

He cautions, however, against an apparent "stand still" approach which seems to be gaining ground as the Arms Register enters its third year and he poses a question, still to be answered, as to whether the UN Register continues to represent a "step forward" or will be used increasingly as a "fall-back position". The future of this unique endeavour depends upon enhancing transparency in armaments in all its aspects. It is a question with which the United Nations General Assembly in its 49th and subsequent sessions will have to become more fully engaged.

This report represents the results of a research project conducted under the Department of Foreign Affairs' Verification Research Program. It is being shared with interested parties as part of a long-standing Canadian policy to make such research findings available to assist in negotiations and to promote a dialogue on these important issues. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Canadian Government.