

side controls.<sup>31</sup> While this study will not elaborate further on the demand aspect of light weapons proliferation, it is an area that must be addressed if the problem is ever going to be solved. A review of Annex A, regarding proposals for addressing light weapons proliferation, clearly demonstrates that most solutions centre around supply side control. In so far as demand is concerned, it is an area that is acknowledged but not seriously addressed within the context of light weapons proliferation. It is almost axiomatic that without a holistic approach addressing both demand and supply, many regions and states will continue to reap the consequences of the excessive and pervasive presence of light weapons.

While there are other issues regarding light weapons proliferation not yet discussed, most are subsets of the supply and demand facets of light weapons proliferation. Encompassing both supply and demand is what Singh calls norms and inhibitions - in essence education, public dialogue and transparency<sup>32</sup>. This is an area where advocacy groups, NGOs, the media, governments, regional and international bodies can all play a role in stigmatizing violence and the tools of violence as a means to an end. It is a popular solution in the literature and one that is relatively easy to implement in comparison with many supply and demand side solutions. Its effectiveness, however, can only be seen as slow, long-term and in some instances problematic.

## UN PEACE OPERATIONS AND MICRO-DISARMAMENT

UNGA Resolution 50/70B on Small Arms was quite clear and specific in its direction to the "Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms". One of these explicit charges was types of weapons being used in conflicts being dealt with by the UN, and the ways and means to prevent and reduce small arms as they cause and exacerbate conflict. With this in mind it is worth concentrating on an area that is well within the capability of the UN to act, that is the desirability to include in UN peace operations a micro-disarmament element that would not only contribute to reducing the number of light weapons in a specific area but would do so where it is liable to achieve results. The proposal that peace operations must include a systematic comprehensive disarmament program including the elimination of arms

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<sup>31</sup>See. Klare and Anderson *A Scourge of Guns: The Diffusion of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Latin America*. Washington D.C.: Federation of American Scientists, July 1996. They appear to have made the choice "better injustice than rampant gun violence" even though wide spread violence perpetrated or ignored by the security forces and disregarded by the judiciary is acknowledged. In their case it may be a matter of degree. They believe that the security forces should be democratized and severely reduced in size over time. Less impassioned assessments tend to merely mention the problem of demand in passing. The forwards to most of the UNIDIR studies on Managing Arms states that "the Project believes that the way to implement peace... is to focus not just on the sources of violence (such as social and political development issues) but also on the material..."

<sup>32</sup>Singh, Jasit, ed. *Light Weapons and International Security*. Nirankari Colony, Delhi: Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, British American Security Information Council, Indian Pugwash Society, and Institute for Defence Studies and Analyzes, 1995, xi