

Box 1

Illustrative Examples

Country A wishes to replace sidearms for its police force to standardize and upgrade its current holdings. It needs 10,000 side arms of a certain type. Country B agrees to sell the firearms at a discount if country A will destroy the 10,000 sidearms that are being replaced. Both countries agree, the firearms are sold and distributed, and the old firearms are collected in a central location. Under observation by the selling country and a neutral third party the firearms are counted by all parties. These parties then witness the destruction of these weapons.

Country C produces its own firearms and reequips its army with new automatic rifles and light machine guns. It does not want to destroy the weapons that are being replaced as they will be used to replace weapons in its para military, internal security forces and border forces. Instead it decides to destroy the weapons that are being replaced by the used military weapons. It manufactures and replaces the weapons in question, collects the old para-military weapons and invites a neutral organization or party to count them and witness their destruction.

Country D purchases new small arms for its army (regular and reserve). It wishes to replace its war reserve mobilization stocks with the small arms being replaced. It gives notice of its intention to do so at the (UN/OSCE/OAS/OAU) and invites member states to witness the destruction of the old war reserve mobilization stocks.

Country E, not a manufacturing state, wishes to sell unneeded war reserves of SALW to country F. Country F agrees to destroy 50% of the equivalent number of old stock as it is modernizing its forces and is therefore increasing its level of armaments. Both countries notify the (UN/OSCE/OAS/OAU) and provide appropriate documentation regarding the sale and destruction of equipment.

In all examples significant numbers of firearms are being destroyed; where they are not, an appropriate explanation follows. The destruction of these weapons ensures that they will not find their way into illegal or destabilizing hands. In one case an incentive of a discount is offered to induce voluntary acceptance: in the other situations these actions are entirely voluntary.