

contribution to solving the problem. The question of inclusiveness is one issue that arises from this approach. If, for example, the door is open to NGOs and other parties that are seen as part of the solution, should it be open to those who may be seen as part of the problem?

Others

There are many additional areas requiring further study. As well, there is a plethora of recommendations for addressing the problem of light weapons proliferation. Most of the proposals and observations in Annex A and B have enough unknowns about them to warrant more study.

CONCLUSION

Light weapons proliferation is a complex issue involving international and national policies, overlapping jurisdictions, legitimacy and illegitimacy (frequently a subjective judgement), historical and cultural factors. The longer term solution to the violence for which light weapons are a tool clearly lies in the demand side of the light weapons proliferation equation. In the meantime, shorter term or more immediate action can be taken on the supply side to ameliorate the situation. This paper has reviewed some of the issues involving light weapons proliferation and investigated two areas that might show promise in reducing or controlling light weapons proliferation: micro-disarmament as part of UN peace operations, clearly an international response requiring national cooperation; and regulatory controls, clearly a national responsibility involving international cooperation. As well, a cursory review of the literature and ongoing projects on light weapons proliferation issues indicates several other promising steps that can be taken to alleviate the problems stemming from the issue of light weapons proliferation. There are also a number of areas concerning light weapon proliferation that require clarification and further study. Among these are the proper domain of arms control within the context of domestic criminal violence. This is not an academic issue if jurisdictional conflict is to be avoided and cooperation is to be gained. Equally important is the definition of light weapons within the context of arms control. There is strong merit in concentrating on military weapons and excluding weapons clearly designed for non-military use. This does not preclude state and international cooperation and controls at the law enforcement level to control non-military firearms.

As discussed in this paper, all future UN peace operations should be conducted with a view to micro-disarmament. While this applies almost exclusively to those situations deriving from internal conflict and civil war, it does not rule out its application to interstate conflict. For peace operations, the UN mandate is not the place to start. It is in the negotiating stage over the peace agreement where the micro-disarmament element must be established. Facilitators, negotiators, and good offices, whether provided by the UN or by other third parties must keep this in mind when working out the details of a peace agreement. In this light it may be useful to develop UN guidelines. If micro-disarmament discussions alone are stalling an immediate peace agreement due to mistrust or other influences, then the