehicles, artillery, guidance and radar systems, missiles, and warships). They also examine the SIPRI data collection process. They demonstrate that its report is based almost entirely on secondary sources and they examine how its analysts overcome problems in data collection.

In addition, the findings of the SIPRI and the UN Register are combined to create a report, in the Register's format, of 1994 arms transfers. Three conclusions are offered: first, tracking large weapons systems is easier than tracing transfers of smaller weapons platforms; second, the Register does not record transfers to non-state actors (e.g. transfer of tanks from Bulgaria to South Yemeni forces); and, finally, due to the lack of definitions in the UN Register, the way states define key terms (e.g. arms transfer) affects the level of transparency in the final report.

507. United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs. *United Nations Register of Conventional Arms: Information Booklet*. New York: United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, 1995.

This information package is divided into four parts. The first part consists of a series of questions and answers on the UN Register of Conventional Arms designed to "...inform states about the Register and assist in the submission of information and data to the Register" (p. 2). Questions and answers are provided in the following areas: basic structure of the Register, categories of equipment, utilization of the report form, re-transfers and co-produced equipment, defining an international transfer, and administration of the Register.

The second part of the document is an evaluation of the Register's first annual report. The substantive part of the report by the 1992 Panel of Experts, tasked with improving the Register's performance, is reproduced. This Panel made several suggestions. To begin with, the term "arms transfer" must be clarified. Moreover, the Register's standard reporting form must be developed. In addition, it offers several suggestions for expanding the Register: first, modify its existing category definitions (e.g. calibre); second, include new categories (e.g. aerial refuelling aircraft); and, finally, before including military holdings and procurement through national production, these concepts must be defined.